



**School of Arts & Science
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT**

**Crim 286- Women and Criminal Justice
Winter 2016**

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of women's victimization experiences, involvement in crime, explanations of female criminality, and the criminal justice system's response to female offenders. Particular attention will be given to feminist theoretical explanations and analysis of the defining and processing of women as offenders. Women's increasing role as criminal justice professionals will also be examined.

1. Instructor Information

- (a) Instructor- Eva Wilmot, MA
- (b) Office hours – Wednesdays 11:30-12:20, Fridays 1:30-2:20
- (c) Location – Young 210B
- (d) Phone - 370-3335
- (e) E-mail: Wilmote@camosun.ca

2. Learning Outcomes

Completion of this course will enable you to:

1. Communicate your understanding of the extent and nature of women's criminal involvement in Canada, their victimization experiences, and participation in criminal justice professions.
2. Describe, analyze, and evaluate historical and contemporary explanations of women's criminal behaviour.
3. Describe, and critically analyze the manner in which women have traditionally been processed and managed within the justice system.

3. Required Materials

(a) Texts

Barker, J. (2009) *Women and the criminal justice system: A Canadian perspective*.
Toronto: Emond Montgomery Publications Ltd.

(b) Other -

Writing reference manual for the Criminal Justice program

Supplemental readings distributed in class

4. Course Content and Schedule – subject to changes

Course Format:

Course delivery methods include lectures, guest speakers, audio-visual presentations, assigned readings, individual/group learning activities and student presentations..

Class Schedule (subject to change):

WEEK 1 Introduction to Women and Criminal Justice

 Introduction to course

 Reading: Chapter 1

WEEK 2 Why should we study women and their
 experience of the criminal justice system?

 Video: In the Face of Justice

PART ONE: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

WEEK 3 Violence Against women; forms, measurement, responses
 A Global Perspective
 Video: You Can't Beat a Woman

WEEK 4 Violence in the context of intimate relationships

 Reading: Ch. 12

WEEK 5 CJS response to intimate partner violence

 Spousal killings and the defense of battered women's syndrome:
 Video: When Women Kill

Reading Ch. 7

WEEK 6 Sexual Assault: definition, legal issues, and the challenges of prosecution
Reading: Ch. 12

Date Rape
Video: Dating violence

WEEK 7 Human Trafficking paper due – a discussion

PART TWO: WOMEN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW

WEEK 8 Theories of female criminality
Reading: Ch. 2

Female offenders: what types of crime do they commit?
Reading: Ch. 3

WEEK 9 Female offenders: who are they?
Reading: Chapters 4 and 9

WEEK 10 Women in Trouble: The Justice Response

WEEK 11 Women in prison
Video: Sentenced to life

Correctional Practice/Treatment
Reading: Ch. 6

PART THREE: WOMEN IN THE CJ PROFESSIONS

WEEK 12 Women as CJ professionals: an overview of historical barriers and change

Reading: Ch. 13

WEEK 13 Women in legal professions
Reading: Ch. 14

Women in Corrections
Reading: Ch. 15

WEEK 14 Looking back; gender and justice – **Wrap up- Video: In the Face of Justice**
Review for final exam

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

The total marks in this course are distributed as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Human Trafficking Paper | 20% |
| 2. Paper and Presentation | 30% |
| 3. Participation | 10% |
| 4. Final Exam | 40% |

Description of Course Assignments and Evaluation

1. **Written Assignment – Human trafficking paper**

Students will be required to complete a 6-8 page paper analyzing the issue of human trafficking based on gender, age, race and class. A guideline for this assignment will be distributed separately in class.

Value: **20%**

Due date: Wednesday February 17 in class

2. **Oral presentation and paper** **30%**

Discussion of topics and due dates will occur during the first week of classes. A set of guidelines will be available via D2L.

5. **Participation** **10%**

The success in this course is dependent on each student actively participating in both open discussions and group-based activities during class time. In order to fully contribute to these discussions it is imperative that students come prepared to contribute their understanding, opinions, and analysis of the subject materials. Participation marks will be based on in-class work. In the event that you miss a class where an in-class activity worth marks occurred, there will be no make-up assignment unless you provide a doctor's note indicating you were too ill to attend class on that date.

6. **Exam** **40%**

The final exam will be comprised of a number of true/false, multiple choice, fill-in the blank, short answer and short essay questions and will be scheduled during the final exam week.

6. Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| A+ = 90 - 100% | B = 73 - 76% | D = 50 - 59% |
| A = 85 - 90% | B- = 70 - 72% | F = 0.0 - 49% |
| A- = 80 - 84% | C+ = 65 - 69% | |

B+ = 77 - 79%

C = 60 - 64%

What do the grades mean?

