

TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI



VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

School of Social and Cultural Studies

Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

Institute of Criminology

CRIM 321

*Criminal Behaviour and Investigation:
A Psychological Approach*

Course Outline

CRN 13074: 24 POINTS: TRIMESTER 2, 2008

COURSE COORDINATOR: DR RUSSIL DURRANT

Room 1120, Murphy Building

Tel: (04) 463 9980

Email: russil.durrant@vuw.ac.nz

LECTURES: FRIDAY, 10.00AM – 12.00NOON, HUGH MCKENZIE LT105;

TUTORIALS: ONE HOUR PER WEEK, TIME TO BE ARRANGED

Institute of Criminology

CRIM 321

Criminal Behaviour and Investigation: A Psychological Approach

- Co-ordinator:** Dr Russil Durrant
- Contact details:** Murphy Building, MY 1120
Telephone: (04) 463 9980
Email: russil.durrant@vuw.ac.nz
- Office Hours:** Wednesday and Friday, 1.00-2.00pm.
If you are not able to see Russil Durrant during this time please call or email to arrange an alternative time.
- Lecturer:** Dr Russil Durrant.
- Lectures:** Friday 10.00am – 12noon; HM LT105
- Tutorials:** One hour per week, time and location to be arranged.
- Notice board:** The student notice boards are located on levels 9 and 11 of the Murphy Building.

Course Outline

CRIM 321 is a half-year course designed to introduce students to the contribution that psychological perspectives can make to the study, understanding and investigation of crime and criminal behaviour. Two key themes will be covered in this course. The first is criminal actions, which focuses on the application of psychology to understanding criminal behaviour and addresses methods of altering that behaviour. The second theme is Investigative Processing. This concerns the application of psychology to police investigations, including the collection, examination and utilisation of investigative information and evidence.

Course Objectives

By the end of CRIM 321 students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the key psychological approaches to explaining crime and criminal behaviour, and be able to use that knowledge to explain a specific crime. (As assessed by Assignment 1, and the end of year exam)
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the key issues and approaches to investigating crime, and be able to use that knowledge to investigate a specific crime (As assessed by Assignment 2, and the end of year exam)
3. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of psychological perspectives relating to the prevention of crime. (As assessed by Assignment 3, and the end of year exam)

Course Structure

The course combines lectures, class discussion, and tutorials in a format that aims to guide students through the major topic areas.

Tutorials

Each week there will be a one hour tutorial session. While attendance is optional, these sessions have been designed to provide you with additional material that supplements the lecture content. As a result, there will be an expectation that students will draw on this material in their exam. Tutorials will also be used to assist students to complete their assignments and to prepare for the final exam. **Tutorials will start in the second week of semester.**

During the first week, you will be allocated to a tutorial group. Once you have been allocated to one of these groups, you should always attend at that time. If, for an unforeseen reason, you cannot attend your given time one week, then please see the course co-ordinator and arrange to sit in on another tutorial.

TEACHING PROGRAMME:

CRIM 321, 2008

Date	Lecture Topic	Tutorial Topic
Part One: Explaining Crime		
July 11	Introduction and Juvenile Delinquency	No Tutorial
July 18	Violent Offending	Introduction Psychopathy
July 25	Mass murder, serial murder, and collective violence	Violent Offending Guide to Assignment 1
Aug 1	Drugs and Crime	Drugs and Crime Guide to Assignment 1
Part Two: Investigating Crime		
Aug 8	Offender Profiling <i>Assignment One Due: Thursday August 7</i>	Offender Profiling Guide to Assignment 2
Aug 15	Investigative Interviewing & False Confessions	Guide to Assignment 2 False Confessions
<i>Aug 18th – 29th Mid Trimester Break</i>		
Sep 5	Geographic Profiling <i>Assignment Two Due: Thursday September 4</i>	Geographic Profiling
Sep 12	Lie Detection	Lie Detection
Sep 19	Eyewitness Testimony & Identification	Eyewitness Testimony
Part Three: Preventing Crime		
Sep 26	Punishment and its Alternatives	Punishment
Oct 3	Risk, Recidivism, and Rehabilitation	Risk Assessment/Rehabilitation
Oct 10	Social and Situational Crime Prevention/Exam preparation <i>Assignment Three Due: Thursday October 9</i>	No tutorial

COURSE READINGS

Essential Material

You are expected to read the material provided in the course readings in advance of the lectures and tutorials in which it will be discussed. Student Notes will be available from the Students Notes Distribution Centre for approx. \$20.

Part One: Explaining Crime

1. Introduction and Juvenile Delinquency

Farrington, D. P. (2005). Childhood origins of antisocial behaviour. *Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy*, 12, 177-190.

