

School of Arts & Science CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

CRIM-154

Introduction to the Criminal Justice System

Fall- 2021

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Nour Maghnaoui

Office: 205

Phone: (250) 370-3109

E-mail: <u>MaghnaouiN@camosun.bc.ca</u>

Class Time: Monday/Wednesday (10:28- 11:50)

Office Hours: (Mon/Wed: 12:00-1:00 pm)

or by appointment Online via blackboard collaborate

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an examination of the Canadian criminal justice system, its components, processes, objectives, and functionaries. This includes an analysis of discretion, diversion, decision-making processes, and the operational practices of the system.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- 1. Outline the legislative basis, structure and functions of the various components of the Canadian criminal justice system.
- 2. Identify how each component of the criminal justice system interrelates with other components and with the larger society within which it operates.
- 3. Track the process of an accused person through the critical decision-making points of the Canadian criminal justice system.
- 4. Identify and critically discuss contemporary issues affecting the structure and operations of the Canadian criminal justice (e.g. youth justice, female offenders and Aboriginal justice).

REQUIRED MATERIALS

• Griffiths, C.T. (2019) Canadian Criminal Justice A Primer. 6th Ed. Nelson. (Required).

To order your books, please visit the Camosun Bookstore website where you will find your book information online and can pre-order for pickup.

1 https://www.camosuncollegebookstore.ca/buy_textbooks.asp

I have also provided the link for all student services available for you at Camosun: https://camosun.ca/services

GRADE EVALUATION:

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	EXAMS W	EIGHTING	DATE
•	Mid-term exam #1	25%	October 20th
•	Final exam	30%	TBA on Camlink
•	Directed Paraphrasing Summaries Q	uizzes 15%	Ongoing
•	Synthesis project	30%	December 1st ***

STANDARD GRADING SYSTEM (GPA)

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

^{*} N.B. This course is considered a Criminal Justice core course, and therefore a student must achieve a C grade or better to receive transfer credit.

ASSIGNMENTS DESCRIPTION

55% 1. EXAMS

- 1. First mid-term 25%
- 2. Final exam 30%

There will be a mid-term exam 25%, and a final exam 30%. The exams will consist of some combination of true/false statements, fill-in the blank, multiple choice, short answer questions, and short essay responses. The format of each exam (e.g., number of questions will be discussed in class).

Note: All exams will be conducted online via D2L. Therefore, it is very important to secure a laptop and reliable Internet.

I would like to note that some tablets may not function properly as they do not support certain formats and software. If you experience technical issues as you attempt to access your D2L account, Camlink, and email, please contact the IT support desk at: http://camosun.ca/services/its/contact.html

You may contact Camosun Library to inquire about the available services and support for students here at: http://camosun.ca/services/library/

2. Directed Paraphrasing Summaries Quizzes

15%

Directed Paraphrasing is an informal assessment technique/strategy that aims to assess students' understanding of ideas and concepts that are discussed in class. Throughout the term, on random basis, students will be asked, prior to the end of class, or at the beginning of the following class, to write a directed paraphrasing summary quiz about the discussed topic in the class lecture. Students will write <u>SEVEN</u> directed paraphrasing summaries; each one worth 5 points and weighs 2% of your total mark.

3. Synthesis Project

30%

The purpose of this assignment is for you to demonstrate the knowledge you are acquiring about how the CJS operates by guiding "an offender" through the criminal justice process from the time of their first contact with the police to their release from the correctional facility. You are required to document and describe in details the various applicable procedures, options, and decisions made along the way. This would include decisions about search, arrest, pre-trial release, formal charge, court appearances, plea trial, trial, sentencing, incarceration, and post-incarceration release.

The synthesis project in its final form is written as a report. It has a table of content, introduction, headings, and a summary or conclusion.

I have divided the project into four areas (criminal event, police, courts, corrections) to help guide you as you develop your content and convey your understanding of the various processes, roles, and actual decision making by the various professionals involved with your offender.

Keep in mind that you are explaining how the CJS works to someone who "does not know" how it works. You are expected to explain with accuracy the procedure that must be adhered to by the police, prosecution, and court to prosecute offenders, and more specifically, anyone accessed of committing crime.

The Criminal Event must:

- 1. Describe the criminal event (who, what, when, where, why), victim, and witnesses. For example, who committed the offence, his/her age, socioeconomic background, criminal record, family history, physical and mental health capacity (offender profile).
- 2. When and where the offence took place (be consistent here).
- 3. Who is the victim? What is his/her age, socioeconomic background, criminal record, family history, physical and mental health capacity (offender profile).
- 4. If there are witnesses, make sure to identify them and their relation to the victim and/or the offender.

The Accused

The accused person of your choice, either male or female must be:

- 1. Adult at the time of crime occurrence
- 2. Provide personal information about the accused like prior convictions, childhood history, addiction struggles, and mental illness.
- 3. Accused/charged of committing an indictable offence(s). Offence is NOT first or second degree murder.
- 4. Pleads "Not Guilty", then goes to trial.
- 5. Found guilty at sentencing
- 6. Sentenced for at least years incarceration (BEFORE any type of early release).

- 7. Discuss the impact of incarceration on the accused.
- 8. Inmate will appear before the Parole Board of Canada and will be granted conditional release.
- 9. Discuss the re-integration of the offender in the community (You may discuss the available means of support for the offender).

Further details and instructions about this assignment will be discussed in class.

*** December 1st synthesis report is due

LECTURE SCHEDULE & ASSIGNED READINGS (Subject To Change).

This schedule is intended to provide you with a guide to the date on which particular topics will be dealt with in class. Additionally, it specifies dates when exams will be administered and assignments are due. Topic and activity dates may vary slightly due to the flow of the course. Exam dates and assignment due date will, most likely, not change. The instructor will advise you of any changes to this schedule as the course progresses.

