



COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/crim.html>

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only.
 It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records.
 You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Stephen Howell		
(b)	Office Hours:	30 Minutes before and after class		
(c)	Location:	Room 202 Spencer Middle School		
(d)	Phone:	na	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	howells@camosun.ca		
(f)	Website:			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to these Intended Learning Outcomes as approved by the Education Council of Camosun College.)

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Describe the political and administrative systems which provide the environment within which the criminal justice system in Canada operates and the policy and law-making processes.
2. Articulate awareness of the interaction between politics and the criminal justice system in Canada.
3. Identify the key players in the criminal justice system.
4. Identify and assess important issues in Canadian government and politics that have an impact on the operation of the criminal justice system.

3. Required Materials

- (a) Texts
- (b) Other: Coursepack "Readings for Criminal Justice 150"

4. Course Content and Schedule

(This section can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)

Week #1 September 12th

Introduction to the course

- Textbook
- Course assignments
- Website for course
- Course and classroom expectations
- Foundations of Canadian Government and Politics
- The role and responsibilities of governments in criminal justice

Week #2 September 19th

Challenges in governing Canada, and Political Culture

- Geography and Demographics
- Aboriginal peoples.
- Ethno-cultural minorities
- Gender Issues
- LGBTQ issues
- Political Socialization

Class Cleavages
Political traditions in Canada: Conservatism, Liberalism, Social Democracy
Video “The Story of Mouseland”

Read: **Rand Dyck- Aboriginal Peoples, Ethnocultural Minorities & Gender**

Week #3 September 26th

Public Opinion and the Media

Public Knowledge
Public Confidence
Public Opinion
Media Depictions of Crime and Justice

Read **Peter McKnight- The Funhouse Mirror: Media Representations of Crime & Justice**
And **Julien Roberts- Criminal Justice in Canada: an Overview**

Week #4 October 3rd

Political Parties and Social Movements

Criminal Justice ideology and political platforms
Social Movements and Lobbying
Justice related advocacy groups

Group Project Meetings

Read **Rand Dyck- Advocacy Groups, Social Movements & Lobbying**

Week #5 October 10th 1st Exam

Elections

National and Provincial Parties
The mechanics of an election
The proportionality of the electoral system
Mock election

Read **Rand Dyck- Elections & the Electoral System**

Week #6 October 17th

The Canadian Constitution

The Charter of Rights & Freedoms
Video “Fundamental Freedoms”
Federal, Provincial and Municipal responsibilities
Video clip “Who Does What?”

Read **Marie Manikis- Criminal Justice & the Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms**

Week #7 October 24th

Key Components of Canadian Government

The Queen and Governor General
Prime Minister and Cabinet
The Public Service
House of Commons and the Senate
Provincial governments

Read **Michael Atkinson & David Docherty- Parliament & Political Success in Canada**
And **Hugh Mellon & Paul Barker- Is the Prime Minister too Powerful?**

Week #8 October 31st

The Policy and Legislative Processes

Policymaking
Stages & kinds of legislation
The committee system

Opposition party roles
How laws are passed

Read TBA

Week #9 November 7th 2nd Exam

Overview of Criminal Justice Systems

Overview of case progress through “the system”
Government control over criminal justice systems
(Discuss American election, if time)

Week #10 November 14th

Policing

Police jurisdictions
Police accountability
Guest Speaker:

Read: **Christopher Murphy, Canadian Police and Policing Policy, Post 9/11,**

Week #11 November 21st

The Courts, Prosecution and Defence

Functions and powers of the courts
Categories of laws
Structure of the courts
The appointment of Judges
Judicial independence and accountability
Crown prosecutor and Defence Counsel roles

Read **Rand Dyck- The Courts & The Administration of Justice**

And **Brian Manarin- The Role of the Prosecutor**

And **Paul Burstein- The Role of Defence Counsel**

Week #12 November 28th

Corrections, Conditional Release, Victim Services, and Crime Prevention

Correctional Jurisdictions
Conditional Release
Victims and the Criminal Justice system
Crime Prevention

Read **Michelle Grossman, Susan McDonald & Catherine Kane- Crime Victims & the Justice System**

Week #13 December 5th

Group Presentations

Week #14 December 12th

Catch up and Review

Course Review
Exam preparation

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(This section should be directly linked to the Intended Learning Outcomes.)

Participation and Homework (10%)

Regular attendance and active participation is required. It is expected that you will arrive on time, be attentive, non-disruptive, constructive and respectful.

You are expected to complete the assigned readings before coming to class, and be prepared to discuss them. The discipline of regular, critical reading (making notes and/or highlighting) will help you with both assignments and exams. There will be several homework assignments related to the reading.

It will be important to keep aware of current events throughout the semester and their impacts on the criminal justice system. Please utilize news media outlets daily to stay current of these developments, and raise relevant issues in class. You are expected to raise at least one “News of the Day” item.

Exams (50%)

Three exams are scheduled for this course.

October 10th	(15%)
November 7th	(15%)
Final Exam	(20%)

Each will sample your recollection of the content from the assigned readings as well as the material addressed in class (guest speakers, powerpoint, video presentations, group presentations, handouts, etc). Each exam will be based on the material covered between exam periods (ie. The final exam will be based on material covered from November 1st to the course end date). That being said, some of the latter material covered will be based on concepts covered during earlier portions of the course. This is a content heavy and condensed course so be sure to actively read your assigned readings. The format may include definitions, fill in the blank, multiple choices, and short essay questions.

Group Presentation (20%)

Due Date: December 5th

The purpose of this assignment is to use the appreciative inquiry style of learning to explore and report back to the class what you have learned. In small groups you will examine the role, responsibilities and key players within a specific justice agency. Your group is required to prepare a two (2) page report on your agency to be put on the D2L content due at the time of the class presentation.

You will also prepare a ten (10) minute class presentation to be done on December 5th during class.

MLA /MP Assignment (20%)

Due Date: December 6th 11:20am (The MLA portion is due October 24th IF you wish to receive feedback before writing the MP portion)

Individually, research your local MLA and MP and their positions on justice related issues and write an essay style report following Criminal Justice style requirements. Research their backgrounds and current situation and, at minimum, answer the following questions;

1. What constituency do they represent?
2. What political party do they belong to and are they in government or opposition? Do they have a particular role apart from being an MLA or MP? (eg. Cabinet minister, caucus chair, committee chair, etc.?)
3. What did they do before they got into politics? What is their political history (ie. How many times have they run for office and how many times elected, to what positions)?
4. What kinds of issues are they most interested in, and describe their position on a least one significant piece of justice legislation or justice related issue such as policing, victims, sentencing, judges, prisons, parole, domestic violence, child abuse, crime prevention)

Prepare a 1 to 2 page report on each representative (Up to 4 pages total) that will be submitted by November 28th. Use **at least three sources** for each representative, which may include MLA/MP website, media reports, Parliament of Canada website, BC Legislature website, or interview with MLA/MP or member of their staff.

Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College for approval.)

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

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There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services, or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services, and the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED