

Effective Semester: Spring 2024

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:

- Understand the scope of the field of criminology and be familiar with the different parts of the “criminological enterprise.”
- Discuss the factors that affect crime rates, understand how crime data are collected and how criminologists measure crime.
- Demonstrate their understanding of the core principles of Canadian criminal law and apply those concepts to case studies.
- Understand the general characteristics and patterns of victimization and explain society’s various responses to victimization.
- Demonstrate their understanding of the major elements and policy implications of some of the major criminological theories, including classical, biological, and sociological theories.
- Discuss the implications of various types of crimes on today’s society, including cybercrime, white-collar crime, and violent crime.

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: 40%	Lab Work: %	Participation: 10%	Project: %
Quizzes/Test: 10%	Midterm Exam: 20%	Final Exam: 20%	Other: %

TEXT(S) AND RESOURCE MATERIALS

Provide a full reference for each text and/or resource material and include whether required/not required.

Criminology in Canada: Theories, Patterns, And Typologies. 7th Edition 2020. Siegel & McCormick.

Supplementary readings and other class materials are provided and posted by the instructor on MyCC.

COURSE TOPICS

List topics and sequence covered.

Week 1	TOPIC: Introduction to Criminology Assigned Readings: Chapter 1: "Crime and Criminology"
Week 2	TOPIC: Criminal Law and the Legal System Assigned Readings: Chapter 2: "Criminal Law and Its Processes"
Week 3	TOPIC: Measuring and Understanding Crime Assigned Readings: Chapter 3: "Nature and Extent of Crime"
Week 4	TOPIC: Victims of Crime Assigned Readings: Chapter 4: "Victims and Victimization"
Week 5	TOPIC: Classical Theories of Crime Assigned Readings: Chapter 5: "Choice Theory"
Week 6	Midterm Preparation – review of course materials. MIDTERM EXAM
Week 7	TOPIC: Biological Theories of Crime Assigned Readings: Chapter 6: "Trait Theory"
Week 8	TOPIC: Sociological Theories of Crime Assigned Readings: Chapter 7: "Social Structure Theories" & Chapter 8: "Social Process Theories"
Week 9	TOPIC: Critical and Conflict Theories of Crime Assigned Readings: Chapter 9: "Social Conflict Theory"
Week 10	TOPIC: Types of Crimes Assigned Readings: Chapter 10: "Violent Crime" & Chapter 11 "Property Crime"
Week 11	TOPIC: White Collar Crime & Organized Crime Assigned Readings: Chapter 12: "Crimes of Power"

Week 12	TOPIC: Crimes of Morality Assigned Readings: Chapter 13 “Public Order Crimes”
Week 13	TOPIC: Cybercrime and Terrorism Assigned Readings: Chapter 14: “Crimes of the 21 st Century” Review of class materials and final exam preparation
Week 14	FINAL EXAM

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](#)

Last Reviewed: September 2024

Last Revised: January 2024