Carleton University

Department of Law and Legal Studies COURSE SCHEDULE

LAWS 2301F Fall 2013

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

PROF. MAEVE MCMAHON

Note: There may be minor adjustments to this schedule, for example owing to the availability of guest speakers.

Readings should be completed prior to the relevant class

- 1. **September 10 INTRODUCTION**: Course overview and objectives; discussion of examinations and preparation procedures; discussion of course readings and how they should be used; preliminary identification of relevant websites; government ministries and departments; advocacy and reform groups (e.g. the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies, and the John Howard Society); and discussion of student interests, hopes, and expectations.
- 2. September 17 THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM: AN OVERVIEW.

Objectives:

- to introduce the major components, and functions, of policing, the courts, and corrections.
- to identify the roles and responsibilities of different levels of government.
- to introduce the foundations of the legal system and the administration of justice.

<u>Reading</u>: "Preface." ppxv-xvi, and "Chapter 1: The Criminal Justice System: An Overview," pp. 1-34 in Curt T. Griffiths **Canadian Criminal Justice: A Primer**. Fourth edition. Scarborough, ON: Nelson Education Ltd. 2011 (hereafter referred to as Griffiths).

3. September 24 SOME CHALLENGES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Objectives: - to discuss the costs of crime and criminal justice.

- to identify challenges faced by the criminal justice system including the multicultural nature of Canadian society; the variety of task environments; public perceptions, and sometimes misperceptions, of crime and justice; issues arising in First Nations and Inuit communities, and developing effective criminal justice policies and programs.
- to discuss the situation of victims of crime.

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<u>Reading</u>: "Chapter 2: Challenges in Criminal Justice," pp. 36-58 in Griffiths.

You should also study the content of Box 6.1 – "Circuit Court Day, Northern Saskatchewan" – pp. 159-160 in Griffiths.

4. October 1 ANALYTICAL PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN NATURE, THE STATE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Objectives:

- to introduce the perspectives of Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679) and Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778) on human nature and society.
- to introduce the 'due process' and 'crime control' models of criminal justice as posited by Herbert Packer.
- to introduce the concept of 'conflicts as property' and to discuss its relevance for Restorative Justice movements.
- to identify and discuss the relevance of classical, positivist, and critical perspectives in understanding and analysing criminal law and justice.

 Readings: Herbert Packer "Two Models of the Criminal Process," in **The Limits of the Criminal Sanction**. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1968. This reading is available online.

Nils Christie "Conflicts as Property," **British Journal of Criminology** (1977) 17:1-14. This reading will be available online.

Additional reading may be identified in class.

5. October 8 THE POLICE AND POLICING

Objectives:

- to examine the complex structure of police services in Canada.
- to discuss the police occupation and its potential impact on personality.
- to identify and discuss some structures of police governance and accountability.

Reading: "Chapter 3: The Police," pp.60-91 in Griffiths.

6. October 15 POLICE POWERS AND DECISON-MAKING

Objective:

- to identify the importance of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms with respect to police powers and decision-making (e.g. concerning arrest; the use of warrants; and police use of force).

- to identify and discuss the rights of persons subject to arrest.

- to examine police use of discretion and issues arising from it (e.g concerning the policing of minority groups and issues of racial profiling). Reading: "Chapter 4: Police Powers and Decision Making," pp. 92-121 in Griffiths.

THE SECOND HALF OF THIS CLASS WILL INCLUDE A PRE-EXAMINATION REVIEW (MID-TERM)

7. October 22 MID-TERM EXAMINATION, IN CLASS, 2 HOURS, CLOSED BOOK (see course outline for details about format and content)

October 29 FALL BREAK – NO CLASSES

8. November 5 VISITING GUEST SPEAKERS: SUPERINTENDENT SCOTT NYSTEDT, OUTREACH AND DEVELOPMENT, OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE, AND CONSTABLE ADMIR MINAROLLI

Superintendent Nystedt has extensive experience in policing, including formerly heading up the division of race relations, the partner assault unit, and emergency operations. He is currently in charge of the outreach and development division of the Ottawa Police Service.

Constable Admir Minarolli is a graduate of the Department of Law, Carleton University.

