

Instructor: Raymond Lonsdale MA (CRIM)  
Pronouns: (He, Him)  
Time: Monday, Thursday 11:30 – 12:50  
Room: 201 Young Building  
Office: Young 226  
Office Hours: by appointment or by email  
Email: [LonsdaleR@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:LonsdaleR@camosun.bc.ca);  
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**Description:** This course provides an examination of the Canadian criminal justice system, its components, processes, objectives, and functionalities. This includes an analysis of discretion, diversion, decision-making processes, and the operational practices of the system.

**Objective:** After successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Communicate your understanding of the legislative basis, structure, and functions of the various components making up the Canadian criminal justice system.
- Identify and critically discuss contemporary issues facing our criminal justice system.
- Map the progress of an accused person through the criminal justice process and identify the various options the system has for holding offenders accountable for their crimes.

**Textbook:** Griffiths, C.T. (2011) Canadian Criminal Justice, A Primer. 6th Ed., Nelson.

**Recommended:** Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program

Criminal Code of Canada

**Method:** Classes will be lecture format with discussions. Students will be expected to read the assigned chapter(s) and participate.

**Mid Term: 35%.** Midterm to be done in class on, **Oct 18, 2021** and will cover lectures and Chapters 1 through 6 inclusive.

**Final Exam: 35%.** Will be held during the exam week. The format for the midterm and final exam may consist of definition, short answer, multiple choice, matching and essay questions. And will cover Chapter 7 -14 inclusive.

**Discussion Paper x 2: 20%** - You will be required to choose 2 discussion topics from the selections below – 1 from each section as it pertains to the Canadian Criminal Justice System. 1<sup>st</sup> discussion paper due on, **Oct 7, 2021**; 2<sup>nd</sup> discussion paper due on **Nov 25, 2021**.

## Section 1

**Canadian Criminal Justice and Mental Illness:** Studies indicate that one in three Canadian's will experience mental illness in their life time ("Mental Awareness week", 2017). Many will suffer in silence and many others will be unable to receive/access adequate care. Pick once area within the CJS and discuss how individuals with mental illness are treated.

**The Youth Justice System:** The YJS deals with 12-17 year olds in trouble with the law. It uses a rehabilitative method to deal with youth. It makes sure the youth are provided with meaningful consequences for their actions and then reintegrates them back into society. Discuss whether the Youth Justice System is too lenient or fair and equitable.

**Criminal Justice and Indigenous Persons:** Discuss why it would be important for persons who work in the criminal justice system to have a historical and contemporary understanding of Indigenous Persons.

**Private vs Public Police:** Discuss whether or not you agree with the following statement: "As the cost of Public police continues to rise there is an argument for an increase in the role and numbers of Private Security Officers".

## Section 2

**Special Courts:** Do you think that specialized courts have a real purpose in our criminal justice system. In you essay discuss the pros and cons of each.

**Wrongful convictions:** Wrongful convictions are a problem that continues to plague our criminal justice system. Although each case is different, identifying the commonalities among the cases is important for preventing future cases. Identify to persons who have been wrongfully convicted (go to [www.cbc.ca/news/canada/canada-s-wrongful-convictions-1.783998](http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/canada-s-wrongful-convictions-1.783998) and discuss the similarities and differences that led to the wrongful convictions and identify no more than three recommendations that could be made from the case studies that might reduce the likelihood of wrongful convictions in the future.

**Pros and Cons of Minimum Sentencing:** Mandatory minimum sentencing is a protocol made to provide accurate sentencing for a crime. Discuss the purpose or reasoning behind mandatory minimum sentencing and outline the pros and cons. What other countries use mandatory minimum and have they been without conflict.

**Offenders under Surveillance:** Discuss whether there should be limits on the surveillance of offenders under community supervision. In your essay, be sure to discuss whether we should limit the use of technology when monitoring offenders or expand the practice to include something like a tracking chip.

**Your paper will be marked on:**

- 1) Content. This includes how well you articulate your thesis statement or your central idea or position; knowledge of the subject and how well you support your statement with facts by referring to the literature.
- 2) Organization: I am looking for an introduction, body and a conclusion. I am looking for a logical presentation of the more important parts with fully developed paragraphs with proper sentence flow
- 3) Mechanics: That is, the quality of your writing including grammar and punctuation. Please avoid using described as slang (e.g. cop vs. police officer), colloquial (e.g. referring to taking drugs as a ‘fix’) or cliché’ (e.g. time heals all wounds)
- 4) Referencing: references are cited using the APA format in a separate reference page. Only those resources within the body of the paper are to be listed in the reference page. References are to come from a variety of sources (e.g. journals, reports, agency data, books, etc.) and should reflect Canadian content.
- 5) Format: **Minimum 3 pages and Maximum 5 pages in length.** To be typed, one sided, double spaced, unbound, stapled in the top left corner, title page, cover page, number pages, 1” margin, Times New Roman font, 12 pitch.
- 6) It is to be handed to me at the beginning of class. Do not mail it to me, email it to me, drop it off in my office, slide it under my door or ask someone else to deliver it to class. Penalty for a late paper will be assessed at 20% per week. Students having a legitimate (as defined by the instructor) concern about meeting due date should consult with the instructor well in advance.

