



APPLIED ARTS DIVISION  
Crim 103  
3 Credit Course  
Winter Semester, 2018

## PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS OF CRIME AND DEVIANCE

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**INSTRUCTOR:** Michael J. Healey

**OFFICE HOURS:** by appointment

**OFFICE LOCATION:**

**CLASSROOM:** A2601

**E-MAIL:** mhealey@yukoncollege.yk.ca

**TIME:** 7:00 - 10:00 pm

**TELEPHONE:** (867) 668-8770 (Admin Ast.) **DATES:** Mondays, January 8 - April 25, 2018

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### COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course examines and provides critical evaluation of the major biological, psychiatric, psychological, and social psychological explanations of crime and deviance.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Theories relating to genetics, chromosomal abnormalities, hormonal and biochemical imbalances, nutrition, mental disorders, psychoanalysis, behaviourism, social learning, psychopathy, FASD, are considered. Attention is also directed to the psychological explanation of specific behaviours such as aggression and violence, homicide and assault, sexual offences, drug use, property offences, and public disorder offences and Risk Needs Assessment.

### PREREQUISITES

None. PSYC 100 and PSYC 101 are recommended.

### TRANSFERABILITY

CAMO CRIM 100 lev (3)  
TRU PSYC 1xx0 (3)  
UBC PSYC 1st (3)  
UNBC SOSC 1xx (3)

KPU CRIM 2330 (3)  
TRU-OL CRIM 1039 (3)  
UBCO PSYO 1st (3)  
UVIC PSYC 100 lev (1.5)

SFU CRIM 103 (3) - B SOC  
TWU HUMA 100 lev (3)  
UFV CRIM 105 (3)  
VIU CRIM 103 (3)

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have demonstrated the ability to:

- Explain, biogenetic, psychiatric, and psychological explanations of criminal and deviant behaviour;
- Identify the psychological processes underlying behaviour defined as “crimes against persons” (assault, sexual assault, theft, murder, etc.);
- Identify the risk & need factors used in the assessment and treatment of offenders and prediction of recidivism;
- Critically analyse biological and psychological perspectives of criminal and deviant behaviour.

## **COURSE FORMAT**

Course content is canvassed through a lecture/seminar format. As part of the lecture and seminar portions of this course, students are responsible for discussion of the required readings and individual/group exercises assigned by the instructor. The course may also include guest speakers and audio-visual presentations.

## **ASSESSMENTS**

### **Attendance and Participation**

Regular attendance at, and participation in class are strongly recommended. Participation marks are assessed on the basis of active listening skills and orally demonstrated comprehension of the required readings in the lecture/seminar portions of the class. All students will be expected to participate in class discussions and carry out individual and group exercises assigned by the instructor. Students are encouraged to raise questions and current events that relate to course content. Examinations will reflect class lectures and discussion.

### **Seminar Presentation**

Each student will be required to present and facilitate on a topic assigned by the instructor and related to the course content. The seminar presentations will be 15-20 minutes in length and comprise a one page handout with academic references given to the class. It is recommended that students focus on psychopathological disorders such as: conduct disorder, paranoid schizophrenia, battered women’s syndrome, ADHD, oppositional defiant disorder, narcissistic personality disorder, malignant narcissism posttraumatic stress disorder, psychotic disorder, FASD etc.

## Term Paper

Each student is required to write a term paper that **explores and applies** two or more theories or disorders researched by the student to a biographical account of a multiple murderer. The term paper should be approximately 10-12 typed pages and include a **minimum of 10 research sources with at least 5 scholarly journal articles**. Each student is required to submit a one page term paper outline for instructor review.

Some psychological/psychiatric theories and disorders used to account for serial killing include the following: Freudian psychoanalytic, personality disorders, violent fantasy, organic/biological (see Joel Norris text), sexual sadism, social learning and frustration/aggression. Note: anti-social personality disorder (psychopathy/sociopathy) is covered extensively in the course and therefore is not allowed as a theory for the term paper. A number of biographical accounts have been written about serial killers and mass murderers. Novels such as The Executioners Song, Helter Skelter, Killer Clown, Fatal Vision, The Stranger Beside Me, and Small Sacrifices, Lethal Marriage and many others all detail the personal histories and crimes of such individuals. Refer to the A-Z Encyclopedia of Serial Killers (2000) HV6245.N49 2000 on reserve for assistance in selecting a case study. You may also wish to search internet book publishers (e.g. Amazon.com) or other web sites for examples (e.g. The Scratchin' Post Serial Killers Archive at <http://www.tdl.com/~kitty/serialx.html>).

