

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRIM-154: The Criminal Justice System

CLASS SECTION: 003

TERM: Winter 2022

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Lecture and Classroom Discussions/Exercises

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

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For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

*Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.*

## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

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NAME: Stephen Howell B.A. M.Phil. (Cantab)

EMAIL: [howells@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:howells@camosun.bc.ca)

OFFICE: Young 210A

HOURS: Mondays, 1120 to 1300 Hrs., Tuesdays 1220 to 1300 Hrs., Fridays 1220 to 1300 Hrs.

*As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.*

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

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

### PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

### CO-REQUISITE(S):

### EXCLUSION(S):

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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Upon completion of this course a 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 & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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Griffiths, C.T. (2019) *Canadian Criminal Justice: A Primer, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Nelson  
Writing Reference Manual for the Criminal Justice Program  
Criminal Code of Canada

## COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

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The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 1, January 11 & 14	Introduction to the Course, and to the CJS	Read Chapter 1
Week 2, January 18 & 21	Components and Challenges of the CJS <b>First short assignment due January 18</b>	Read Chapters 2 and 3
Week 3, January 25 & 28	Canada's Criminal Law/Police Role	Read Chapter 4
Week 4, February 1 & 4	Police Structure and Powers <b>Second short assignment due February 1</b>	Read Chapter 5
Week 5, February 8 & 11	Police Process/ Prosecution & Defence roles	Read Chapter 7, pp. 181 to 199 AND Chapter 8, pp. 201 to 206
Week 6, February 15 & 18	The Courts <b>Midterm Exam February 18 in class</b>	Read Chapter 7, pp. 165 to 181
February 22 - 25	Reading Break – No classes	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 7, March 1 & 4	Initial Appearances/Plea negotiations <b>Third Short Assignment due March 1</b>	Read Chapter 8, pp. 207 – 217
Week 8, March 8 & 11	Elections, Trials and Verdicts <b>Part 1 of Synthesis due in class March 8</b>	Read Chapter 8, pp. 217 to 245
Week 9, March 15 & 18	Sentencing	Read Chapter 9
Week 10, March 22 & 25	Overview of Corrections and Alternatives to Custody	Read Chapter 10
Week 11, March 29 & April 1	Correctional Institutions <b>Part II of Synthesis due in class March 29</b>	Read Chapter 11
Week 12, April 5 & 8	Release and Re-entry <b>Final Short Assignment due April 5</b>	Read Chapter 12
Week 13, April 12	<b>Final Exam in class April 12</b>	

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines scan be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

## EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<b>Four short assignments</b> , worth 4 points each. (Three points for content and 1 point for writing) You may choose between two topics offered for each assignment due. These short papers are 1 to 2 pages each. Research is not <i>required</i> but if references are used they must be cited.	16%
<b>Two Exams</b> (February 18 and April 12). Each in-class exam is worth 20%. The format may include multiple choice, short answer, fill in the chart, definitions and short essays	40%
<b>Criminal Justice Process Synthesis.:</b> You will “walk” a fictional offender through the criminal justice system from the point of arrest to the conclusion of sentencing, describing in detail the procedures, options and decisions made at each stage. Part I (Arrest to Bail Hearing) is due March 8 and Part II (Election to Sentencing) March 29. Content is valued at 28 points and writing at 10 points)	38%
<b>Attendance and Participation:</b> Up to three points will be awarded for attendance in class and up to three points for active participation in classroom discussions.	6%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.  
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

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## COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

**Plagiarism and academic dishonesty:** While there will be some group work in class, all assignments are to be completed by the student alone. Any significant similarities in submitted assignments will prompt an investigation by the instructor, and possible disciplinary action. All direct quotes **and paraphrased information** must have a source cited. If you are uncertain about how to cite references, consult the instructor or a Librarian. See further information about Academic Integrity below.

**Writing requirement:** A high standard of English composition is expected. Remember to carefully proofread all assignments before submitting them. All assignments must be original and produced for the purpose of this course alone. Students experiencing ongoing difficulty with writing are encouraged to seek help at the Writing Centre.

**Exam policy:** Exams must be written on the day and during the time period allocated. If you are unable to write an exam due to illness, a note from a medical practitioner is required.

**Course completion requirement:** Regardless of the number of points earned during the course, students will receive an “F” if they do not complete ALL components of the course. They must write two exams, and complete four short assignments and the criminal justice synthesis.

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## SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

## SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

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Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	<a href="http://camosun.ca/advising">http://camosun.ca/advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning">http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="http://camosun.ca/counselling">http://camosun.ca/counselling</a>
Career Services	<a href="http://camosun.ca/coop">http://camosun.ca/coop</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="http://camosun.ca/financialaid">http://camosun.ca/financialaid</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="http://camosun.ca/help-centres">http://camosun.ca/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/indigenous">http://camosun.ca/indigenous</a>
International Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/international/">http://camosun.ca/international/</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="http://camosun.ca/learningskills">http://camosun.ca/learningskills</a>
Library	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/library/">http://camosun.ca/services/library/</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/oss">http://camosun.ca/oss</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="http://camosun.ca/ombuds">http://camosun.ca/ombuds</a>
Registration	<a href="http://camosun.ca/registration">http://camosun.ca/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/its">http://camosun.ca/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="http://camosun.ca/writing-centre">http://camosun.ca/writing-centre</a>

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

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### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

### Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

### Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

### Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

### Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

### Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

### Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

### Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

### Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized

Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/sexual-violence](http://camosun.ca/sexual-violence). To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

### Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

**Changes to this syllabus:** Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.