

## CRIM 166-03 – INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

**Instructor:** Wendy Taylor

**Office:** Young 207 Lansdowne Campus  
**Office Hours:** Monday 10:00 to 10:30,  
Before and After Class or by email appt.

**E-mail:** Taylorw@camosun.bc.ca

**Class:** Young 325  
Mondays and Wednesday (8:30 to 9:50)

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### CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course examines criminology as a social science. It involves an analysis of its theories, categories, and relevant research, and its necessity and relation to the social science discipline. This includes the study of crime, criminal behaviour and its causation, crime victims and consequences.

### LEARNER OUTCOMES:

- Communicate understanding of the origins, development and evolution of past, current and future criminological thought and discourse
- Describe, classify, evaluate and analyze the problem of crime, criminological theory and its contemporary application
- Use conceptual frameworks and paradigms to make independent interpretations and applications using criminal case studies
- Consider, interpret and evaluate the perspectives of other students with sensitivity to the values underpinning those perspectives

### REQUIRED TEXT:

Adler, F., G. Mueller, W. Laufer, & J. Grekul (2012). *Criminology: An Introduction (Second Canadian Edition)*. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Criminal Justice. Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program, 2014.

### CLASS SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

**Week 1: January 11 &13**                      **reading: Chapter 1**

Introduction to the course

- Review syllabus The Changing Boundaries of Criminology (pp. 3-9)
- What is Criminology (pp. 9-10)
- The Making of Laws (pp. 11-14)
- The Legal Ingredients of Crime (pp. 14-17)

- The Breaking of Laws (pp. 17-20)
- Society's Reaction to the Breaking of Laws (pp. 20-24)
- Research Informs Policy (p. 24)
- Careers In Criminology (p. 24)
- Professional Associations / Criminology Journals – Academic Research

**Week 2: January 18 & 20 reading: Chapter 2**

Measuring crime, sources of data

Victims and victimization

- Measuring Crime (pp. 30-35)
- The Nature and Extent of Crime (pp. 35-39)
- Measuring Characteristics of Crime (pp. 44-48)
- Measuring Characteristics of Criminals (pp. 48-58)

**Week 3: January 25 & 27 reading: Chapter 3**

**Schools of Thought throughout History**

- Classical Criminology (pp. 62-69)
- Positivist Criminology (p. 70)
- Biological Determinism (pp. 70-75)
- Psychological Determinism (pp. 75-76)
- Sociological Determinism (pp. 76-79)
- Historical and Contemporary Criminology (pp. 79-80)

**Week 4: Feb. 1 & 3 reading: Chapter 4**

**Psychological and Biological Perspectives**

- Psychology and Personality (pp. 85-94)
- Mental Disorders and Crime (pp. 94-100)
  - Debatable Issues: Treating the Mentally Ill in the Community (pp. 96-7) – Think about your responses to the questions
- Biology and Criminality (pp. 101-109)
- An Integrated Theory (pp. 109-110)

**Week 5: February 8 & 10 reading: Chapter 4 Continued**

Psychological and Biological Perspectives

- Psychology and Personality (pp. 85-94)
- Mental Disorders and Crime (pp. 94-100)
- Biology and Criminality (pp. 101-109)
- An Integrated Theory (pp. 109-110)
- February 10, 2016 Thought Paper 1 Due

**Week 6: February 15 & 17                    reading: Chapter 5**

Strain Theories

- The Interconnectedness of Sociological Theories (p. 115)
- Anomie: Emile Durkheim (pp. 116-17)
- Strain Theory (pp. 117-27)
- Albert Cohen: Status Deprivation (pp. 127-30)
- Delinquency and Opportunity (pp. 130-33)

**Week 7 &8 February 22 & 24                    reading: Chapter 6**

Cultural Deviance & Formation of Subcultures

- Cultural Deviance Theories (p. 138-44)
- Subcultural Theories of Delinquency and Crime (pp. 144-45)
- The Subculture of Violence (pp. 145-46)
- Focal Concerns: Miller's Theory (pp.146-48)
- Labelling Theory (pp. 148-54)
- Gangs at the Turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (pp. 155-57)
- Female Delinquent Subcultures (pp. 157-59)
- Middle Class Delinquency (pp. 159-64)
- Midterm February 22, 2016

**Week 8 & 9: February 29 to March 9            read Chapter 7**

Social Control

- What is Social Control? (pp. 168-70)
- Theories of Social Control (pp. 170-75)
- Personal and Social Control (pp. 176-82)
  - Debatable Issues: Are Human Beings Inherently Bad? (p. 181-83)
- Social Control and Drift (p. 184)
- Recent Theoretical Explorations (pp. 184-89)

**Week 10: March 14 & 16                    reading: Chapter 8**

Conflict, Radical and Marxist Theory

- Conflict Theory (pp. 193-200)
  - Debatable Issues: Racial Profiling – Conflict in Labelling (pp. 194-95)
- Radical Theory (pp. 200-04)
- Feminist Theory (pp. 204-09)
- Emerging Explanations (pp. 209-13)

