



1. General Course Information

1.1 Course Details

Course Code:	1009CCJ
Course Name:	Doing Criminology
Trimester:	Trimester 3, 2020
Program:	Diploma of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Credit Points:	10 CP
Course Coordinator:	Dr Myesa Mahoney
Document modified:	10 September 2020

Course Description

This course is intended as an introduction to research in criminal justice and criminology. Some of the students taking the course will likely enter professions in criminal justice and some may move into more research-oriented professions in criminology. Therefore, emphasis is placed on the research methodologies used in the criminal justice and criminological literature. Students begin by learning the logic of research methodology in the social sciences and then learn how researchers in criminology carry out research projects.

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Assumed Knowledge

There is no assumed knowledge for this course. It is an introductory course to social science research methods with a criminological focus.

1.2 Teaching Team

Your teacher can be contacted via the email system on the portal.

Name	Email
Dr Myesa Mahoney	Myesa.mahoney@griffithcollege.edu.au

1.3 Staff Consultation

Your teacher is available each week for consultation outside of normal class times. Times that your lecturer/tutor will be available for consultation will be found on the Course Site.

1.4 Timetable

Your timetable is available on the Griffith College Portal at Class Timetable in Student and Services.

1.5 Technical Specifications

All students must have access to a computer or suitable mobile device.

2. Aims, Outcomes & Generic Skills

2.1 Course Aims

This course is intended as an introduction to research design in criminal justice and criminology. This course has three key aims to:

1. Provide an understanding of the key concepts of research design in criminology and criminal justice
2. Develop the ability to apply key concepts of research design to problems "from the field"
3. Enhance skills in critically assessing research in criminology and criminal justice.

Upon completion, students should possess the knowledge and skills required to become critical consumers of social science research, particularly in the field of criminology and criminal justice. The course is the first in a sequence of courses aimed at developing critical professional skills in understanding, evaluating and conducting research in criminology and criminal justice contexts.



2.2 Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course you should be able to:

- 1 Identify the basic principles, procedures and overall methodological processes used in criminological and criminal justice research.
- 2 Differentiate between different research methods and processes in varying research settings.
- 3 Critically assess the research methods used by criminological and criminal justice research.
- 4 Evaluate the role ethics plays in social science research.



2.3 Generic Skills and Capabilities

For further details on the Generic Skills please refer to the Graduate Generic Skills and Capabilities policy.

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 and Capabilities		Taught	Practised	Assessed
Acquisition of discipline knowledge and skills with critical judgement		✓	✓	✓
Communication and collaboration			✓	✓
Self-directed and active learning			✓	✓
Creative and future thinking		✓	✓	✓
Social responsibility and ethical awareness		✓	✓	✓
Cultural competence and awareness in a culturally diverse environment			✓	



3. Learning Resources

3.1 Required Learning Resources

Maxfield, M & Babbie, E. (2017). Research Methods for Criminal Justice and Criminology. 8th Ed. Cengage.

Previous editions of this book are fine to use. There are many electronic versions of the book as well. Any of them are fine to use.

Other required readings will be made available for you through the course site.

3.2 Recommended Learning Resources

3.3 College Support Services and Learning Resources

The College provides many facilities and support services to assist students in their studies. Links to information about College support resources that are available to students are included below for easy reference.

[Digital Library](#) – Databases to which Griffith College students have access to through the Griffith Library Databases.

MyStudy – there is a dedicated website for this course via MyStudy on the Griffith College Portal.

[Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) - this tutorial helps students to understand what academic integrity is and why it matters. You will be able to identify types of breaches of academic integrity, understand what skills you will need in order to maintain academic integrity, and learn about the processes of referencing styles.

Services and Support provides a range of services to support students throughout their studies including academic advice and assignment help from Student Learning Advisors, and personal and welfare support from Student Counsellors.

[Jobs and Employment](#) in the Student Hub can assist students with career direction, resume and interview preparation, job search tips, and more.

[IT Support](#) provides details of accessing support, information on s numbers and internet access and computer lab rules.