A: The student demonstrates all of the qualities of the "B" student and shows added resourcefulness, initiative and excellence in meeting course requirement. An "A" student surpasses the expectations of the course by doing additional reading, providing well thought-out and a clearly expressed ideas on exams and assignments. Demonstrates analytical and critical thinking skills.

B: Clearly performing above average, demonstrating a solid grasp of the readings and lecture material, and is able to reflect this knowledge orally and in writing. Demonstrates analytical thinking skills.

C: Meets all course requirements satisfactorily and has a competent understanding of the material. Further improvement is attainable with effort and refined reading, writing and analytical skills.

D: Generally performing below average. Does not show signs of having read the assigned readings or is unable to present ideas in writing and insufficient clarity or detail. May need assistance to elevate reading/writing skills.

F: Fails to meet all or most course requirements. This may be due to poor attendance, hastily prepared assignments, not having done the readings or some other correctable problem. The course could be taken again with instructor's permission.

7. Instructional Policies

1. Attendance and Participation

Regular attendance and participation in class contributes to much more enriching learning experience. Completing the assigned readings prior to class will increase your ability to contribute to class in a meaningful way. Students are encouraged to identify current events that directly relate to course content so that we might all learn from these events and apply our knowledge to the real world.

2. Exam Date Changes

No provision will be made to write an exam earlier or later than originally scheduled. All exams must be written at the times and on the dates assigned. A student will only be allowed to write a missed exam by providing a valid medical certificate attesting to the fact that s/he was ill (or suffered an accident) at the time of the assigned test.

3. Late Penalty

Students having a legitimate concern about meeting the due dates should consult with the instructor well in advance. All assignments must be completed and submitted by the date assigned. All late written assignments will be penalized by 20% of the total mark per day.

4. Written Assignment Requirements

All assignments must be handed to the instructor at the beginning of class; any alternate arrangements need to be negotiated with the instructor. If the submission of an assignment is problematic, please see me well in advance of the submission date.

Written assignments for this course must be typewritten, double-spaced and meet the basic requirements set out in the Criminal Justice Writing Reference Manual. Papers must be properly referenced using the APA referencing format. An undocumented paper will not be accepted.

5. Plagiarism, Cheating and Academic Dishonesty

What is Plagiarism? Plagiarism is the failure to fully, and accurately acknowledge the sources of all information used in your assignments, thereby giving the impression the work is your own. Plagiarism includes the use of quotes, or another author's words, without using quotation marks or giving a proper reference citation to the original author. Plagiarism also includes failing to document the source(s) of paraphrased information/ideas.

If plagiarism, cheating or academic dishonesty can be documented, the penalty will be an automatic "zero" on the assignment in question.

6. Cheating/Academic Dishonesty/Student Conduct

The Criminal Justice Department and the college has a clearly articulated policy on cheating and student conduct. Cheating may result in suspension and the potential loss of a career in the criminal justice field. Please refer to a current College Calendar and the Criminal Justice Orientation Manual.

7. Course Withdrawal

The last day to withdraw from this course without receiving a failing grade or academic penalty is March 9, 2016.

8. Mark/Grade Challenges and Appeals

A student seeking to question a mark assigned by the instructor on any course evaluation component, must clearly articulate in writing the specific element of the assignment being questioned and provide written reasons or arguments supporting a change in the mark. The Student Appeals Procedure is found Camosun College online calendar at:

<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/pdf/academic-policies.pdf>

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9. Student Responsibility

It is each student's responsibility to familiarize her/himself with course and college policies. Students experiencing difficulties during the term are encouraged to talk to the instructor at the earliest opportunity.

10. Class Discussion Rules

The first and most fundamental principle for participation in this class is that of respect. This will be expected of all persons present both in and out of class while engaged in the discussion of class material.

Please remember these guidelines during class discussions:

-While participation in discussion is encouraged; remember not to take more than your fair share of class time to present your perspective, analysis, suggestions or opinion.

-your contributions should be couched in respectful language, free of intense emotions, and should not be critical of the presenter, or otherwise personalized. Identify and

criticize a statement, point of view, opinion or belief; identify why you disagree with the statement not the messenger.

-speak respectfully to and about groups whether or not they are represented in class. Remarks that stereotype a group or are sexist, homophobic, racist etc. damage the class atmosphere and will be respectfully challenged.

-everyone has the right to make mistakes, even the instructor; this is how learning occurs and it contributes to intellectual growth. Let's be patient and respectful of one another's intellectual and personal growth.

-If speaking in class is really difficult for you, please see me to discuss other ways of contributing as soon as possible.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>