



INTRODUCTION TO THE CANADIAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

INSTRUCTORS: David Christie, BA, LLB
Lauren Whyte, BA, JD
Barristers & Solicitors, Yukon Legal Services Society

Telephone: (867) 667-5255
Fax: (867) 393-6361
Emails: dchristie@legalaids.yk.ca; lauren.a.whyte@gmail.com

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

OFFICE LOCATION: Classroom

COURSE OFFERINGS

DAYS & TIMES: **Classes:** Wednesdays
Time: 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Room: A2605

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.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Admission to the School of Liberal Arts.

EQUIVALENCY/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 <http://www.bctransferguide.ca/> 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, defence 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).

Exams

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

Attendance and 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.

Scheduled Examination Dates

Unless legitimately warranted and approved by the course instructor in advance, alternative arrangements will not be made for those students who are unable to write examinations on the scheduled examination dates or during scheduled examination periods. Students should be aware that the completion date for this course includes the two week examination period which follows the termination of regularly scheduled classes in December.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/MATERIAL:

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 Edition, Julian Roberts and Michelle Grossman, ISBN-13: 9780176557898, © 2016

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

COURSE REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION

Student performance will be evaluated by grading in each of the following areas:

Attendance and Participation	10%
Written Essay	20%
Oral Presentation or 2 nd Written Essay	20%
Midterm Examination	20%
Final Examination	30%
TOTAL	100%

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS

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.

WRITING CENTRE

All students are encouraged to make the Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. Located in Room C2211 (in the College Library), the Writing Centre offers writing coaching sessions to students of all writing abilities. For further information or to book an appointment, visit the Centre's website: [dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/Writing Centre](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/Writing%20Centre). At the instructor's discretion, students may be required to attend Writing Centre coaching sessions during the composition process of their paper(s) as a condition of assignment completion.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the Academic Regulations:

http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/downloads/Yukon_College_Academic_Regulations_and_Procedures_-_August_2013_final_v1.pdf

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when students present the words of someone else as their own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person's writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Resubmitting a paper 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.

Do not jeopardize your academic future with plagiarism. It is dishonest and can have serious consequences.

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) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

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.

CRIM 131 W20 Syllabus / Class Schedule

Class #	Dates	Assigned Readings
Class #1	Jan 8	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	Jan 15	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	Jan 22	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	Jan 29	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	Feb 5	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	Feb 12	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
Class #7	Feb 19	Midterm Examination
Class #8	Feb 26	*Hand-back Midterm Exams and Discussion*

		<p>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</p>
Class #9	Mar 4	<p>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</p>
Class #10	Mar 11	*Oral Presentations & essay writing tips*
NO CLASS	Mar 18	READING BREAK
Class #11	Mar 25	<p>Griffiths: Chapter 11: Correctional Institutions Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 27 Prisoner's Rights in Canada Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 28 Deaths in Custody</p>
Class #12	April 1	<p>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</p> <p>** ESSAY DUE **</p>
Class #13	April 8	<p>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</p> <p>REVIEW FOR FINAL</p>
Class #14	April 22	Final Exam