



EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2009
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A: Division: **EDUCATION** Effective Date: **SEPTEMBER 2009**

B: Department / Program Area: **FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES/ CRIMINOLOGY** Revision New Course

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **A, P, R**

Date of Previous Revision: **APRIL 2004**

Date of Current Revision: **JUNE 2009**

C: CRIM 2256 D: THE FEMALE OFFENDER E: 3

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits						
<p>F: Calendar Description:</p> <p>This course will examine the female offender by focussing on how women’s criminality is created and responded to, both historically and in the current Canadian context. The significance of patriarchal ideology and the role of social control agencies in the defining and processing of women as offenders will be examined. Against the backdrop some of the topics to be considered are: historical subordination, traditional and contemporary criminological explanations, characteristics of Canada’s female offenders, control and punishment, and strategies for change.</p>								
<p>G: Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings</p> <p>Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:</p> <p>Lecture</p> <p>Number of Contact Hours: (per week /semester for each descriptor)</p> <p>Lecture: 4 hrs. per week / semester</p> <p>Number of Weeks per Semester: 15</p>	<p>H: Course Prerequisites:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CRIM 1150</p>							
	<p>I: Course Corequisites:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NONE</p>							
	<p>J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NONE</p>							
	<p>K: Maximum Class Size:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">35</p>							
<p>L: PLEASE INDICATE:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 5%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Non-Credit</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>College Credit Non-Transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>College Credit Transfer:</td> </tr> </table> <p>SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bctransferguide.ca)</p>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Credit	<input type="checkbox"/>	College Credit Non-Transfer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	College Credit Transfer:
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M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Describe women's role as being socially, politically and economically subordinate to males.
2. Critically analyze the role of patriarchal ideology in women's subordination and the production of women's criminality.
3. Discuss the role of social control agencies in processing women's criminality.
4. Analyze the impact of the broader social, economic and legal spheres that impact on women's criminality.
5. Critically analyze the various biological, psychological and sociological explanations that have attempted to explain gender and crime in society.
6. Describe the nature and extent of women's involvement in criminal activity.
7. Describe the characteristics of the "average" female offender and the different characteristics that exist among female offenders and between male and female offenders.
8. Describe the experiences of the First Nations women as offenders.
9. Identify the legal defences which may be applied in cases where a female offender has committed a crime of violence.
10. Identify the impact of the criminal justice system on women offenders and their children.
11. From a historical perspective describe women's experience in prison and discuss contemporary prison reform.
12. Describe the conditional release process for the female offender.
13. Discuss divergent strategies and policies for reform.

N: Course Content:

1. Women's Historical Subordination
 - The Role of Patriarchal Ideology
 - Early History: 5th to 18th Century
 - Later History: 19th and 20th Century
 - Role of family
 - Role of religion
 - Property
 - Sexuality
2. Characteristics of Canada's Female Offender
 - Conforming Versus Non-Conforming Women
 - Criminal Statistics
 - "Average" female offender
 - Differences among female offenders
 - Self Report and Victimization Surveys

Course Content Cont'd.

- Categories of Female Offenders:
 - Youth Female Offender
 - First Nations Female Offender
 - Types of Criminal Activity:
 - Prostitution
 - Property Crime
 - Illegal Drug Involvement
 - Violent Crime
 - Terrorism/The Political Offender
 - The Legal Defences
3. Gender Bias and System Responses
 - Chivalry - Paternalism Thesis
 - Double-Standard Thesis
 - Law as Ideology Thesis
 4. Explanations of Female Criminality
 - Traditional Theories
 - Biological and Psychogenic Theories
 - Contemporary Theories:
 - Social-Psychological Theories:
 - Socialization Differences
 - Structural Differences: Building a Feminist Criminology
 5. The Female Offender, Control and Punishment
 - Pre-Trial Diversion and Alternative Measures
 - Women in Custody:
 - Historical Perspectives
 - The Federal Female Offender in Canada
 - "Creating Choices": Rhetoric or Reality?
 - The needs of imprisoned female offenders and their children.
 6. The Conditional Release Process
 - Release Planning and Parole Decision Making
 - Problems and Recommendations
 7. Strategies for Reform
 - Reforming the Female Offender
 - Reforming Social Control Agencies
 - Reforming Society

O: Methods of Instruction:

The course will employ a variety of instructional methods to accomplish its objectives, including some of the following: lectures, seminar presentations, audio visual materials including video, small group discussions, research projects and research papers.

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:

A bibliography of materials/resources and a manual of relevant selected readings will be available. Subject to copyright approval, the manual may include readings from:

Barker, J. (2009). Women, Crime and the Criminal Justice System. Toronto: Edmond Montgomery Publishing.

Q: Means of Assessment:

Evaluation will be based on course objectives and will be carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. The instructor will provide a written course outline with specific evaluation criteria at the beginning of the semester. Evaluation will be based on some of the following:

1. Short Answer Tests
2. Exams
3. Oral Presentation
4. Research Project/ Term Paper
5. Class Participation

An example of one possible evaluation scheme would be:

Seminar Attendance and Participation	10%
Term Paper	20%
Debate	10%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No.

Course Designer(s): Beth de Beer

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Dean / Director: Dr. Kathy Denton

Acting Registrar: Brenda Walton