

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 2301F - CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
TERM:	Fall 2012
PREREQUISITES:	LAWS 1000
CLASS Day & Time:	Wednesday 11.35am-2.25pm
Room:	Please check with Carleton Central for current room location.
INSTRUCTOR:	Maeve W. McMahon, Associate Professor B.Soc.Sc. MA (Criminology) PhD (Sociology)
CONTACT:	Office: Loeb D586 (mail should be addressed to the Law Department, C473 Loeb)
Office Hrs:	Wednesday 3.15-4.30pm (also often available immediately <i>after</i> class)
Telephone:	613-520-2600 ext 8095
Email:	I can be reached through WebCT and also at Maeve_McMahon@carleton.ca

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). For Religious and Pregnancy accommodations, please contact Equity Services, x. 5622 or their website: www.carleton.ca/equity

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course examines issues in criminal law and justice from criminological and social scientific perspectives. In addition to addressing theoretical matters, we will discuss many practical aspects of, and experiences in, the criminal justice system.

The course objectives are to advance your theoretical and empirical knowledge of criminal law and justice, and your analytical ability to critically examine related issues. The objectives are further to thoroughly familiarize students with the organizational components of policing, courts and the administration of criminal justice in Canada.

Classes will typically involve a lecture. We will start some classes with a discussion of immediate issues in criminal law and justice (for example recent legal and policy-related decisions, or particular criminal acts that have occurred). Students are encouraged to pay attention to media sources, and to bring relevant items to the attention of the instructor and classmates. 'Media' in this context refers to the print media, as well as radio, television and the Internet.

During the course there will be several guest speakers that will address topics in the practical operation of the criminal justice system.

REQUIRED READINGS

1. Curt T. Griffiths **Canadian Criminal Justice: A Primer**. Fourth Edition. Scarborough, ON: Thomson/Nelson. 2011. This textbook can be purchased at the Carleton University Bookstore. You may also be able to find a copy second hand (e.g. at Haven books). If you do purchase second hand be sure to purchase the correct edition: year of publication 2011 – fourth edition.
2. Herbert Packer “Two Models of the Criminal Process.” in **The Limits of the Criminal Sanction**. London: Oxford University Press, 1968. This reading will be available online.
3. Nils Christie “Conflicts as Property,” **British Journal of Criminology**, (1977) 17:1-14. This article will be available online.
4. Additional readings may be provided in class and/or made available via WebCT.

EVALUATION

(All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade)

Attendance 12%

Mid-term examination in class on Wednesday October 24. 2 hours. Closed book. **40%**

Format: The exam will have a section of multiple choice questions worth 20%; and a section of True/False and short answer questions worth 20%.

Final examination during the final formal examination period. 2 hours. December 6-19 (including Saturdays). 2 hours Closed book. **48%**

Format: The final exam will have a section of multiple choice questions worth 19%, a section of True/False and short answer questions worth 19%, and an essay section worth 10%. (Note: grading of essays will include an evaluation of the content as it reflects students’ knowledge of, and ability to discuss, information and ideas presented in this course. Grading will also take matters of spelling, grammar, punctuation, and clarity of expression into account).

Additional information:

A detailed course schedule, including weekly topics, objectives, and readings, will be made available to students. More information about items and topics to be covered in the exams, and about evaluation procedures and criteria will also be provided in class in the weeks prior to examinations.

Class attendance is mandatory. It is your responsibility to be present in class, and for examinations. Any request for an extension concerning examinations must be supported by a medical certificate or other appropriate documentation. Students must complete both examinations in order to meet course requirements and to be eligible to pass the course.
