

COURSE: LAWS 2301F - CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
TERM: Fall 2011
PREREQUISITES: LAWS 1000
CLASS Day & Time: Friday 2.35pm-5.25pm
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: Friday 12.00-1.35pm (also often available immediately *after* class)
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"Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities to complete the necessary Letters of Accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet and discuss your needs with me in order to make the necessary arrangements as early in the term as possible, but no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first test requiring accommodations. For further information, please see: <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/students/accommodations> . If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by 11 November 2011 for December exams and 7 March 2012 for April exams. 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.
2. Herbert Packer "Two Models of the Criminal Process." in **The Limits of the Criminal Sanction**. London: Oxford University Press, 1968. Available online via 'google.'
3. Nils Christie "Conflicts as Property," **British Journal of Criminology**, (1977) 17:1-14. Available online via 'google.'
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)

12% - Attendance

40% - Mid-term examination in class on Friday October 21. 2 hours. Closed book.

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%.

48% - Final examination during the final formal examination period. 2 hours. December 9-22 (including Saturdays). 2 hours Closed book.

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.
