



CRIM-101 – Introduction to Criminology

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2023

Course Outline Review Date: 2028-04-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

Students are introduced to the discipline of criminology and the study of crime. They study several criminological theories and perspectives (historical, Indigenous, sociological, biological, psychological and critical) which provide explanations of crime and criminal behaviour. Additionally, students explore various typologies of crime as well as topics such as crime statistics, crime correlates and trends, crime and the media, fear of crime, and victims of crime. They critically examine current issues and matters related to crime in Canada.

Program Information:

This course is required for the Criminal and Social Justice Programs. It can be used as an elective in the Arts and Sciences Certificate, Associate Degree and Diploma programs. Refer to the College program guide for additional information.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face), Online

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Social Sciences

Instructional Activity and Hours:

| Activity | Hours |
|---|-------|
| Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction | 45 |

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Seminar/Tutorials | |
| Laboratory/Studio | |
| Practicum/Field Experience | |
| Co-op/Work Experience | |
| Other | |
| Total | 45 |

Course Requisites:

None

Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Required Text:

Hassan, S. & Lett, D. (2022). *Introduction to Criminology: A Canadian open education resource*.

KPU Press Books. <https://kpu.pressbooks.pub/introcrim/>

Electronic Link to this resource will be provided by the Instructor. There is no cost for accessing this required text.

Additional Course readings and resources available online.

Excerpts provided from:

Monchalin, L. (2016). *The Colonial Problem: An Indigenous perspective on crime and injustice in Canada*. Toronto, ON: University of Toronto Press.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- define the terms criminology, crime, criminal behaviour and deviance;
 - explain measures of crime and the limitations of crime statistics;
 - interpret crime statistics;
 - explain the role media plays in perceptions, myths and fear of crime;
 - identify and describe the major social correlates of criminal behaviour in Canada;
 - explain the key principles and elements of various theories of criminology;
 - explain Indigenous perspectives on crime and deviance;
 - demonstrate creative and reflective thinking;
 - explain various theoretical explanations (biological, psychological and sociological) of crime and criminals;
 - define and explain typologies of crime; and
 - develop an awareness for various responses to crime.
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Course Topics:

- Introduction to Criminology
- Understanding Crime
- Crime Typologies

- Patterns and Correlates of Crime
- Crime Measures and Statistics
- Crime and Media & Fear of Crime
- Race and Crime
- Theories of Crime & Deviance
 - Indigenous Perspectives on Crime and Deviance
 - Historical Theories
 - Classical and Positive schools of Criminology
 - Biological Theories
 - Psychological Theories
 - Sociological Theories
 - Learning Theories
 - Critical Theories
- Specializations/Areas within Criminology
- Crime Typologies
 - Violent Crimes – Homicide, Mass and Serial Murders
 - White-Collar, Corporate and Organized Crime
 - Crimes of morality

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face) and Online, or Hybrid

| Assessment Type | % of Total Grade |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Participation | 5% |
| Assignments | 20% |
| Midterm Exam(s) | 20% |
| Final Exam | 25% |
| Research Paper (various components) | 30% |
| Total | 100% |

Grade Scheme

| A+ | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | D | F |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| >=90 | 89-85 | 84-80 | 79-76 | 75-72 | 71-68 | 67-64 | 63-60 | 59-55 | 54-50 | <50 |

Pass requirements: None

Evaluation Notes: A grade of “D” grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Please see the instructor’s syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments and use of electronic aids.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
- Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.