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INTRODUCTION TO THE CANADIAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

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

**OFFICE LOCATION:** Classroom

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**COURSE OFFERINGS**

**DAYS & TIMES:** **Classes:** Wednesdays, January 3 – April 25, 2018  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
**Room:** A2601

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**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**

None.

**EQUIVALENCY/TRANSFERABILITY:**

CAMO Crim 154 (3)	KPU Crim 1101 (3)	SFU Crim 131 (3) – B-Soc
TRU-OL Crim 2521 (3)	TWU Huma 100 lev (3)	UFV Crim 103 (3)
UNBC Sosc 1xx (3)	VIU Crim 131 (3)	UR HJ 310 (3)
UAS Soc 110 (3)	UAF Just Elec. (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:

- The History and philosophy of criminal justice and ethical considerations;
- The criminal justice system, including law enforcement, court system, prosecution and defense, trial process, and corrections;
- Models of the criminal justice system (such as the crime control and due process models);
- 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;
- Recent, and significant changes in the criminal justice system, such as the increasing levels of inter-agency collaboration; and
- 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 (5th Edition), Curt T. Griffiths (Simon Fraser University), Published by Nelson Education Ltd., ©2015
2. Criminal Justice in Canada A Reader, 5th Ed., Roberts & Grossman

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 <sup>nd</sup> 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.

## THE LORENE ROBERTSON WRITING CENTRE

All students are encouraged to make the Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. The Lorene Robertson Writing Centre is staffed by helpful writing coaches from across the College and offers one-on-one appointments to students in need of writing support.

The Lorene Robertson Writing Centre can help you:

- Get started on an assignment and focus your ideas
- Outline and plan your assignment
- Write clearly, logically and effectively
- Address specific needs and writing problems
- Revise the first and final drafts of your project
- Gain confidence in your writing

For in-person appointments, the Centre coaching office is located in the Academic Support Centre in room A2302. You can also participate in coaching appointments over the phone or online. See the Academic Support Centre schedule for English and writing support times.

## 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 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](mailto:lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca).

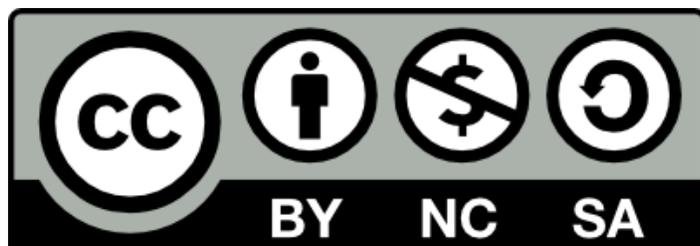
## **YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY**

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](http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr).

## CRIM 131 W18 Syllabus / Class Schedule

Class #	Dates	
Class #1	3-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	10-Jan	Griffiths: Chapter 2: The Structure and Process of Criminal Justice Griffiths: Chapter 3: Crime, Victims, and the Community Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 3 The Funhouse Mirror Media Representations of Crime and Justice
Class #3	17-Jan	Griffiths: Chapter 4: The Structure and Role 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 15 Crime, Criminal Justice and Aboriginal Canadians
Class #4	24-Jan	Griffiths Chapter 6: Police Strategies and Operations Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 17 Drugs and the Canadian Criminal Justice System Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 4 Scenes From the Life of a Police Officer Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 16 Criminal Justice Responses to People with Mental Illnesses Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 11 Community Policing in Canada The Broad Blue Line
Class #5	31-Jan	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
Class #6	7-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
Class #7	14-Feb	Mid-Term Examination
x	21-Feb	READING BREAK
Class #8	28-Feb	Hand-back Mid-Term Exams and Discussion Griffiths: Chapter 9: Sentencing Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 24 Crime Victims and the Justice System Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 14 Plea Bargaining Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 26 Domestic Violence and Mandatory Criminal Justice Interventions Re-evaluating the Zero Tolerance Approach

Class #9	7-Mar	Oral Presentations & essay writing tips (if enough time)
Class #10	14-Mar	Oral Presentations & essay writing tips (if enough time)
Class #11	21-Mar	Griffiths: Chapter 10: Corrections in the Community Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 8 The Probation Officer's Report 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 #12	28-Mar	Griffiths: Chapter 11: Correctional Institutions Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 16: Visible Minorities and Criminal Justice Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 27 Prisoner's Rights in Canada Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 28 Deaths in Custody
Class #13	4-Apr	Griffiths: Chapter 12: Release and Reentry Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 9 The Professional Life of a Federal Parole Officer Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 10 Release From Prison a Life Prisoner's Story Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 13 The Decision to Detain or Release The Nuts and Bolts of Bail <b>** ESSAY DUE **</b>
Class #14	11-Apr	Griffiths: Chapter 13: Restorative Justice Griffiths: Chapter 14: Going Forward Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 23 Responding to Intimate Partner Violence Roberts & Grossman: Chapter 25 Criminal (In)justice Responding to Corporate Crime in the Workplace
Class # 15	18-Apr	Final Exam (Date & Time TBA)



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