3.4 Other Information about your Learning

Attendance

You are expected to actively engage in all learning experiences and learning activities which underpin the learning content in this course. You are expected to engage with the learning content and learning activities outside of timetabled class times. This requires you to be an active agent of your learning. You are expected to bring all necessary learning resources to class such as the required textbook and /or Workbook. In addition, you are encouraged to BYOD (bring your own device) to class such as a laptop or tablet. This is not a requirement as computer lab facilities are available on campus, however, the use of such devices in the classroom is encouraged with appropriate and considerate use principles being a priority.

Preparation and Participation in Learning

In order to enhance your learning, you need to prepare before participating in the learning experiences. Absorb the learning content and complete the learning activities that are provided online before you attend the scheduled learning experiences. Make sure you complete the learning activities set each week, they are designed to support your learning. Active participation in your learning will enhance your success. Ask questions when something is unclear or when you want to bring some issue to your lecturer or tutor's attention; respond to questions to test your knowledge and engage in discussion to help yourself and others learn.

Consultation Sessions

Teachers offer extra time each week to assist students outside the classroom. This is known as 'consultation time.' You may seek assistance from your teacher on email or in person according to how the teacher has explained this to the class. Attendance during consultation time is optional but you are encouraged to use this extra help to improve your learning outcomes.

Course Learning Materials

Learning materials are made available to you in MyStudy on the Griffith College Portal. The learning materials are arranged in Modules. In each Module you will find the learning content, learning activities and learning experiences. Actively working your way through these course learning materials together with your lecturer or tutor will prepare you to succeed when completing the evidence of learning (assessment).

Self-Directed Learning

You will be expected to learn independently. This means you must organise and engage with the course learning content even when you are not specifically asked to do so by your lecturer or tutor. The weekly guide will be helpful to organise your learning. This involves revising the weekly course learning material and completing the learning activities. It also means you will need to find additional information to evidence your learning (assessment) beyond that given to you, and to construct your own response to a question or topic. All of this requires careful planning of your time. Expect to spend, on average, at least 10 hours per week including class time for each of your courses.

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].






Teacher and Course Evaluation

Your feedback is respected and valued by your lecturers and tutors. You are encouraged to provide your thoughts on the course and teaching, both positive and critical, directly to your lecturer and tutor or by completing course and lecturer evaluations via Griffith College's evaluation tool whenever these are available.



4. Learning Content, Learning Activities and Learning Experiences


4.1 Modules for Learning and Weekly Learning Content, Learning Activities and Learning Experience

	Learning Content 	Learning activities 	Learning experiences 	Evidence of learning 	Learning outcome 
	Module 1				
1	Introduction; What is research?	Online Quiz; Activity: Does Bedwetting = Serial Killer?	Getting to know you; setting expectations; what is research?		1
2	The building blocks: Research Questions, Conceptualisation, and Operationalisation	Activity: Newspaper article summary	Discussion and case study How to read and article Article analyses	Online quiz (not graded)	1
3	Research Design and Measurement	Working on Exercise 1	Article analysis	Exercise #1	1
	Module 2				
4	Populations and Sampling	Activity: Sampling	Population vs Sample activity Article analysis	Online Quiz (not graded)	2
5	Can you fill this in? Survey research in social science	Online Quiz;	Article analysis Survey exercise		2
	Module 3				
6	Experimental Methods	Experimental Policing Hot Spots	Discussion and case study Article analysis		3
7	Correlation, Causation, and Validity	Online quiz	Article analysis Validity exercise	Online Quiz (not graded)	3
8	Using Qualitative Data	"Gang Leader for a Day" video by Sudhir Venkatesh	Article analysis		3
9	Non-experimental methods and secondary sources of data	"Code of the Street" video Working on Exercise 2	Causation vs correlation debate	Exercise #2	3
	Module 4				
10	Consider this: Ethics in Social Science Research	Stanford Prison Experiment Working on Exercise 3	Historical human experimentation; Ethical dilemmas in criminology research		4
11	Evaluation and other research purposes	Activity: Re-entry success	Article analysis	Exercise #3	4
	Future Directions				
12	Putting it all together	Ben Goldacre: Battling Bad Science Work on your reflection	Discussion and extension Thinking critically about research Future of Criminological research Career paths in research	Reflection	3