Objective:

- to benefit from the knowledge and insights of experienced police practitioners.

Reading: Revise "Chapter 4: Police Powers and Decision Making," pp. 92-121 in Griffiths. Also read "Chapter 5: Police Strategies and Operations," pp. 122-149 in Griffiths.

Students are additionally encouraged to visit the Ottawa Police Service website at www.ottawapolice.ca and to familiarize themselves with the basic organization of the Ottawa police. Please take some time to browse

the website and learn about different sections of the Ottawa police and their mandates. You are also asked to come to class with policing-related questions for our speakers. Officers Nystedt and Minarolli are regular contributors to my courses and appreciate engaging with students.

9. November 12 VISITING GUEST SPEAKER: LEONARD SHORE

SPEAKING FOR THE DEFENCE

Mr. Leonard Shore is a criminal lawyer in the law firm Shore Davis Hale. Mr. Shore has extensive criminal law experience in Ottawa.

Objective:

- to gain the insights of a long-standing practitioner of criminal law. Reading: "Chapter 6: The Criminal Courts," pp. 150-174 in Griffiths.

Students are encouraged to prepare questions for our visitor about criminal law and justice (e.g. regarding debates about due process and crime control; plea bargaining; and access to justice).

10. November 19 CLASS FIELD TRIP TO THE OTTAWA COURTHOUSE

Objective:

- to familiarize students with the organization and everyday operation of sections of the courthouse that are accessible to the public.

We will meet at the courthouse (at 161 Elgin Street¹, south east at the corner of Elgin and Laurier), at the café downstairs at 2.45pm² (at the back of the café by the large window/wall). If you are able to get to the courthouse earlier that would be good. We will do courtroom observations (with students sub-dividing into groups and attending different courtrooms). In the second half of the class we will again divide into groups and view different sections of the courthouse (e.g. the library, the family law office, transcripts, sections with other legal records, the OPP liaison office, Salvation Army Office, etc).

Our visit to the courthouse will end by 4.45pm.

Reading: Students are encouraged to consult local media sources (print, radio, TV and the Internet) for information about current issues and cases in the Ottawa area concerning criminal law and justice. Students are further encouraged to share information gathered with other students and the instructor. Towards this end, please make some notes on your observations during and/or after the trip (i.e. the identifying number/s of

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¹ Buses from Carleton that go near the courthouse include routes #4 and #7. If you are traveling from home or elsewhere check OC Transpo Travel Planner for the best route.

² Some students may have classes at Carleton University that do not end until 2.25pm. If you cannot make it to the courthouse for 2.45pm please come as soon as possible after that.

the courtroom/s you attended; the nature of the case/s being heard; and your observations on what you saw in light of course-related knowledge. Some basic questions to address are: to what extent to did your courtroom and courthouse observations reflect the 'due process' and 'crime control' models as depicted by Packer? Did your observations support or reject Christie's perspectives on 'Conflicts as Property'? What elements of classical, positivist and critical perspectives did you observe?

11. **November 26**

POLICE STRATEGIES AND OPERATIONS

Objectives:

- to trace the historical evolution of police practices, including principles of community policing.
- to identify the three "R's" in the traditional (or professional) model of policing.
- to identify Peel's principles of law enforcement in policing (1829).
- to identify the components of "Problem-Oriented Policing."
- to identify and discuss crime prevention programs (including primary, secondary, and tertiary programs).
- to identify issues in measuring the effectiveness of police strategies.
 Reading: Revise "Chapter 5: Police Strategies and Operations," pp. 122-149 in Griffiths.

12. **December 3**

THE CRIMINAL COURTS

Objectives:

- to identify different levels of courts and their roles.
- to examine specialized provincial courts.
- to illuminate judicial appointments and judicial accountability.

 <u>Reading</u>: Revise "Chapter 6: The Criminal Courts," pp. 150-174 in Griffiths.

THE SECOND HALF OF THIS CLASS WILL INCLUDE A PRE-EXAMINATION REVIEW

Reading: Students should be studying all course materials.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION WILL BE HELD IN THE FORMAL EXAMINATION PERIOD DECEMBER 11-22 (Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week) See the course outline for the format. The exam will be 2 hours, closed book.