

CRCJ 4908

Honours Thesis

2024/2025

CRCJ 4908 Honours Thesis | General Information

- CRCJ 4908 (1.0 credit)
- It is NOT compulsory
- Students not doing CRCJ 4908 must complete 1.0 credit of approved CCJ Electives at the 4000-level
- CRCJ 4908 requires
 - 4th year standing (14 credits complete)
 - A *Major* CGPA of 10.0 (A-)

CRCJ 4908 Honours Thesis | What is an Honours Thesis?

- A **full-credit** (1.0) course (Sept – April)
- **Original research** under the guidance of a faculty member, usually in the area of your concentration
- It involves reviewing the criminological and related literature on a given topic/issue
- Also involves gathering/producing original data through appropriate methodologies and producing a theoretically informed analysis of this data
- Must make an independent contribution to the literature

CRCJ 4908 Honours Thesis | What is an Honours Thesis?

- The background literature, theory, method, data, results, and implications of the research project are summarized in a single thesis paper due at the end of the Winter term
- The length of the thesis varies, usually 30-60 pages long
- Examples are available for review on our website (link at the end of the presentation)
- Towards the end of the Winter term, students in CRCJ 4908 will present the results of their research.

CRCJ 4908 Honours Thesis | Why choose the Honours Thesis?

- Good trial run before committing to MA
- Not required for Law School, but it may be good experience/practice for graduate studies and/or careers involving data analysis
- End result is a good writing sample and potentially a good academic reference

CRCJ 4908 Honours Thesis | GPA requirements

- According to the Undergraduate Calendar, students need a minimum 10.0 (A-) Major CGPA in order to be eligible to do the Honours Thesis
 - Major CGPA is the 2nd CGPA reported on your audit
 - Students with a slightly lower CGPA may be given permission from the Director in some cases

CRCJ 4908 Honours Thesis | STEP 1

- Find a Faculty Supervisor
 - If you meet the course prerequisite and the GPA requirements, the next step is to find someone to supervise your research.
 - Begin looking for a supervisor early during the winter term, or even towards the end of the fall term.
 - You should look for a supervisor with areas of interest and expertise matching your project.
 - At this stage, you may only have a vague idea of what the actual thesis will involve (i.e., how to transform your interest into a proper research project). Discussing your ideas with potential supervisors is a good way to assess if you are a good fit.

CRCJ 4908 Honours Thesis | STEP 1

- A good place to start is one of our webpages that lists Departmental Faculty as well as Cross-appointed faculty from other departments:
www.carleton.ca/criminology/faculty-and-staff/
- Contact 2 or 3 potential supervisors by email and set up a meeting to discuss the matter.
- Ensure that they are available and aren't away on sabbatical (research leave) or are already busy with other thesis supervisions (UG or Grad).
- Ensure that they are willing to supervise you on the topic you want
- Ask them to confirm by email so you have it in writing.

CRCJ 4908 Honours Thesis | STEP 2

- Forward the email from your supervisor to criminology@carleton.ca so the “Departmental Permission” can be entered into the system to allow you to register for CRCJ 4908 and include your Criminology-related topic
- Classes/Meetings will take place weekly or bimonthly

CRCJ 4908 Honours Thesis | More Information

- Review past course outlines for CRCJ 4908 for more details about the requirements of the course:

<https://carleton.ca/criminology/current-students/course-outlines/>

- Review archives of previous Honours Theses:

<https://i.carleton.ca/iccj-thesis-archive/>

- Graduate Studies Info:

<https://carleton.ca/criminology/current-students/graduate-studies-information/>

CRCJ 4908 Honours Thesis | Questions



Thank You