**Week 11: March 21& 13**

**reading: Chapter 9**

**Criminality of Place**

- Situational Theories of Crime (pp. 218-25)
- Theories of Victimization (pp. 225-232)
- Preventing Crimes ... (p. 233)
  - Debatable Issues: Situational Crime Prevention (pp. 234-40) Think about your answers to these questions

**Week 12 to 14: March 28 to April 13**

Group Presentations and Final Exam Review

Thought Paper 2 - Due March 30, 2016

Last Class April 13, 2016

Participation Summary Evaluation Due- April 13, 2016

**EVALUATION:**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Percent of Final Grade</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Thought Paper 1	15%	Feb. 10, 2016
Midterm	20%	Feb. 22, 2016
Final Exam	20%	Final Exam Period
Thought Paper 2	15%	March 30,2016
Group Presentation	20%	March 30, April 4, 6, 11
Participation	10%	April 13, 2016

**GRADING**

Percentage	Grade
90-100	A+
85-89	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
65-69	C+
60-64	C
50-59	D
0-49	F

## **METHODS OF EVALUATING LEARNING**

### **Thought Papers - 2 – Due February 10, 2016 and March 30, 2016**

#### **Thought Paper 1 Assignment**

##### **Assignment 15% of final grade Due February 10, 2016**

Your thought paper should be a short (2 page minimum, 6 pages maximum) independently written paper where you explain your opinion towards the assigned question. For this short paper you can write using the materials from the lectures and assigned textbook for this class. No additional research or references is required but is accepted. In the thought papers, I am looking for evidence of critical thinking. While I will assign some points for grammar, writing style, and organization, the main focus of my feedback will be the degree to which you demonstrate comprehension of the important concepts discussed in this course and discuss them adequately and concisely in the allotted page range.

Specific topic information and questions for this thought paper will be distributed in class.

#### **Thought Paper 2 – Due March 30, 2016**

##### **Assignment 15% of your final grade**

Your thought paper 2 should be a short (2 page minimum, 6 pages maximum) independently written paper where you explain your opinion towards the question. For this short paper you can write using the materials learned from the lectures and assigned textbook for this class. No additional research or references is required but is accepted. In the thought papers, I am looking for evidence of critical thinking regarding an important course concept. While I will assign some points for grammar, writing style, and organization, the main focus of my feedback will be the degree to which you demonstrate comprehension of the important concepts discussed in this course and discuss them adequately and concisely in the allotted page range.

Specific topic information and questions for this thought paper assignment will be distributed in class.

#### **Exams (40%)**

Two exams are scheduled for this course.

**Midterm Exam (20%) - Monday, February 22, 2016**

**Final Exam (20%) during exam period**

Each exam will cover classroom materials, discussions, videos, speakers and all assigned readings. Be sure complete all assigned readings.

The format will include multiple choice, short answer, definitions, and a short essay question.

## **Group Presentation 25%**

You are required to participate in a group presentation of 25 minutes. Presentations will be held March 30, April 4, 6 and 11<sup>th</sup>. All group members will receive the same grade for the presentation. You will be given your presentation grade at the end of class on April 13, 2016.

You will be randomly assigned to a group. Each group will be assigned a topic in week 3. Each group must submit a 1 to 2 page summary of their presentation the day of their presentation. All members of the group will be evaluated in the following manner:

- 1) Presentation style
- 2) Presentation content
- 3) Ability to inspire discussion and respond to audience questions
- 4) 1 to 2 page written summary of your presentation

All group members are expected to contribute equally to the final group presentation, including completing work leading up to the presentation and delivery of the presentation.

Each presentation will be 25 minutes in length, with approximately 15 to 20 minutes for the group presentation and 5 to 10 minutes for questions and class discussion, which the group presenting is expected to lead and facilitate.

The topic and date for your presentation will be assigned in Week 3.

## **Class Participation 10%**

Students are expected to be very active, critical and respectful participants, listeners and learners in class and with their presentation groups. Each student will be asked to submit a brief summary of their participation and contributions in class and with their groups on the last day of class.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL POLICIES**

### **1. Attendance & Participation**

Regular attendance and active participation is required. It is expected that you will arrive on time, be attentive, non-disruptive, constructive and respectful. For example, using headphones, engaging in text messaging, looking at voice 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.

## **2. 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 daybook where you can keep track of each week assignments, readings, exams and other expectations being placed on you.

You are also expected to participate in class discussions and activities based on the readings. To help you engage in this, you will likely want to find an active means of doing your readings. For example, you can take notes (questions and answers often work well) or highlight your textbook and write in the margins before coming to class.

## **3. Late Penalty**

All assignments must be completed and submitted on the date and at the time assigned. There are no marks for late submissions on the discussion posts (initial posts and responses). Late synthesis will be penalized 10 percent (off 100 percent) per day late (starting at the time the assignment is due: 6 pm) unless an extension is legitimately warranted and approved by me in advance of the assigned due date.

## **4. Plagiarism, Cheating & Academic Dishonesty**

Please see the College calendar!

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

Plagiarism is theft! Academic honesty is a critical trait to have within your life. It shows that you respect the contributions of others and use those contributions with respect.