❖ Week 1

September 8: Introduction to course material and format Overview of the criminal justice system.

❖ Week 2

September 13: Chapters 1. The foundations of the Criminal Justice System

September 15: Chapter 2 Understanding the Criminal Justice System

❖ Week 3

September 20: Chapter 3 Considerations in the study of Criminal Justice System

September 22: Chapter 4, the structure and roles of the police

❖ Week 4

September 27: Chapter 4. The structure and roles of the police. PRO D-DAY

September 29: Chapter 5. Police power and police decision-making

September 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Closure

❖ Week 5

October 4: Chapter 5. Police power and police decision-making

October 6: Chapter 6. Police strategies, operations and engagement

❖ Week 6

October 11: Thanksgiving holiday

October 13: Chapter 6. Police strategies, operations and engagement.

❖ Week 7

October 18: Review class

October 20: First midterm exam (online via D2L).

❖ Week 8

October 25: Chapter 7. The structure and operations of the criminal courts

October 27: Chapter 8. The prosecution of criminal cases.

❖ Week 9

November 1: Chapter 8: The prosecution of criminal cases

November 3: Chapter 9. Sentencing

❖ Week 10

November 8: Chapter 9. Sentencing

November 10: Synthesis project workshop

❖ Week 11

November 15. Chapter 10. Corrections in the community: Alternatives to confinement

November 17. Chapter 10. Corrections in the community: Alternatives to confinement

❖ Week 12

November 22. Chapter 11. Correctional institutions

November 24. Chapter 12. Release, re-entry, and reintegration

❖ Week 13

November 29: Chapter 13: Youth Justice

December 1st. Chapter 13: Youth Justice

❖ Week 14

December 6: Chapter 14: Going Forward: challenges to and opportunities for criminal iustice.

December 8: Chapter 14: Going Forward: challenges to and opportunities for criminal

❖ Week 15

December 13: Class Review (Questions & answers)

December 15: Final Exam

December 17: * LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION**

INSTRUCTIONAL POLICIES

1. Attendance and Participation

Regular attendance and participation in class is required. It is expected that students will arrive to class on time and that, during class, students will be attentive, non-disruptive, open-minded, constructive, and respectful of others. For exams, students who arrive more than 15 minutes late, or after the departure of a student who has finished writing the exam, will not be permitted to write the exam.

You must attend the first class for each of your courses and confirm your attendance to stay in that class or you will be removed from the course. If you are unable to attend the first class, please email the instructor in advance to ensure your spot is secured.

Masks must be work in all indoor public areas and classrooms. Here is the link

2. 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 (midnight maximum). All late written assignments will be penalized by 10% of the total mark per day.

3. Written Assignment Requirements

Written assignments for this course must be typewritten and double-spaced and follow the writing guide instructions. Written assignments must be submitted to the instructor at the beginning of class on the due date. Assignments received at the end of class, emailed, or not given directly to the instructor as noted may be penalized as defined under #2.

All assignments submitted for evaluation must be original and produced for the purposes of this course only. All assignments must be prepared by each student individually, unless I have given permission for a group submission.

4. Plagiarism

If you are concerned about your ability to properly credit and cite references, please see me ASAP. I am here to help you.

Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offense. If plagiarism is documented by your instructor, the penalty will be an automatic "0" for that assignment. A general rule to follow is that 5 or more consecutive words taken from a document or other source should either be placed in quotations and referenced appropriately, or, paraphrased and credited using a parenthetical citation.

5. Cheating/Academic Dishonesty/Student Conduct

The Criminal Justice Department has a clearly articulated policy on cheating and student conduct, as does the College. Cheating may result in suspension and the potential loss of a career in the criminal justice field. Please refer to a current College Calendar for further information.

6. Course Withdrawal

Add course deadline is: September 17th

Drop with tuition fee refund deadline is September 17th

Fees due September 21

Last day drop a course without academic penalty is November 9. Check this link for further information:

https://camosun.ca/events/important-dates/2021-22

7. Mark/Grade Challenges and Appeals

A student who is seeking to question a mark and/or informally resolve a grade appeal with the course instructor must clearly articulate in writing the specific element of the test or assignment being questioned and provide written reasons/arguments supporting why the mark/grade should be changed. The College appeals process is outlined on Camosun College Calendar online.

8. Student Responsibilities

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

- **8.1. MISSED TERM EXAMS:** When students miss an exam, test, or quiz the instructor should be notified of the reason **before the exam**. In general, some type of official documentation is required in order to obtain an excused absence.
- **8.2. Excused absence due to illness.** When students seek an excused absence because of illness, an official medical note is required.
- **8.3. Excused absence due to extenuating circumstances.** In addition to illness, acceptable reasons for an excused absence are jury duty or court subpoena, death in the family, or other emergency approved by the Instructor.

It is the student's responsibility to keep up with class work when they are absent from class. Absence from class will not be accepted as a legitimate reason for failure to attend an exam on time.

Students must contact the instructor prior to missing an exam to determine whether they qualify for an excused absence.

- **8.4. ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off during lectures, and group discussions (except under exceptional circumstances in which approval has been granted by the instructor). Laptop use is permitted only for taking class notes and/or following PowerPoint slides. The use of electronic devices for entertainment during lectures is not permissible. Students who do not comply with this policy will be excused from the class.
- **8.5. Email Access:** it is the students' responsibility to maintain access to the assigned Camosun email. If you encounter technical difficulties, please request the support of the technical support desk located in the library.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

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.

*** DISCLAIMER:

The information in this Course Outline is subject to change; any changes will be announced in class. Thus, the updated copy will be posted on D2L.
