

# **COURSE OUTLINE**

**CRIM 131** 

**COURSE TITLE** 

45 HOURS 3 CREDITS

PREPARED BY: David Christie & Lauren Whyte

APPROVED BY: Andrew Richardson

DATE: December 19, 2018

DATE: Click or tap to enter a date

APPROVED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: Click or tap to enter a date

RENEWED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL: Click or tap to enter a date





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The Course Outline Template is approved by the Academic Council on June 20, 2018

## **COURSE TITLE**

INSTRUCTOR: David Christie, BA, LLB & Lauren Whyte, BA, JD

OFFICE HOURS: One hour before class each week, or as can be arranged

OFFICE LOCATION: Classroom TELEPHONE: 867-667-5255

**E-MAIL:** dchristie@legalaid.yk.ca; lauren.a.whyte@gmail.com

CLASSROOM: A2605 TIME: 6:30 p.m. - 9:30p.m. DATES: Wednesdays

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A descriptive and analytic overview of the structure and operation of the Canadian and Yukon justice systems including the origins, contemporary role, responsibilities, powers, accountability, and interrelationship of the police, courts, and corrections.

# **PREREQUISITES**

Admission to the School of Liberal Arts.

# **EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY**

UBC	No equivalent course	SFU Crim 131 (3) - B Soc
UVIC	No equivalent course	UNBC Sosc 1xxL (3)
UR	HJ 310 (3)	UAF Just Elec. (3)
UAS	Soc 110 (3)	TRU-OL CRIM 1319 (3)
UFV	Crim 103 (3)	TWU Soci 100L (3)
CAMO	Crim 154 (3)	

For information about the transferability of this and other Liberal Arts courses go to <a href="http://www.bctransferguide.ca/">http://www.bctransferguide.ca/</a> or contact the Chair of Liberal Arts at Yukon College.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The objective of this course is to promote critical thinking about the Canadian criminal justice system based on knowledge of theoretical concepts and actual functioning of law, police, counsel, the courts and corrections. With conscientious application in this course students will develop knowledge and critical understanding of:

- 1. The history and philosophy of criminal justice and ethical considerations;
- 2. The criminal justice system, including law enforcement, court system, prosecution and defense, trial process, and corrections;

- 3. Models of the criminal justice system (such as the crime control and due process models);
- 4. The significance and general description of the various players in the criminal justice system, including police officers, probation officers, corrections staff, Crown prosecutors, defense counsel, and judges;
- 5. Recent, and significant changes in the criminal justice system, such as the increasing levels of inter-agency collaboration; and
- 6. The various decision-making stages from initial police involvement through the court system and into the corrections system.

# **COURSE FORMAT**

Course will be a total of 45 class hours plus a final exam. Lectures are conducted in a seminar/class participation format.

### **ASSESSMENTS:**

- 1. Essay / Presentation: CHOICE: Each student is required to do either:
- a. Essay: an 8 10 page, typed essay in APA format, which will be worth 20% of your final grade. Based on the lectures, readings, and research from a minimum of 10 sources, of which there must be at least 5 peer-reviewed journal articles, draft a written essay that addresses one of the topics provided in class. Available topics and more details will be provided in class; or
- b. Presentation: an oral assignment which will be worth 20% of your final grade. Each student must prepare a 15 20 minute presentation to the class. Students will be graded on their presentation style and substance. Available topics and more details will be provided in class.
- 2. Essay: Students are also required to submit an 8 10 page, typed essay in APA format, which will be worth 20% of your final grade. Based on the lectures, readings, and research from a minimum of 10 sources, of which there must be at least 5 peer-reviewed journal articles, draft a written essay that addresses one of the topics provided in class. Available topics and more details will be provided in class

NOTE: Each student will do either two essays (#1(a) and #2) or one Presentation (#1(b)) and one essay (#2).

# Attendance & Participation

Students will be expected to have read and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings for each class. Students will also be expected to read and study materials handed out in class. Students are expected to participate fully in any group exercises that may be assigned during class time. Class attendance and participation will be worth 10% of your final grade.

Mere presence in the classroom is not sufficient. Students will be assessed for active listening skills, demonstrated knowledge of the required readings, and proven understanding of the issues. Students are encouraged to express their own views, to criticize the instructors' analysis, and to raise questions from current events that relate to course content. The Instructor will call upon individual students to answer questions about the materials each week. Students are strongly encouraged to keep up with the assigned readings and to be prepared for each class.

