

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS & TECHNOLOGY  
SAULT STE MARIE, ON



COURSE OUTLINE

**Course Title:** Introduction to Canadian Criminal Justice System

**Code No.:** PFP 101

**Semester:** I

**Program:** CORRECTIONAL WORKER

**Author:** John Jones

**Date:** Sept, 1998

**Previous Outline Date:** AUG, 1997

**Approved:**—



Dean, Natural Resources  
Criminal Justice and  
Native Education

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**Total Credits:** 3

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Co-requisite:** None

**Length of Course:** 3 hrs per week

**Total Credit Hours:** 40

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For additional information, please contact John Jones, Correctional Worker Program,  
(705) 759-2554, Ext.483.

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will provide a historical perspective of the Canadian Criminal Justice system. It will introduce, to the students, the structures, the components, the institutions and the various individuals involved with the administration of justice in Canada. The course will also examine some of the legal issues which have arisen that affect the operation of the Criminal Justice System.

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF PERFORMANCE**

**(Generic Skills Learning Outcomes placement on the course outline will be determined and communicated at a later date. In general this course meets the generic skills standards in communications, mathematics, analysis, technological literacy, and accountability.)**

**A. Learning Outcomes:**

1. Give an overview of the Criminal Justice System in Canada
2. Describe basic concepts of Criminal Law
3. Describe various models of Criminal Justice
4. Describe Police Operations in Canada
5. Discuss various Issues in Canadian Policing
6. Describe the Courts and Trial Procedure in Canada
7. Discuss the various Factors involved in the Sentencing process
8. Describe Contemporary Corrections in Canada
9. Describe Community Corrections including Probation and Conditional Release Programs
10. Discuss various Issues in Canadian Corrections

**B. Learning Outcomes with Elements of Performance**

**Upon successful completion of this course the student will demonstrate the ability to:**

1. Give an overview of the Criminal Justice System in Canada

**Elements of Performance**

- \* Identify the major agencies of the criminal justice system
- \* Discuss the costs of operating the various agencies of the criminal justice system
- \* Describe how these agencies operate within the formal structure of the criminal justice system
- \* Discuss the operation of the major categories of the crime fiinnel
- \* Define other terms as set out by the instructor

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2. Describe basic concepts of Criminal Law

**Elements of Performance**

- \* Describe the various ways that criminal law can be estabhshed, including the common law, case law, and statute law
- \* Discuss which offences are included in the three main categories of crime
- \* Describe the difference between substantive and procedural laws
- \* Discuss the basic principles used by legislatures and the courts in developing and interpreting substantive laws
- \* Describe the protection given to the accused by the Charter of Rights
- \* Define other terms as set out by the instructor

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3. Describe various models of Criminal Justice

**Elements of Performance**

- \* Discuss the differences and similarities among the four different models of criminal justice in terms of the criminal sanction and operation of the major components of the criminal justice system
- \* Describe some models in an Aboriginal Justice System
- \* Show how each of the various models of criminal justice is connected to either the positivist or classical school of criminology
- \* Define other terms as set out by the instructor

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4. Describe Police Operations in Canada

**Elements of Performance**

- \* Describe the three types of police agencies
- \* Discuss the two measures used to estimate the appropriate size of police forces
- \* Describe the traditional organizational structure of the police force
- \* Describe the preventive model of police patrol and the new types of police patrols
- \* Identify the similarities and differences between problem-oriented and community -based policing
- \* Define other terms as set out by the instructor

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5. Discuss various Issues in Canadian PoUcing

**Elements of Performance**

- \* Discuss the practice of police discretion
- \* Describe the changing social composition of the police, including women and minorities
- \* Discuss the various issues surrounding the hiring of more women and minority police officers
- \* Discuss the use of deadly force by and against police officers in Canada
- \* Describe the amount and types of poUce misconduct and attempts to control these actions by outside agencies
- \* Define other terms as set out by the instructor

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6. Describe the Courts and Trial Procedure in Canada

**Elements of Performance**

- \* Discuss the operation of the different levels of our court system
- \* Describe the roles of the defence lawyer. Crown prosecutor, judge and jury
- \* Discuss how the court is designed to provide an impartial forum for the fects of the case
- \* Discuss the role of plea bargaining in the Canadian criminal justice system
- \* Define other terms as set out by the instructor

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7. Discuss the various factors involved in the Sentencing process

**Elements of Performance**

- \* Explain the four major goals of criminal sentencing
- \* Outline the various sentences available to a judge
- \* Discuss some recent innovations at the sentencing stage
- \* Discuss the issue of disparity in sentencing
- \* Discuss changes to sentencing practices including the success of those changes
- \* Define other terms as set out by the instructor

8. Describe Contemporary Corrections in Canada

**Elements of Performance**

- \* Describe the adult correctional population in Canada today
- \* Discuss the facilities for women offenders in the federal correctional system
- \* Discuss the legal rights of inmates
- \* Describe the effects of being sentenced to prison, including prison violence and suicide
- \* Define other terms as set out by the instructor

