

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

CRIM 150-003

Wendy Taylor

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Class: Wednesday and Fridays Young 316
1:30 to 2:50 pm

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the historical development and current operation of governing and law making institutions in Canada, and the political, constitutional, and legal concepts of the Canadian justice system.

LEARNER OUTCOMES:

After successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

- 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.
- Articulate awareness of the interaction between politics and the criminal justice system in Canada.
- Identify the key players in the criminal justice system.
- Identify and assess important issues in Canadian government and politics that have an impact on the operation of the criminal justice system.

REQUIRED TEST:

Coursepack “Readings for Criminal Justice 150” (available in Lansdowne Bookstore)

COURSE GRADING:

- Two exams exam 1 15% exam 2 25% each – 40%
- One group presentation and write-up worth 25%
- project worth 25%
- Participation 10%

CLASS SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

(subject to revision)

Week #1 September 9th & 11th

- Introduction to the course
 - Textbook
 - Course assignments
 - Website for course
 - Course and classroom expectations
- Video “Governments on Earth”
- “Revisiting The Riot” class exercise

- Read **Julien Roberts- Criminal Justice in Canada: An Overview**

Week #2 September 16th & 18th

- The Political System
- Foundations of Canadian Government Institutions
- The role and responsibilities of governments in criminal justice

- No assigned reading this week.

Week #3 September 23rd & 25th

- Challenges in the politics of criminal justice:
 - History and challenges of Aboriginal peoples.
 - History and challenges of ethno-cultural minorities
 - History and challenges to participation for women
 - Legal, reproductive, sexual, and violence issues
 - Adapting the administration of justice to special groups
 - LBGTQ issues
- Political Culture & Socialization
- Class Cleavages
- Video “The Story of Mouseland”

- Read **Yasmin Jiwani- Mediations of Race & Crime: Racializing Crime, Criminalizing Race**

Week #4 September 30th & October 2nd

- The mass media
- Public opinion polls
- Examining the history and debate of capital punishment
- Exam #1 review

- Read **Peter McKnight- The Funhouse Mirror: Media Representations of Crime & Justice**

Week #5 October 7th & October 9th

- **October 9th Examination #1**
- The election organization
- The national parties and local candidate campaigns
- Examining justice issues as election issues
- The proportionality of the electoral system
- Party organization and leadership

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

Week #6 October 14th & 16th

- The functions and types of political parties
- Social Movements and Lobbying
- Justice related advocacy groups

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

Week #7 October 19th, 21st & 23rd

- Federal Election- October 19th; Your chance to go out and have your say ☺
- Justice Political Research Assignment preparation
- Discussion of Federal Election Results
- The Charter of Rights & Freedoms
- Video “Fundamental Freedoms”
- Provinces and the federal system
- Provincial & Federal powers
- Municipal, Provincial Federal Justice powers
- Video clip “Who Does What?”

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

Week #8 October 28th & 30th

- The Executive branch of government
- The Crown
- Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Parliament & House of Commons
- Composition of House of Common
- The Senate
- Exam #2 review

- Read **Hugh Mellon & Paul Barker- Is the Prime Minister too Powerful?**

Week #9 November 4th & 6th

- Stages & kinds of legislation
- Policymaking
- The committee system
- Opposition party roles

- Read **Michael Atkinson & David Docherty- Parliament & Political Success in Canada**

Week #10 November 13th

- How a bill becomes a law
- How to make a law: Should keeping Christmas lights up year round be illegal?
- Courts and the administration of justice
- Functions and powers of the courts
- Structure of the courts
- Federal Court of Canada
- Supreme Court of Canada

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

Week #11 November 18th & 20th

- Justice Ideologies
- The appointment of Judges
- Functions of Law
- Crown prosecutor and Defence Counsel roles
- **Political Criminal Justice Priority Research Project due November 20, 2015.**

- Read **Jesse Horner- Judges, Juries and Lawyers** (portion)

Week #12 November 25th and 27th

- Policing Accountability and Management
 - Corrections Accountability
 - Corrections Management
 - Victims and the Criminal Justice system
 - Video “Crime & Punishment: The Politics of Punishment”
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- Read **Michelle Grossman, Susan McDonald & Catherine Kane- Crime Victims & the Justice System**
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- Read **Christopher Murphy- Canadian Police & Policing Policy, Post 9/11**

Week #13 December 2nd and 4th

- **Quiz Review**
- **Quiz December 4th, 2015**
- **Group Presentations**

Week #14 December 9th and 11th

- **Group Presentations**

METHODS OF EVALUATING YOUR LEARNING

Participation 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 will be required to submit a one page summary of what you feel your mark should be out of 10 the last day of class. This is to include attendance, participation in class, group participation, “in the News” and keeping current and up to date on all readings and assignments.

Full participation is important in this and all classes. Using headphones, engaging in text messaging, looking at messages, surfing the internet or using any means of disengaging with your classmates and the learning process is not accepted in this class. You will be asked to leave the classroom setting.

You are expected to complete the assigned readings before coming to class. This often becomes increasingly more difficult as the semester moves along and as the completion of assignments and preparation for exams takes a great deal of your time. I would strongly recommend that you use some type of day book where you can keep track of each weeks reading, exams and other expectations being placed on you.

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. **Excused absences will require a doctor's note and must be received prior to the final exam.**

Exams (40%)

Two exams are scheduled for this course.

October 9th	(15%)
December 2nd	(25%)

Each will sample your recollection of the content from the textbook readings as well as the material addressed in class (guest speakers, power point, video presentations, group presentations, etc). Each exam will not be comprehensive and will be based on the material covered between exam. 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 exam format may include true / false, fill in the blank, short answer and multiple choice.

Group Presentation (25%)

Due Date: December 9th and 11th, 2015

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 groups of approximately four (4), examine the role, responsibilities and key players within your agency. You can examine harm reduction, crime reduction, victimization and overall community safety. This can be done creatively by using a recent crime or political happening relative to your agency.

Prepare a two (2) page report on your agency to be put on the D2L content. This is due at the start of class time on the date of your class presentation.

Prepare a ten to fifteen (10-15) minute class presentation to be done on November 25th or 27th during class. Each group will be graded using the following criteria:

Quality: Freedom from errors and mistakes, accuracy, quality of work in general.

Quantity: The actual work output of each student, relative to their other group members.

Initiative and Creativity: Ability to plan, take initiative and ability to be constructive.

Effort: The degree to which the student does his/her best and is motivated.

Dependability: To the extent group member can be depended upon and to do it properly.

Cooperativeness: Willingness to work harmoniously with others in getting the job done.

Group Interaction: The polite attention an individual gives other group members.

Skills: Knowledge of the techniques, skills, processes, equipment and procedures.

Accuracy: Content is corrected, recent and relevant to class purpose.

You will want to address the following questions in both your presentation and write-up. At a minimum your group should be able to answer the following questions about your organization:

1. What is the formal name of the organization and, if they are part of government, where do they fit in? (E.g. What branch or ministry do they belong to or are answerable to?)
2. What are the functions or responsibilities of this organization? How does it relate to other parts of the justice system?
3. How large is the organization, is it local, provincial or national?
4. What are some (is a) pertinent issue that the organization is dealing with either at present or in their past? Describe how decisions made on this issue could affect other components of the justice system.

Class time will be given at various points throughout the semester to meet as a group and discuss progress, concerns and successes with myself.

Justice Priority- Political Assignment (25%)

Due Date: November 20th (Beginning of class)

Individually, research a justice related issue and priority for government.

More information on the assignment will be provided in class.

INSTRUCTIONAL POLICIES

1. Class Preparation

You are expected to complete the assigned readings before coming to class. This often becomes increasingly more difficult as the semester moves along and as the completion of assignments and preparation for exams takes a great deal of your time. I would strongly recommend that you use some type of day book where you can keep track of each assignment, readings, exams and other expectations being placed on you.

2. Late Penalty

All assignments must be completed and submitted on the date and at the time assigned. The penalty for late assignments will be 10% per day. An extension can be granted only with at least 72 hours' notice and will only be granted for one assignment per student for

the semester. Group presentations will receive a zero grade if not completed on the scheduled date. Procrastination can 'get the best of us' so be certain to manage the time you need to complete assignments.

You all have the option and are encouraged to submit your completed work the week prior to the due date for feedback and suggestions. Please utilize this as this will ensure that you are 'on the right track' with your assignments

3. Plagiarism, Cheating & Academic Dishonesty

Please see the College calendar and the *Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program* or the Plagiarism unit in CRIM 120 for more information.

<http://camosun.ca/policies/Educatio-Academic/E-2-Student-Services-&-Support/E-2.5.pdf>

4. Course Completion Requirements

You **must** complete all evaluative requirements (three exams, presentation and assignment) to receive a passing grade in this course. Unfortunately, if you do not complete all requirements, you will receive an F grade. All late work must be handed in by the scheduled final exam start time or you will not write the final exam.