## Written Assignment Requirements

Written assignments for this course must be word-processed and fulfil the basic requirements for APA referencing and formal academic papers. You also should note that **LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE PENALIZED BY 10% PER DAY (including weekends)** unless an extension is legitimately warranted and approved by the course instructor in advance of the assignment due date. Assignments submitted later than 7 days without instructor approval will not be marked.

Review the SFU web-link for term paper style requirements at:

<http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/tools/handouts-tips/writing>

Students should also read APA referencing guidelines at:

[http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/library/pages/cite\\_your\\_sources](http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/library/pages/cite_your_sources)

[http://www.lib.sfu.ca/sites/default/files/10166/apa\\_1.pdf](http://www.lib.sfu.ca/sites/default/files/10166/apa_1.pdf)

Legal Citations

<http://library.queensu.ca/law/lederman/legalcitation>

## Schedule Examination Dates

Unless legitimately warranted and approved by the course instructor in advance, alternative arrangements will not be made for those students who are unable to write examinations on scheduled examination dates or during scheduled examination periods. **Students should be aware that the completion date for this course includes the two-week examination period, which follows the termination of regularly scheduled classes.**

**Final examinations** are held at the end of the semester in the designated examination period. **Once a final examination date and time have been published, they cannot be changed.** Students are expected to write their exams as scheduled unless there are serious extenuating circumstances such as serious illness, accident, or other legitimate circumstances beyond their control. An extension must be approved by the Coordinator, Chair, or Dean. To change an exam, arrangements must be made with the Chair or Coordinator, in consultation with the instructor.

## EVALUATION

Marks are distributed as follows:

Seminar Presentation	15%
Participation	10%
Midterm Exam (Feb 12)	20%
Term Paper (Mar 19)	25%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Course Reader (course website)

The required texts for this course will be supplemented with additional readings that are placed on reserve in the library, course website and/or handouts distributed in class.

## THE LORENE ROBERTSON WRITING CENTRE

All students are encouraged to make the Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. The Lorene Robertson Writing Centre is staffed by helpful writing coaches from across the College and offers one-on-one appointments to students in need of writing support.

The Lorene Robertson Writing Centre can help you:

- Get started on an assignment and focus your ideas
- Outline and plan your assignment
- Write clearly, logically and effectively
- Address specific needs and writing problems
- Revise the first and final drafts of your project
- Gain confidence in your writing

For in-person appointments, the Centre coaching office is located in the Academic Support Centre in room A2302. You can also participate in coaching appointments

over the phone or online. See the Academic Support Centre schedule for English and writing support times.

## **ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT**

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

## **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when students present the words of someone else as their own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person's writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Resubmitting a paper which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the College. **Do not jeopardize your academic future with plagiarism. It is dishonest and can have serious consequences.**

## **YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY**

Yukon College recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon College program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see [www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr](http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr).

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or [lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca](mailto:lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca).

## PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPLANATIONS OF CRIME AND DEVIANCE Course Syllabus Winter 2017

### Part 1: Biological Explanations of Criminal Behaviour

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	Jan 8	Introduction & expectations	
2	Jan 15	Biological Explanations of Crime	W1, 2 & 3
3	Jan 22	Biological Explanations of Crime	W1, 2 & 3

### Part II: Psychological Explanations of Criminal Behaviour

4	Jan 29	Psychological factors of sexual offending	W4
5	Feb 5	Psychological factors of sexual offending	W5
6	Feb 12	Aggression, Violence & Social Learning <b>Midterm Exam</b>	W6
7	Feb 19	<b>Reading Week Feb 19-23 No Classes</b>	W7
8	Feb 26	Aggression, Violence & Social Learning	
9	Mar 5	Psychopathy, Mental Illness and Labelling	W9

### Part III: Risk-Needs Assessment & Treatment

10	Mar 12	Prediction of Dangerousness	W10
11	Mar 19	Risk-Needs Assessment & Treatment (Friday Mar 10 withdraw deadline)	W11 <b>Term Paper Due</b>

### Part IV: Violent & Sexual Offenders

12	Mar 26	Homicide & Multiple Murder & Final Exam Review	W12
13	April 2	Easter Monday - No class	
15	Apr10-21	Final Exam Weeks	



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