

Course Outline

School / Portfolio: Faculty of Education and Arts

Course Title: THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS

Course ID: CRJUS1284

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): Nil

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): (ATSGC1284)

ASCED Code: 099903

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory	■	■	✓	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Appraise key historical developments of the main agencies of criminal justice
Identify and analyse the various tiers in the criminal justice process, with a particular focus on
- K2.** exploring community crime prevention alternatives and considering key debates, issues and perspectives in the response to criminal offending
Examine contemporary approaches to the administration of criminal justice and questioning
- K3.** whether the needs of various communities are met, the position of victims or crime, and measures to potentially rehabilitate perpetrators of crime

Skills:

- S1.** Analyse the diverse responses by criminal justice agencies to the types and incidence of crime with a particular focus on contemporary scholarly research
Express substantiated and reasoned expositions and arguments concerning the merits of various
- S2.** responses to crime in both an Australian and an international context, and the possibility of both positive and negative impacts of policy and operational decisions
- S3.** Summarise relevant key themes, issues and debates concerning contemporary criminal justice actions

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply skills in critical thinking to key debates concerning responses by criminal justice agencies to offending

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- A2.** Utilise and integrate relevant conceptual frameworks in analysing the range and diversity of different responses to offending behaviour
- A3.** Identify links and tensions between issues, debates, concepts and perspectives

Course Content:

Key concepts surrounding the criminal justice system in action of criminal justice, incorporating a wide diversity issues, debates, concepts and perspectives of institutional responses

Module One: Law Enforcement

- The historical development of law enforcement
- The evolution of police administration
- Policing and police bureaucracies in Australia and beyond
- The nature of police-work
- Contemporary policing reforms and strategies
- Police discretion
- Police accountability
- Police culture

Module Two: Courts and Sentencing

- The criminal court system
- The process of justice
- Key stages in decision-making in the criminal courts
- Judicial decisions and sentencing

Module Three: Punishment

- Punishment and penalty
- The role of prisons in society
- The crises in prisons
- Contemporary penal systems: life behind bars
- Community-based corrections and other alternatives

Module Four: Crime Prevention and failures of justice

- Crime prevention and reduction
- Failures of Justice

Revision

Values and Graduate Attributes:

Values:

- V1.** Develop understanding of the key criminal justice agencies over time;
- V2.** Appreciate the diverse range of analytical frameworks in the study of criminal justice system-wide responses
- V3.** Develop an informed, multi-faceted and nuanced appreciation of the deep complexities in assessing, responses to crime by criminal justice agencies, addressing contemporary issues and emerging evidence-based alternatives to existing policies and practices

Graduate Attributes:

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Attribute	Brief Description	Focus
Continuous Learning	Students develop ability to identify and understand the roles of criminal justice agencies and the evolution of policies and practices	High
Self Reliance	Students develop skills in independent research and analysis	Medium
Engaged Citizenship	Students engage with values, ideas, concepts, debates and perspectives about contemporary criminal justice responses and alternatives	Medium
Social Responsibility	Students develop their understanding of the advantages and disadvantages of institutional responses to crime in Australian and international contexts	High

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Task	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K3 S1, A1, A3	Students will attend tutorials, contribute to discussions and deliver a short oral presentation Students will integrate analysis, synthesis and evaluations of criminological debates.	Attendance and participation in class learning activities	5-10%
K2, K3 S3 A2	This task requires the student to prepare and submit the introduction to the research essay, and compile an annotated reference list. Feedback will inform the completion and submission of the essay. Research skills and essay planning will be assessed.	Minor assignment	10-20%
K1, K2, K3 S1, S2, S3 A1, A2, A3	The student will prepare a structured, informed, sustained and substantiated argumentative piece applying academic evidence and theoretical knowledge to contemporary criminological issues based on feedback received from the minor assignment.	Research essay	35-45%
K1, K2, K3 S1, S2, S3 A1, A2, A3	Students display comprehension of course materials, relevant concepts, debates and scholarly perspectives, applying and synthesising knowledge and critical analysis	Exam	35-45%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA