



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE**  
**School of Arts & Science**  
**Department of Criminal Justice**

**CRIM-270-D01**  
**Criminal Law**  
**Fall 2020**

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

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

Ω Please note: This outline will *not* be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

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### **1. Instructor Information**

(a) Instructor	Brian D. Young	
(b) Office hours	By email only	
(c) Location	By email only	
(d) Phone	3109	Alternative: _____
(e) E-mail	youngb@camosun.bc.ca	
(f) Website		

### **2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

*(If any changes are made to this part, then the Approved Course Description must also be changed and sent through the approval process.)*

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

1. Articulate the basic principles, procedures and substantive areas of criminal law.
2. Identify the various sources of criminal law and critique the criminal justice system, its offences and defenses.
3. Explore by the use of papers and other activities areas of criminal law that are of interest.
4. Articulate an appreciation of criminal law in practice by participating in a mock trial that as closely as possible replicates a true criminal trial.

### **3. Required Materials**

- (a) ***Criminal Law in Canada, Cases Questions and the Code***  
Simon N. Verdun Jones, Harcourt Brace

This fine book is available at your friendly bookstore. Earlier editions are usable, but check with me. The text is carefully chosen to offer the best **supplementary readings** to the lectures. The text is also available online from the publisher. That's likely the best way to go.

## Crim 270 Cases

The cases are mandatory reading for the course. They will be emailed. It is very important that you read the cases during term rather than cramming in before the final.

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

#### DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE

	Introduction Discussion of outline and course requirements	
	Review of Terms Discussion of textbook Discussion of casebook Background - types of offences Overview of justice system Sources of legislation	Preface & C. 1
	Procedure Review - courts, players, trials - arrest and charge procedures - plea types - burdens	C. 1 and 2
	Actus Reus - elements of offences - history - application	C. 2
	Causation Voluntariness Automatism	C. 2 - 3
	Mens Rea - the other element to an offence - history and application - significance in offences - necessity of proof - Mens Rea as a defence itself - What is knowledge? - Direct and Indirect knowledge - What is intention? - The different types of intents	C. 4 - 5
	OBJECTIVE LIABILITY - Criminal Negligence Causing Death - Manslaughter - Regulatory Offences - Strict Liability - Absolute Liability	C. 5
	DEFENCES PART 1 (not necessarily in this order) - duress - necessity - provocation - justification and excuse - immunity - children, crown, your spouse - internationally protected persons - military personnel - mental disorder - diseases of the mind	C. 6, 7, 8

- automatism
- fitness to stand trial

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DEFENCES PART 2

C. 10

- aiding and abetting
- intoxication
- defence of property and of others
- self defence
- necessary force
- mistake of fact
- mistake of law
- Charter of Rights
- procedural defence vs. defence to offences
- entrapment
- People in Authority - ship's captain, doctor, pilot, College Prof!
- Alibi

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

### WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO TO PASS THE COURSE:

Each course takes countless hours of development.

Each assignment must be completed. If you do not complete an assignment you do not pass the course. That means an "F".

#### Mid Term Exam – October 19<sup>th</sup> 25%

The exam will be emailed at the start of class, and is due back an hour later. Pretty easy stuff. True false, multiple choice, and maybe some drawing. Just be caught up on readings and cases.

#### Final Exam – Last Class December 7<sup>th</sup> 40%

Like the mid-term, you will be emailed the exam and it will be due back after.

#### Case Battle – 35%

Here's how it works....

The class is divided into teams of 6 – 3 Crown and 3 defence per team. The defence team finds a criminal case on point with the issues in this class. Defence provides the case, plus a synopsis of the case, to the Crown and to me. In the synopsis the defence provides their grounds for arguing in favor of the defence in the case. Crown then writes a "reply" to the case and the defence grounds. This is delivered to the defence and me. And then the battle begins. Pre-Covid, it was an in-class battle. Now it's written and distributed to the class. The class will vote on the winner of each team. The ground rules, order of argument, and the date of your group's battle will be handed out. Please note: this all happens in November. It is meant to be a fast, focused, assignment.

#### Mock Trial

One of the highlights of the term is the mock trial. During Covid, this is not happening. Maybe after you graduate, if I'm still around, pop on by and take part in this.

## 6. Grading System

- Standard Grading System (GPA)
- Competency Based Grading System

## 7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

## 8. College Supports, Services and Policies



### Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

### College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

### College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

## A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

### 1. 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		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

## 2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

## B. 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 at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> 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 are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
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.