## **Assignments**

Written assignments for this course must be word-processed and fulfil the basic requirements for formal academic papers. You also should note that LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE PENALIZED BY ONE MARK PER DAY unless an extension is legitimately warranted and approved by the course instructor in advance of the assignment due date. Assignments submitted late without instructor approval will not be graded.

#### **Tests**

There will be a midterm (20%) and a final exam (30%).

### **EVALUATION:**

Attendance & Participation	10%
Written Essay	20%
Oral Presentation or 2 <sup>nd</sup> Written Essay	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

# REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS

- 1. Canadian Criminal Justice: A Primer (6th Edition), Curt T. Griffiths (Simon Fraser University), Published by Nelson Education Ltd., ©2019
- 2. Criminal Justice in Canada A Reader, 5th Ed., Roberts & Grossman

These texts will be supplemented by additional materials provided by the instructor.

#### ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

# **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when a student submits work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, without citing the source from which the material is taken. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of work, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from

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which they have taken material according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Students may use sources which are public domain or licensed under Creative Commons; however, academic documentation standards must still be followed. Except with explicit permission of the instructor, resubmitting work which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the College.

# YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Yukon College recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon College program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr.

#### ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): lac@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

# **TOPIC OUTLINE CRIM 131**

Class #	Dates	Assigned Readings
Class #1	9-Jan	Griffiths: Chapter 1: The Foundations of Criminal Justice Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 1 Criminal Justice in Canada - An Overview Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 2 Criminal Justice and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
Class #2	16-Jan	Griffiths: Chapter 2: Understanding the Criminal Justice Griffiths: Chapter 3: Considerations in the Study of Criminal Justice Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 3 The Funhouse Mirror Media Representations of Crime and Justice Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 15 Crime, Criminal Justice and Aboriginal Canadians
Class #3	23-Jan	Griffiths: Chapter 4: The Structure and Roles of the Police Griffiths: Chapter 5: Police Powers and Decision Making Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 12 Who's Policing the Police? Police Governance and Oversight in Ontario Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 17 Drugs and the Canadian Criminal Justice System
Class #4	30-Jan	Griffiths Chapter 6: Police Strategies, Operations, and Engagement Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 4 Scenes from the Life of a Police Officer Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 11 Community Policing in Canada The Broad Blue Line Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 13 The Decision to Detain or Release - the Nuts and Bolts of Bail
Class #5	6-Feb	Griffiths: Chapter 7: The Structure and Operation of the Criminal Courts Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 5 The Role of the Prosecutor Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 6 The Role of a Defence Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 7 A Day in the Life of a Judge Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 14 Plea Bargaining
Class #6	13-Feb	Griffiths: Chapter 8: The Prosecution of Criminal Cases Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 18 Wrongful Convictions in Canada Causes, Consequences, and Responses Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 19 Innocent but Presumed Guilty - The Wrongful Conviction of William Mullins-Johnson Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 20 Why Say Sorry When I Didn't Do It? Remorse and the Dilemma of the Wrongfully Convicted

NO CLASS	20-Feb	READING BREAK
Class #7	27-Feb	Midterm Examination
Class #8	6-Mar	*Hand-back Midterm Exams and Discussion*  Griffiths: Chapter 9: Sentencing Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 24 Crime Victims and the Justice System Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 23 Responding to Intimate Partner Violence Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 26 Domestic Violence and Mandatory Criminal Justice Interventions Re-evaluating the Zero Tolerance Approach
Class #9	13-Mar	Griffiths: Chapter 10: Corrections in the Community: Alternatives to Confinement Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 8 The Probation Officer's Report Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 16 Criminal Justice Responses to People with Mental Illnesses
Class #10	20-Mar	*Oral Presentations & essay writing tips*
Class #11	27-Mar	Griffiths: Chapter 11: Correctional Institutions Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 27 Prisoner's Rights in Canada Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 28 Deaths in Custody
Class #12	3-Apr	Griffiths: Chapter 12: Release, Reentry, and Reintegration Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 9 The Professional Life of a Federal Parole Officer Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 10 Release from Prison - A Life Prisoner's Story  ** ESSAY DUE **
Class #13	10-Apr	Griffiths: Chapter 13: The Youth Justice System Griffiths: Chapter 14: Going Forward: Challenges to and Opportunities for Criminal Justice Reform Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 21 The Changing Nature of Youth Justice Assessing the Impact of the Youth Criminal Justice Act Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 22 Young People Doing Time Consequences of Custody for Young Offenders
Class #14	17-Apr	Final Exam (Date & Time TBA – but expected to be April 17)