



Queensland, Australia

Course Code:	1012CCJ
Course Name:	Police, Courts & Criminal Law
Semester:	Semester 1, 2016
Program:	Diploma of Criminology & Criminal Justice
Credit Points:	10
Course Coordinator:	David Bidgood
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Teaching Team

Your lecturer/tutor can be contacted via the email system on the portal.	
Name	Email
David Bidgood	david.bidgood@staff.griffithcollege.edu.au

Staff Consultation

Your lecturer/tutor is available each week for consultation outside of normal class times. Times that your lecturer/tutor will be available for consultation will be given in the first week of lectures. A list of times and rooms will be published on the Griffith College Portal under the "myTimetable" link.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course

Brief Course Description

This course provides students an overview of the three key elements of the criminal justice system, namely police, courts and corrections. Exploration of these elements is shaped through the lens of criminal law within Australia and Queensland, and how this is applied and enacted in the criminal justice system.

Rationale

Students studying criminology are challenged to develop an understanding of the function of the elements of the criminal justice system. This course begins the unpacking of these elements with a focus on the relationship between the law (as the governing framework of conduct), police (as upholders of the law) and the courts (as enforcers of the law). This subject is contextualised within the Australian and Queensland experience providing a foundation for students in understand these jurisdictions.

Aims

This course aims to provide students with a foundational understanding of criminal law and criminal justice within the Australian and Queensland context. Students should develop an understanding of the system and processes, and a capacity to critique these aspects.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the aims and functions of the criminal law and how it operates in the Australian criminal justice system.
2. Demonstrate knowledge about criminal responsibility, the elements of crimes and the classification of offences.
3. Demonstrate familiarity with the processes by which alleged offences are investigated, brought to trial, punished and ability to critically analyse the impact of criminal law processes on people affected by them.

4. Demonstrate knowledge of the powers, functions and ethical responsibilities of police and other investigators, prosecutors, defence lawyers and judges in both pre-trial and trial processes.

Texts and Supporting Materials

Lecture notes, notices and other issues relating to the course will be made available through the Griffith College portal.

Required Textbook & Resources:

Findlay M, Odgers S & Yeo S, Australian Criminal Justice, 5th edition (2014), Oxford University Press, South Melbourne.

Organisation and Teaching Strategies

Each week, you are required to attend 4 hours of contact time in class consisting of lectures, and tutorials. To achieve the course objectives, a lecture complemented by the required text will deliver the primary course content. The **lecture** will develop your understanding of the topics covered within the course. The **tutorials** are oriented towards solving problems that are related to concepts and issues that have been introduced in lectures and the required reading. The tutorial will also provide you with the opportunity to ask any unresolved questions and develop a solid foundation for understanding the lecture, textbook and other material.

Class Contact Summary

Attendance: Your attendance in class will be marked twice during a four hour class. To receive full attendance, you must be present in the classroom on both occasions.

Program Progression: You are reminded that satisfactory Program Progression requires that attendance in classes is maintained at equal to or greater than 80%, and that GPA is maintained at equal to or greater than 3.5 [please see Griffith College Policy Library - Program Progression Policy - for more information].

Lecture Notes & Course Materials: You are required to bring a copy of the lecture notes printed from the Griffith College website and any other required course materials to classes each week.

Independent Study: You are expected to reinforce your learning gained during class time by undertaking sufficient independent study. For this 10 CP course, you will need to spend at least 10 hours per week engaged in activities that will help your learning and fulfil the course objectives. Thus, provided you have well used the 4 hours per week of formal contact, you would then complete at least 6 hours per week of independent study.

Content Schedule

Weekly Teaching Schedule

Week	Topic	Activity	Readings
1	Unit overview. Aims, functions and sources of the criminal law system. Criminal justice and court structures, systems and practices. Code and common law state jurisdictions, Commonwealth jurisdiction, the model code. Foundation principles: the rule of law and due process.	Class	
	-Criminal responsibility -Elements of crimes -Classification of offences -Introducing the criminal case study -Understanding offences and offenders	Lecture	
2	-Criminal responsibility -Elements of crimes -Classification of offences -Introducing the criminal case study	Class	
	-Understanding offences and offenders	Lecture	
3	-investigation, search and seizure -accountability for police powers -complaints role of the CMC and similar bodies	Class	
	-police investigative powers I	Lecture	
4	-arrest and detention -interrogation and the right to silence -eyewitness identification and informers	Class	
	-Police investigative powers II	Lecture	
5	-Non-police investigators and their roles and responsibilities -new powers and accountabilities	Class	
	-Expanding crime investigation	Lecture	
6	-prosecution, defence and judicial roles -legal representation and legal aid -summary hearings - jury trials -what is a fair trial?	Class	
	-The criminal trial	Lecture	
7	-discretion, charges and diversion -bail -indictments, plea bargaining and double jeopardy - prosecutor, defence lawyer and judicial roles -committals, discovery and disclosure -abuses of pre-trial process	Class	
	-Pre-trial processes	Lecture	
8	-purpose, nature and types of evidence -using evidence -unfair use of evidence and unreliable evidence	Class	
	-Evidence and criminal trials	Lecture	
9	-theories and principles of punishment -penalty options	Class	
	-Punishment and penalty	Lecture	
10	-aims and objectives of sentencing -sentencing hearings -factors relevant to sentencing - problems and new directions in sentencing	Class	

	-Sentencing	Lecture	
11	-appeals against conviction -appeals against sentence -miscarriages of justice not remedied by appeals	Class	
	-Appeals and miscarriages of justice	Lecture	
12	-over-policing and under-policing -who is targeted by criminal law and who is neglected? -victims -doing justice	Class	
	-Justice and injustice	Lecture	
13	-Review and conclusion	Lecture	
	-summary and overview of main themes -exam preparation	Class	

Assessment

This section sets out the assessment requirements for this course.