5. Evidence of Learning (Assessment Plan)

5.1 Evidence of Learning Summary

	 Evidence of learning	 Weighting	 Learning outcome	 Due Date
1	Exercise #1	30%	1	Week 4
3	Exercise #2	30%	2,3	Week 9
4	Exercise #3	30%	4	Week 12
5	Reflection	10%	3	Final Exam Week

5.2 Evidence of Learning Task Detail

Exercise #1:

Please complete the worksheet titled "Exercise #1." You will be asked to think critically about research questions, variables, conceptualisation and operationalisation. You will be marked out of 70pts total. Marking criteria will be provided for you through the course site.

Exercise #2

Please complete the worksheet titled, "Exercise #2." You will be asked to assess the research methodologies utilised in real and hypothetical situations. You will be marked out of 70pts total. Marking criteria will be provided for you through the course site.

Exercise #3

Please complete the worksheet titled, "Exercise #3." You will be asked to think critically about ethics when using human subjects in criminological studies and evaluate the role ethics plays in research. You will be marked out of 50pts total. Marking criteria will be provided for you through the course site.

Reflection

You will need to upload a document to the Course Portal Site by the date listed above. This assessment is worth 20 total points.

In no more than 1000 words, you must write a reflection about your learning during this trimester. You will need to address the following questions:

1. In your opinion why is the study of social science research methods important for students studying criminology?
2. What have you learned in this class specifically that has strengthened your interest in criminal justice?
3. What recommendations would you make to future students who are about to take Doing Criminology about being successful in this class?

5.3 Late Submission

An evidence of learning (assessment) item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension from the Course Coordinator, will be penalised. The standard penalty is the reduction of the mark allocated to the assessment item by 5% of the maximum mark applicable for the assessment item, for each working day or part working day that the item is late. Evidence of learning items submitted more than five working days after the due date are awarded zero marks.

Please refer to the Griffith College website - Policy Library > [Assessment Policy](#) for guidelines and penalties for late submission.

5.4 Other Information about Evidence of Learning

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.

Requests for extension

To apply for an extension of time for an evidence of learning item, 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 Student Medical Certificate](#)]. Please refer to the Griffith College website - [Policy Library](#) - for guidelines regarding extensions and deferred assessment.

Return of Evidence of Learning Items

1. Marks awarded for in-trimester evidence of learning items, except those being moderated externally with Griffith University, will be available on the Student Portal within fourteen [14] days of the due date. This does not apply to the final evidence of learning item in this course (marks for this item will be provided with the final course result).
2. Students will be advised of their final grade through the Student Portal. Students can review their final exam papers after student grades have been published. Review of final exam papers will not be permitted after the final date to enrol.
3. Marks for **all** evidence of learning items including the final exam (if applicable) will be recorded in the Moodle Course Site and made available to students through the Moodle Course Site.

The sum of your marks of evidence of learning items in this course does not necessarily imply your final grade for the course. Standard grade cut off scores can be varied for particular courses, so you need to wait for the official release of grades to be sure of your grade for this course.

6. Policies & Guidelines

following policies:

[Assessment Policy](#), [Special Consideration](#), [Deferred Assessment](#), [Alternate Exam Sitings](#), [Medical Certificates](#), [Academic Integrity](#), [Finalisation of Results](#), [Review of Marks](#), [Moderation of Assessment](#), [Turn-it-in Software Use](#). These policies can be accessed within the [Policy Library](#)

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.

In the case of an allegation of a breach of academic integrity being made against a student he or she may request the guidance and support of a Griffith College Student Learning Advisor or Student Counsellor.

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 Griffith College website - Policy Library > [Academic Integrity Policy](#)

Reasonable Adjustments for Assessment – The Disability Services policy

The [Disability Services policy](#) (accessed within the [Policy Library](#)) outlines the principles and processes that guide the College in making reasonable adjustments to assessment for students with disabilities while maintaining academic robustness of its programs.

Risk Assessment Statement

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

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