

Youth in Conflict with the Law

PFP 305

Course Description

This course will allow the student the opportunity to examine youth crime in Canada from the perspective of the Young Offenders Act. The evolution of legislation dealing with young persons will be discussed. The Young Offenders Act will be examined in depth regarding how the act must be enforced by police and the courts.

Course Learning Objectives

Students who receive credit for this course will have demonstrated the ability to:

1. Explain the historical and philosophical development of the Young Offenders Act using;
 - 1.1 The historical perspective
 - 1.2 The current perspective
 - 1.3 The political response
2. Identify persons under the jurisdiction of the Young Offenders Act, specifically;
 - 2.1 Common Law jurisdiction
 - 2.2 Statute Law jurisdiction
 - 2.3 Civil Law jurisdiction
3. Describe the needs of societal protection and accountability addressed in the YOA. through;
 - 3.1 Identifying the principles on which the YOA was developed
 - 3.2 Explaining specific sections of the YOA which address the responsibilities of the young offender and the parents of the young offender.
 - 3.3 Explaining specific sections of the act which deal with the rights of young offenders and the right to be informed of available rights and freedoms.
4. Explain proper police procedures relating to young offenders.
 - 4.1 Identify proper arrest and notification procedures regarding young offenders.
 - 4.2 Outline the procedure required regarding "cautioned" statements by young offenders
 - 4.3 Explain the procedure following arrest regarding release or detention.
 - 4.4 Identify the circumstances in which a young offender must be brought before a Justice
 - 4.5 Identify conditions for pre-trial detention

5. Describe the young offender trial process.

- 5.1 Describe the jurisdiction and authority of a youth court judge
- 5.2 Identify the parties that may be involved in the trial process.
- 5.3 Identify the procedure followed in summary and indictable offences.
- 5.4 Explain the legal provisions for the protection of privacy of a young person
- 5.5 Explain evidentiary issues that may arise during the trial of a young offender
- 5.6 Identify the circumstances when a young offender may be transferred to adult court.

6. Identify and explain dispositions available to a youth court.

- 6.1 Alternative measures
- 6.2 Absolute Discharge
- 6.3 Fines
- 6.4 Compensation
- 6.5 Community Service Order
- 6.6 Restitution
- 6.7 Detention for Treatment
- 6.8 Probation orders
- 6.9 Open custody
- 6.10 Closed custody

7. Identify and explain provincial legislation regarding youth in conflict with the law

- 7.1 Provincial Offences Act
- 7.2 Charging, Arrest and Release Procedures
- 7.3 Release and notification documentation
- 7.4 Child and Family Services Act

8. Explain various theories that may help explain why young persons commit crimes.

- 8.1 Emotional Neglect
- 8.2 Cognitive Neglect
- 8.3 Traumatic Violence
- 8.4 Social Causation

Required Resources

Young Offenders Act - Contained in Martins Criminal Code
Provincial Offences Act
Child and Family Services Act

Evaluation

In class quiz	2 x 10 %	20%
Mid Term		40%
Final		40%

College Grading Policy

90-100%	A+
80-89%	A
70-79%	B
60-69%	C
0-59%	R

Notes:

- Special Needs

If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairment, learning disability), you are encouraged to discuss the required accommodations with your instructor and/or contact the Special Needs Office, Room E1204, so that support services can be arranged for you,

- Under exceptional circumstances such as documented illness, rewrites may be permitted, at the discretion of your instructor.

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