Summary of Assessment

Item	Assessment Task	Weighting	Relevant Learning Outcomes	Due Date
1	Court/Field Report	40%	1,2,3,4	Week 10
2	Tutorial Quizzes	20%	1,2,3&4	Week 3, 6, 9 & 12
3	Final Exam	40%	1,2,3,4	Exam Period

Assessment Details

Court / Field Report

Type: Assignment - Written Assignment
 Learning Objectives Assessed: 1, 2, 3, 4
 Due Date: Week 10
 Length: 2000 words
 Weighting: 40%

Details of the field experience will be provided in class.

You will need to complete a proforma report about what you observed, and your reflections on the process. The proforma and more detailed requirements and criteria will be given to students in the first week of semester.

Tutorial Quizzes

Due Date: Week 3, 6, 9 and 12
 Weight: 20%
 Description:

Students will be required to complete four short in-class tutorial quizzes during the semester assessing course content and application. These quizzes will consist of a series of true/false, multiple choice items, and short-answer questions. Each quiz is worth 5%. More information about the quizzes will be provided in class.

Final Exam

Due Date: Examination Week
 Weight: 40%
 Duration: 120 minutes
 Description:

The exam will consist of 2 parts, with questions covering all aspects of the course.

Part 1 consists of 3 problem based questions. Students will be required to answer 2 questions. Each question will be worth 10 marks.

Part 2 consists of 8 short answer questions worth 20 marks in total. Students will be required to answer all 8 questions. Each question will be worth different marks, as identified on the exam paper.

Submission and Return of Assessment Items

Normally you will be able to collect your assignments in class within fourteen [14] days of the due date for submission of the assignment.

Retention of Originals

You must be able to produce a copy of all work submitted if so requested. Copies should be retained until after the release of final results for the course.

Extensions

To apply for an extension of time for an assignment, you must submit an Application for Extension of Assignment form to your teacher at least 24 hours before the

date the assignment is due. Grounds for extensions are usually: serious illness, accident, disability, bereavement or other compassionate circumstances and must be able to be substantiated with relevant documentation [e.g. Griffith College Medical Certificate]. Please refer to the Griffith College website - Policy Library - for guidelines regarding extensions and deferred assessment.

Assessment Feedback

Marks awarded for assessment items will also be available on the on-line grades system on the Student Website within fourteen [14] days of the due date.

Generic Skills

Griffith College aims to develop graduates who have an open and critical approach to learning and a capacity for lifelong learning. Through engagement in their studies, students are provided with opportunities to begin the development of these and other generic skills.

Studies in this course will give you opportunities to begin to develop the following skills:

Generic Skills	Taught	Practised	Assessed
Written Communication	Yes	Yes	Yes
Oral Communication	Yes	Yes	
Information Literacy		Yes	
Secondary Research	Yes	Yes	
Critical and Innovative Thinking	Yes	Yes	Yes
Academic Integrity	Yes	Yes	Yes
Self Directed Learning		Yes	Yes
Team Work			
Cultural Intelligence	Yes	Yes	Yes
English Language Proficiency		Yes	

Additional Course Generic Skills

Additional Course Information

In addition to formal contact hours, you are provided with extra support through individual consultation with teaching staff, tutorials in English language, and self-access computer laboratories.

Teacher and Course Evaluations

There is no available data for this course.

Academic Integrity

Griffith College is committed to maintaining high academic standards to protect the value of its qualifications. Academic integrity means acting with the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility in learning, teaching and research. It is important for students, teachers, researchers and all staff to act in an honest way, be responsible for their actions, and show fairness in every part of their work. Academic integrity is important for an individual's and the College's reputation.

All staff and students of the College are responsible for academic integrity. As a student, you are expected to conduct your studies honestly, ethically and in accordance with accepted standards of academic conduct. Any form of academic conduct that is contrary to these standards is considered a breach of academic integrity and is unacceptable.

Some students deliberately breach academic integrity standards with intent to deceive. This conscious, pre-meditated form of cheating is considered to be one of the most serious forms of fraudulent academic behaviour, for which the College has zero tolerance and for which penalties, including exclusion from the College, will be applied.

However, Griffith College also recognises many students breach academic integrity standards without intent to deceive. In these cases, students may be required to undertake additional educational activities to remediate their behaviour and may also be provided appropriate advice by academic staff.

As you undertake your studies at Griffith College, your lecturers, tutors and academic advisors will provide you with guidance to understand and maintain academic integrity; however, it is also your responsibility to seek out guidance if and when you are unsure about appropriate academic conduct.

Please ensure that you are familiar with the [Griffith College Academic Integrity Policy](#); this policy provides an overview of some of the behaviours that are considered breaches of academic integrity, as well as the penalties and processes involved when a breach is identified.

For further information please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy on the Griffith College website – Policy Library.

Risk Assessment Statement

There are no out of the ordinary risks associated with this course.

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