**Instructional Policies:**

1. **Contact with Instructor.** I will be available for consultation with students during my office hours: ***Thursday 13:00 – 14:00 hours*** or by appointment.
2. **E-mail.** When contacting me through email please include the “CRM 154” in the subject line. E-mails will generally be returned within 2-3 business days. Please note, I respond to emails between 16:30 – 19:00 on weekdays. E-mails received after 19:00 hours on Fridays may not be responded to until the following Monday.
3. **Late Penalties.** Assignments (including written) handed in after their due date will be subjected to penalty. Students having legitimate concern about meeting a due date should consult with the instructor ***well in advance***. Be advised that all assignments submitted for this class must be original works and not copies of previous work or copies produced for another class.

4. **Course Completion.** Students must complete all requirements of this course to receive a grade. Students failing to complete all the requirements satisfactorily will not receive a passing grade.
5. **Plagiarism.** Plagiarism is the failure to fully and accurately acknowledge the source of all information used in your assignments, thereby giving the impression that the work is your own. Plagiarism includes the use of quotes, or another author's words without using proper punctuation and reference citation. Plagiarism also includes failing to document the source(s) of paraphrased information and/or ideas.
6. **Cheating/Academic Dishonesty/Student Conduct.** The Criminal Justice Department has a clearly articulated policy regarding cheating and student conduct as does the College. Cheating may result in suspension and the potential loss of a career in the field of criminal justice. Please refer to a current College Calendar and the Criminal Justice Orientation Manual.
7. **Course withdrawal.** Please refer to the College Calendar for the last day to withdraw from this course without penalty.
8. **Mark/Grade Challenge and Appeal.** A student who is seeking to question a grade and/or formally resolve a grade dispute with the course instructor *must* clearly articulate in writing the specific elements of the assignment being questioned and provide written reasons/arguments supporting why the grade should be changed. The college appeals process is outlined in the College Calendar.
9. **Student Responsibility.** It is the responsibility of the student to be familiar with the course and college policies (***Please see Section 11 below***). Students experiencing difficulties throughout the semester are encouraged to talk with the course instructor at the earliest opportunity.
10. **Computer use.** All cell phones and recording devices must be turned off during class time. A laptop or electronic 'notebook' is allowed but the ***recording device must be turned off***. If you use the computer to play games or converse with friends while in class you will be asked to turn it off. If a recording device is necessary as a result of a documented need then a note from the Disability Resource Centre is required.
11. **College Supports, Services and Policies.**
- A. 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>
- B. 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/>
- C. 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, Student Ancillary Fees, Academic Integrity, Grade Review & Appeals, Student Misconduct and Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities and Student Penalties and Fines.

### Dates and Topics

WEEK #1	Sep 6,9	Intro and Chapter 1 Foundations of Criminal Justice
WEEK #2	Sep 13, 16	Chapter 2 - Understanding the CJS
WEEK #3	Sep 20, 23	Chapter 3 - Considerations in the Study of Criminal Justice
WEEK #4	Sep 27, 30	Chapter 4 - The Structure and Roles of the Police
WEEK #5	Oct 4,7	<i><u>Discussion 1 Due</u></i> Chapter 5 - Police Powers and Decision Making.
WEEK #6	Oct 11, 14	Chapter 6 - Police Strategies, Operations and Engagement.
WEEK #7	Oct 18, 21	<i><u>Mid- term Exam – In Class</u></i> Chapter 7 - Structure and Operation of the Criminal Courts.
WEEK #8	Oct 25, 29	Chapter 8 - The Prosecution of Criminal Cases
WEEK #9	Nov 1,4	Chapter 9 - Sentencing
Week #10	Nov 8, 11	Chapter 10 - Corrections in the Community

Week #11	Nov 15, 18	Chapter 11 - Correctional Institutions
Week #12	Nov 22, 25	<i><u>Discussion Paper #2 Due</u></i> Chapter 12 - Release, Re-entry and Reintegration
Week #13	Nov 29 – Dec 2	Chapter 13 - The Youth Justice System
Week #14	Dec 6, 9	Chapter 14 – Reconsidering Criminal Justice – Exam Review
		<b>Final Exam during Exam week</b>