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9. Describe Community Corrections including Probation and Conditional Release Programs

**Elements of Performance**

- \* Describe various community programs that exist in Canada today
- \* Discuss the meaning of recidivism rates
- \* Describe the rates of recidivism for the community sanction programs
- \* Discuss the relationship between recidivism rates and the race, gender, marital and employment status of offenders released on community sanction programs
- \* Define other terms as set out by the instructor

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- 10. Discuss various Issues in Canadian Corrections

**Elements of Performance**

- \* Outline the major forms of intermediate punishments
- \* Discuss the effectiveness of intermediate punishments
- \* Discuss the effectiveness of deterrence-based programs
- \* Discuss the pros and cons of introducing deterrence-based programs in Canada
- \* Define other terms as set out by the instructor

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**m, TOPICS TO BE COVERED**

**Note:** These topics sometimes overlap several areas of skill development and are not necessarily intended to be explored in isolated learning units or in order below.

- 1. An overview of the Criminal Justice System in Canada
- 2. Criminal Law and Criminal Justice in Canada
- 3. Models of Criminal Justice
- 4. Police Operations
- 5. Issues in Canadian Policing
- 6. The Courts and Trial Procedure
- 7. Sentencing
- 8. Contemporary Corrections in Canada
- 9. Community Corrections
- 10. Issues in Corrections

**IV. REQUIRED STUDENT RESOURCES**

*CriminalJustice in Canada*, Colin Goff, Nelson Publishing  
*Criminal Code of Canada, 1999*, Martin's Student Edition

**V, METHODS OF EVALUATION**

The final grade will be derived fi'om a combination of chapter quizzes, tests or assignments(as required), mid-term test and a final exam. The combination of measurement tools to be used will be at the discretion of the individual instructor. The individual instructor will advise his/her class of the combination of measurement tools to be used taking into account the demographics and the needs of his/her class.

|                             |                       |            |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| <b>Chapter Quizzes</b>      | (5Chapters @ 8 marks) | 40%        |
| <b>Mid-Term Test</b>        |                       | <b>25%</b> |
| <b>Take home Assignment</b> |                       | <b>10%</b> |
| <b>Final Exam</b>           |                       | <b>25%</b> |
| <b>Total</b>                |                       | 100%       |

**COURSE GRADING SCHEME**

|           |                   |                                      |
|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>A+</b> | <b>90% - 100%</b> | Outstanding Achievement              |
| <b>A</b>  | <b>80% - 89%</b>  | Above Average Achievement            |
| <b>B</b>  | <b>70% - 79%</b>  | Average Achievement                  |
| <b>C</b>  | <b>60% - 69%</b>  | Satisfactory Achievement             |
| <b>TT</b> |                   | Unsatisfactory given at midterm only |
| <b>u</b>  |                   | Satisfactory given at midterm only   |
| <b>S</b>  |                   |                                      |

Repeat

A temporary grade that is limited to instances where special circumstances have prevented the student from completing objectives by the end of the semester. An "X" grade must have the Dean's approval and has a maximum time limit of 120 days.

**VI. SPECIAL NOTES**

All students should be aware of the Special Needs office in the college. If you have any special need such as a visual impmrment, a hearing disability, a physical disability, a learning disability, you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations confidentially with the professor and/or personnel in the Special Needs Office. The Special Needs Office is located in Room E1204 and the phone number is: (705)759-2554Ext.493.

Your professor reserves the right to modify the course as he/she deems necessary to meet the needs of the students.

It is the responsibility of the student to retmn the course outline for possible future use in gainmg advanced standing at other post-secondary institutions.

4. **Plagiarism:** Students should refer to the definition of "academic dishonesty" in the "Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities". Students who engage in "academic dishonesty" will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course, as may be decided by the professor.

#### Vn. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the instructor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon successful completion of the following:

- Written test covering all of the learning outcomes
- Research paper on a selected topic

**OR**

- Certified employment within a correctional environment
- Certified training courses that meet the course objectives

#### VnL INTERNET RESOURCES

The following World Wide Web Sites will be useful in conducting research for projects:

- [www.cs.cinu.edu/afs/cs.cinu.edu/user/clamen/inisc/Canadian/REAL%20ME.html](http://www.cs.cinu.edu/afs/cs.cinu.edu/user/clamen/inisc/Canadian/REAL%20ME.html)

(The Canadian Resource Page)

- [www.corrections.co.in](http://www.corrections.co.in)

(The Corrections Connection)

- [www.metacrawler.com](http://www.metacrawler.com)

(Search engine for the World Wide Web)

- [www.sympatico.ca](http://www.sympatico.ca)

(Bell Canada search and information site)

- [www.statcan.ca/stat.html](http://www.statcan.ca/stat.html)

(Statistics Canada site)

- [www.officer.com](http://www.officer.com)

(The Police Officer's Internet Directory)

- [www.acjnet.org/acjeng.html](http://www.acjnet.org/acjeng.html)

(Access to Justice Network)

- [www.cyber411.com](http://www.cyber411.com)

(Search engine for the World Wide Web)