

CRCJ 4001: Psychology of the Jury
0.5 Credit Hours
Fall 2012
Wednesdays 11:35 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.
Syllabus

Instructor Information

Dr. Evelyn Maeder
Office: C566 Loeb
Office Hours: Tuesdays from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., or by appointment

For contact purposes, it is best to get in touch with me via email using WebCT. Prior to emailing me, please consult this syllabus in order to determine if the answer to your question is included here.

WebCT

PLEASE NOTE: This course will be supported by the WebCT Course Management System. All correspondence with the professor should be carried out through the WebCT e-mail system ONLY. A Discussion group will be available for students, and a variety of resources (both text and online) will be made available through the WebCT site. You must activate your WebCT account by going to the following page: webct.carleton.ca and following the links from the "Student Resources" site on the left hand side.

Students will be fully responsible for reading and responding appropriately to all information distributed to students through the WebCT Course Page. Information provided on this page will be considered to have been provided to all registered students within 24 hours of posting.

Course Description

This course will explore the jury system in Canada and other countries. Jury selection, deliberation, and instructions will be discussed, in addition to a number of legal and extra-legal influences on jury decision-making.

Course Materials

There is no textbook for this class. Readings are available through the library website; references and links are provided on WebCT. If the links are not working, you will be responsible for

using the library website to locate the readings. These readings will include book chapters, journal articles, and cases.

This is an upper-level criminology course, which will be reflected in the reading assignments. On average, students will be expected to read 40-60 pages of material for each class period. Some of the reading assignments will be dense, and many will be research articles. Students are expected to read *all* of the assignments for *every* class, and to come prepared to participate in class discussion.

Course Format

This class will be largely discussion-based and may follow a format that is different from other criminology classes you have taken. This class will be taught in seminar format, meaning that the instructor will minimize lectures in favour of group discussions. The goal is to engage students in the course content to promote active learning of the material. To facilitate this goal, students will be expected to participate in class discussion, and their grades will reflect the quality and quantity of their participation.

Grading

Your grade in this class will be determined through weekly discussion/reading assignments, a research poster/poster presentation, a video response, a paper outline, and a term paper.

Grade Breakdown

ASSIGNMENT	VALUE	DUE DATE
Weekly Coursework		
Critical Responses	25%	9:00 am Tuesday mornings BEFORE class
In-Class Discussion	25%	throughout
Semester Assignments		
Research Poster & Poster Presentation	15%	November 28
Paper Outline	2.5%	October 17
Video Response	2.5%	November 14
Final Paper	30%	November 21

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percent	Letter Grade	Percent
A+	90 – 100%	C	63 – 66%
A	85 – 89%	C-	60 – 62%
A-	80 – 84%	D+	57 – 59%
B+	77 – 79%	D	53 – 56%
B	73 – 76%	D-	50 – 52%
B-	70 – 72%	F	0 – 49%
C+	67 – 69%		

Assignments

Weekly Coursework

In-Class Discussion: Discussion is the essence of this class. Much of the learning that will take place in this class will come from sharing your thoughts and listening to the thoughts of your colleagues. In addition, discussion enables you to ask questions about anything that is confusing you. You, therefore, are expected to attend and meaningfully participate in class sessions. Meaningful participation means that you have read *and thought about* all of the assigned readings prior to class. It also means that, during class, you actively engage the material by posing questions, drawing connections, generating ideas, and discussing relevant issues.

Due to the size of the class, it may not be possible for all students to contribute to each class discussion. As such, you will be separated into groups, and your group will be responsible for conducting discussions on certain class days. This means that for select class periods, you and the other members of your group will be “on call” and will be expected to discuss the readings and discussion/clarification questions in detail.

Your discussion grade for this class is worth 25% of your final grade. Those points will be broken down as follows: you will be evaluated out of 8 points for each of the 2 days that you are “on call” during the semester (8x2 = 16 points). These points will be awarded for meaningful and informed answers to questions concerning the readings, discussion questions, and clarification questions. You will also receive up to 7 points for your on-time attendance in the discussion-based classes in which you are not on call (if you are in class on time, you will receive one full point per class; if you are late, you will receive half a point; if you are absent, you will receive 0 points). This is because active listening is a form of class participation. Finally, you can earn up to 2 “flex points” for participating in class discussion on days in which you are not on call.

