

**Last Revised:** September 1, 2021

**Last Reviewed:** January 2022

### COURSE INFORMATION

**Course Title:** Introduction to Criminology

**Course Number:** CRIM 108

**Credits:** 3

**Total Weeks:** 14 (Fall, Spring)  
12 (Summer)

**Total Hours:** 39

**Course Level:**  First Year  Second Year  
 New  Revised Course  
 Replacement Course

**Department:** Social Sciences

**Department Head:** A. McDougall

**Former Course Code(s) and Number(s) (if applicable):**N/A

**Pre-requisites (If there are no prerequisites, type NONE):** NONE

**Co-requisite Statement (List if applicable or type NONE):** NONE

**Precluded Courses:** N/A

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The goal of this course is to provide you with a broad overview of the subject of criminology, the range of methods criminologists take to study crime, and the history and development of this discipline. Examining case studies, you will explore topics such as the connection between crime and the media, criminal law in Canada, the issues surrounding victim experience, and contemporary research on gender and crime. You will learn to identify theories of crime and distinguish between Classical School and Positivism and assess the impact of theories on criminal justice system policy and practices.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- Accurately identify the disciplines that contributed to the foundation of modern criminology and explain how they contribute to policy and practice
- Engage in meaningful class discussions relating to the role of media in shaping viewer perception
- Demonstrate through writing and presentation the core principles of Canadian criminal law
- Successfully express the topic of victim experience, including common responses to victimization, victim resilience, and the concept of the 'Ideal Victim'
- Link criminological theories and contemporary research to examine the gender gap in crime
- Effectively apply the concepts you learn throughout the semester to specific case studies

**INSTRUCTION AND GRADING**

Instructional (Contact) Hours:

| Type                      | Duration |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Lecture                   | 39       |
| Seminars/Tutorials        |          |
| Laboratory                |          |
| Field Experience          |          |
| Other ( <i>specify</i> ): |          |
| Total                     | 39       |

**Grading System:** Letter Grades  Percentage  Pass/Fail  Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory  Other

**Specify passing grade:** 50%

**Evaluation Activities and Weighting** (total must equal 100%)

|                   |                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Assignments: %    | Lab Work: %       | Participation: 5% | Term Project: 20% |
| Quizzes/Test: 15% | Midterm Exam: 30% | Final Exam: 30%   | Other: %          |

**TEXT(S) AND RESOURCE MATERIALS**

Provide a full reference for each text and/or resource material and include whether required/not required.  
*Understanding Crime in Canada: An Introduction to Criminology*. Second Edition 2019. Boyd, Neil  
 Additional readings will be provided by your instructor and posted on MyCC.

**COURSE TOPICS**

List topics and sequence covered.

| <u>Week</u>   | <u>Unit Information:</u>  |
|---------------|---|
| <b>Week 1</b> | <b>TOPIC:</b> Introduction to Criminology<br><b>Assigned Readings:</b> Chapter One: "What Is Criminology?"  |
| <b>Week 2</b> | <b>TOPIC:</b> Crime and The Media<br><b>Assigned Readings:</b> Chapter Two: "The Media: Shaping Our Understanding of Crime"   |
| <b>Week 3</b> | <b>TOPIC:</b> Crime and The Media<br><b>Assigned Readings:</b> "The Deserving vs. Undeserving Victim: Case Studies of Biased Media and Law Enforcement Intervention"<br>Neely, Cheryl L. (posted to MyCC) |
| <b>Week 4</b> | <b>TOPIC:</b> Criminal Law in Canada<br><b>Assigned Readings:</b> Chapter Three: "Criminal Law in Canada"   |
| <b>Week 5</b> | <b>TOPIC:</b> Victims of Crime<br><b>Assigned Readings:</b> Chapter Five: "Victims of Crime"  |

- Week 6**                    **TOPIC:** Victims of Crime  
**Assigned Readings:** “The Ideal Victim Through Other(s’) Eyes”  
Bosma, Alice et al. (Posted to MyCC)
- Week 7**                    Mid-term preparation- review of course materials; Mid-term examination
- Week 8**                    **TOPIC:** Theories of Crime: An Introduction  
**Assigned Readings:** Chapter Six: “Theories of Crime: A Brief Introduction”
- Week 9:**                    **TOPIC:** Sociological Approaches  
**Assigned Readings:** Chapter Nine: “Sociological Approaches”
- Week 10:**                **TOPIC:** Gender and Crime  
**Assigned Readings:** Chapter Ten: “Gender and Crime”
- Week 11:**                **TOPIC:** Gender and Crime  
**Assigned Readings:** “Women, Fear, And Crime”  
Vera-Gray, F (Posted to MyCC)
- Week 12:**                **TOPIC:** Critical Criminology  
**Assigned Readings:** Chapter Eleven: “Critical Criminology”
- Week 13:**                **TOPIC:** Review of class materials and final exam preparation
- Week 14:**                Final examination

#### **NOTES**

1. Students are required to follow all College policies. Policies are available on the website at: [Coquitlam College Policies](#)
2. To find out how this course transfers, visit the BC Transfer Guide at: [bctransferguide.ca](http://bctransferguide.ca)