



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, M, N, P**

Date of Previous Revision: **APRIL 2004**

Date of Current Revision: **JUNE 2009**

C: CRIM 2260 D: CRIMINAL LAW E: 3

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits						
<p>F: Calendar Description:</p> <p>This course is designed to give students an understanding of Canadian criminal law. The course will begin with a review of the sources of criminal law and how criminal law operates within the structure of the justice system. Students will be introduced to the role of criminal law in society through a discussion of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and recent cases. This will be followed by a thorough examination of the principles of substantive Canadian criminal law. The substantive criminal law will be explained and examined by the use of the case method. General principles of law will be discussed in the context of specific cases decided by the courts. Students will be encouraged to consider the law critically, from both an academic and societal perspective.</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 1160</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 style="text-align: center;">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. Identify the constitutional and legal sources of criminal law and conduct and use legal research.
2. Identify the relationship of criminal law to other regulatory laws.
3. Describe the classification of criminal law in relationship to other classifications of law.
4. Describe the criminal trial process.
5. Discuss how and why the Charter of Rights and Freedoms impacts criminal law.
6. Describe the relationship between morality, societal values and criminal law.
7. Identify the elements of crime and discuss each of these elements as described in statute and case law.
8. Discuss various methods of criminal participation and the elements of each as outlined in statute and case law.
9. Identify legal defenses to crime and describe the legal criteria of these defenses.
10. Identify current issues in Canadian criminal law and related Constitutional laws.
11. Discuss the role of the Supreme Court of Canada (S.C.C.) in criminal law.

N: Course Content:

1. Introduction to Canadian Criminal Law
 - Sources of Criminal Law in Canada
 - Statutes and case law
 - Legal research and citation
 - Case briefing
 - Exclusive Federal Power to Enact Criminal Law
 - Regulatory Law (absolute and strict liability)
 - Review of Legal Classifications (public law, private law, substantive law, procedural law).
 - Criminal Trial Process: Crown's Case, Case for the Defense, Court and Jury Selection
 - Proof of Crime
 - Burden of Proof
 - Standard of Proof
 - Impact of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms on Criminal Law
2. The Changing Nature of Law and Morality

Case studies on the development of the laws on:

 - Abortion
 - Euthanasia
3. Determining Criminal Liability
 - Actus Reus (conduct, circumstances, consequences, causation)
 - Mens Rea (subjective and objective mens rea, direct and indirect intention, relationship to motive, recklessness, willful blindness).
4. Regulatory Criminal Liability
 - Absolute and Strict Liability (definitions, how statutes are classified, Charter application to offences)
5. Modes of Participation in Crime
 - Parties to Crime
 - Accessory After the Fact
 - Inchoate Offences (counseling offences not committed, criminal attempt, conspiracy)

Course Content Cont'd.

6. Defenses to Crime
- Mistake of Fact
 - Mistake of Law
 - Intoxication
 - Necessity
 - Duress
 - Provocation
 - Self-Defense
 - Consent
 - Mental Disorder
 - Automatism

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
- group discussion
- research papers
- case briefing assignments

P: Textbooks and Materials to be purchased by Students:

Textbooks will be updated periodically. Typical examples are:

Verdun-Jones, S. (2007). Criminal Law in Canada: Cases, Questions and the Code, (4th ed.). Toronto, ON: Thomson/Nelson

Verdun-Jones, S. (2007). Canadian Criminal Cases, Selected Highlights, (2nd ed.) Toronto, ON: Thomson/Nelson

The Criminal Code of Canada (latest edition).

Q: Means of Assessment:

Evaluation will be carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. Evaluations will be based on course objectives and may include some of the following: exams, oral presentation, research project/term paper, case brief assignment, legal research lab. The instructor will provide a written course outline with specific evaluation criteria at the beginning of the semester.

SAMPLE EVALUATION

Library Lab	5%
Case Brief Assignment	15%
Research Paper	20%
Mid-term Exam	25%
Final Exam	<u>35%</u>
Total:	100%

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

No.

Course Designer(s): Kathleen Hunter

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Dean / Director: Dr. Kathy Denton

Acting Registrar: Brenda Walton