If you know well ahead of time that you will be unable to attend class on a day in which you are on call, please let me know so that you can be switched to another day. If you are unable to attend class on a day in which you are on-call due to a last-minute excused absence (i.e., you did not know that you would be absent early enough to make alternative arrangements), then you may make up for lost discussion points by attending office hours and discussing the material with me to demonstrate that you have completed and thought about the assigned reading. Excused absences consist of personal illness, family emergencies, and professional activities (e.g., conferences, job interviews), and are left to my discretion. I must be notified before the missed class in order for you to be eligible to make up the lost points.

Critical Responses: To promote thoughtful discussion, all students are required to submit “critical responses” related to the readings **each Tuesday morning before class by 9:00 a.m.** Each set of critical responses should have 3 components:

1. **Major ideas:** Briefly state the *three* most important things you learned from the readings. Focus on the important principles, not the small details. Try not to simply summarize the readings, but instead integrate the important ideas across the material. Thus, for each point, there should be reference to each reading and how that reading reflects the main idea in question.

2. **Things to clarify:** Indicate anything you didn't understand in the readings.
3. **Questions to discuss:** Write 2-3 thoughtful discussion questions related to the readings or the content area (*not things you didn't understand*).

Discussion notes will be graded on a 3-point scale. You will earn 3 points if you fully integrate across the readings and demonstrate that you have read and thought about the material. You will earn 2 points if you demonstrate that you have read the material, but have only summarized the works (i.e., lack of integration). You will earn 1 point if you do not demonstrate that you have read the material, or do not put thought into the discussion notes. You will earn 0 points if you do not turn the notes in, or if they are submitted late.

Semester Assignments

Final Paper: The purpose of this assignment is to engage in critical thinking about a specific area of jury research, and to improve your writing skills in the process. You will write a research proposal in an area of jury decision-making (e.g., evidence, extra-legal influences, comprehension of jury instructions, etc., or an approved special topic [please consult with me]). To facilitate thoughtful work on this research paper, you will first submit an outline for approval. The final paper should be between 10 and 15 pages long, not including references or the title page. We will discuss this assignment in more detail in class.

Research Poster and Poster Presentation: Using the information gathered in the process of writing your final paper, you will design a research poster similar to those presented at academic conferences. In addition, we will have a poster presentation day, in which you will be asked to explain your poster briefly (again, as you would at a conference) and be able to circulate and see the posters of your colleagues. We will discuss this assignment in more detail in class.

There will be a half-class period devoted to describing the expectations for both of these semester assignments. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to see me during office hours, or to make an appointment to discuss them in more detail.

Late Assignment Policy

For policies regarding late submission of weekly coursework assignments, refer to the earlier section of this syllabus describing their evaluation.

Late term papers will be docked 10% per day that the paper is late, **including weekends** (i.e., each day of the weekend counts as a full day). If the paper is more than four days late, it will automatically receive a grade of 0. A paper is considered late if it is not turned in by the **end** of the class period in which it is due. This means that if you are not in class, the assignment must be turned into the Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice Office (C562 Loeb Building) before 2:25 p.m. in order for it to be considered on time. Papers that are turned in after 2:25 p.m. on the due date will be considered one day late. Papers that are turned in after 2:25 p.m. the following day will be considered two days late, and so on.

If you are handing in the assignment late or outside of class, please have it time stamped by one of the administrators (Marilyn or Graham) so that I know when it was turned in to the office. Papers that are not time stamped will be presumed turned in the day that I receive them, which may result in further lateness penalty.

If you need to submit a late assignment over the weekend, you will not be able to have the paper time-stamped as the administrators are not in the office until the following Monday morning. As such, you can email a copy of the assignment to me at the same time as you submit it in person to the ICCJ office via the drop-box. If the email copy matches the hard copy submitted, the paper will be considered turned in at the time I receive the email from you (via WebCT, with the paper attached as a Word Document). You do need to turn in the hard copy as I do not accept assignments via email other than to check the submission time.

Other than to verify submission time, term papers will **NOT** be accepted by email; only hard copies will be evaluated. If you have a major problem (such as prolonged illness), please let me know ahead of time. If you do not receive permission to turn in the term paper late before the day it is due, you will not be excused.

Other Information

Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism: There is no excuse for plagiarism. The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas, or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- Reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- Submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- Using ideas or direct, verbatim quotation, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgement in any academic assignment;
- Using another’s data or research findings;
- Failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- Handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

In order to avoid unintentional plagiarism, you are encouraged to consult a style manual (such as the American Psychological Association’s Publication Manual) to make sure that you are citing others’ work appropriately. You also are encouraged to see the instructor if you have questions about plagiarism or other issues related to academic misconduct (or anything else!).

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of “F” for the course.

Requests for Academic Accommodations

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The **Paul Menton Centre** for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*) at <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/>

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/>