2. Violent Offending

Baumeister, R. F., & Campbell, W. K. (1999). The intrinsic appeal of evil: Sadism, sensational thrills, and threatened egoism. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 3, 210-221.

Brookman, F. (2005). *Understanding homicide*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications. (Chapter 2: Psychological explanations of homicide, pp. 75-99).

3. Mass murder, serial murder, and collective violence

Bandura, A. (1999). Moral disengagement in the perpetration of inhumanities. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 3, 193-209.

Hickey, E. W. (2002). *Serial murderers and their victims* (3rd edition). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson.

4. Drugs and Crime

Bean, P. (2004). *Drugs and crime* (2nd Edition). Cullompton, Devon: Willan Publishing. (Chapter 2: Drugs and crime: theoretical assumptions, pp. 26-58).

Part Two: Investigating Crime

5. Offender Profiling

Bull, R., Cooke, C., Hatcher, R., Woodhams, J., Bilby, C., & Grant, T. (2006). *Criminal psychology: A beginner's guide*. Oxford: Oneworld Publications. (Chapter 2: Offender profiling and linking crimes, pp. 17-35).

Salfati, C. G., & Canter, D. V. (1999). Differentiating stranger murders: Profiling offender characteristics from behavioural styles. *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 17, 391-406.

6. Geographic Profiling

Meaney, R. (2004). Commuters and marauders: An examination of the spatial behaviour of serial criminals. *Journal of Investigative Psychology and Offender Profiling*, 1, 121-137.

7. False Confessions and Investigative Interviewing

Memon, A., Vrij, A., & Bull, R. (2003). *Psychology and law: Truthfulness, accuracy and credibility* (2nd Edition). Chichester: John Wiley & Sons. (Chapter 4: Interviewing suspects, pp. 57-85).

8. Lie Detection

Memon, A., Vrij, A., & Bull, R. (2003). *Psychology and law: Truthfulness, accuracy and credibility* (2nd Edition). Chichester: John Wiley & Sons. (Chapter 2: Telling and detecting lies, pp. 7-36).

9. Eyewitness Testimony

Wells, G. L., & Loftus, E. F. (2003). Eyewitness memory for people and events. In A. Goldstein (Ed.), *Handbook of psychology*, (volume 11, forensic psychology) (pp. 149-160). New York: John Wiley and Sons.

Part Three: Preventing Crime

10. Punishment and its Alternatives

McGuire, J. (2004). *Understanding psychology and crime: Perspectives on theory and action*. Maidenhead, Berkshire: Open University Press. (Chapter 7: Crime and punishment: a psychological view, pp. 171-198).

11. Risk Assessment, Recidivism and Rehabilitation

Bull, R., Cooke, C., Hatcher, R., Woodhams, J., Bilby, C., & Grant, T. (2006). *Criminal psychology: A beginner's guide*. Oxford: Oneworld Publications. (Chapter 10: The rehabilitation of offenders: what works?, pp. 150-167).

Ward, T., & Brown, M. (2004). The good lives model and conceptual issues in offender rehabilitation. *Psychology, Crime & Law*, 10, 243-257.

12. Social and Situational Crime Prevention

Welsh, B. C., & Farrington, D. P. (2004). Effective programmes to prevent delinquency. In J. R. Adler (Ed.), *Forensic psychology: Concepts, debates and practice* (pp. 245-265). Cullompton, Devon: Willan Publishing.

Course Assessment

Summary

There are four pieces of assessment for this course.

	Assessment	% of Final Grade	Word Limit	Due Date
1	Assignment 1	17.5%	1500	August 7, 4pm
2	Assignment 2	17.5%	1500	September 4, 4pm
3	Assignment 3	25%	2000	October 9, 4pm
4	Exam	40%	Length: 3 hours	TBA

Assignment 1

Assignment 1 will involve applying what you have learnt about psychological explanations of crime to a case study of offending. You will be required to select a real life example of a crime and to demonstrate how psychological approaches to explaining crime can be used to, potentially, account for your selected crime. Further details on this assessment, including the marking criteria, will be provided in the first week of the course. Helpful hints about how to approach assignment 1 will also be provided during tutorials.

Assignment 2

Assignment 2 will involve applying what you have learnt about the investigation of crime (specifically, offender profiling and investigative interviewing) to a particular example of offending. A detailed case study of offending will be provided and you will be required to draw on what is known about approaches to offender profiling and investigative interviewing to provide an analysis of the crime. Further details on this assessment, including the marking criteria, will be provided during the first week of this course. Helpful hints about how to approach assignment 2 will also be provided during tutorials.

Assignment 3

Assignment 3 will involve writing a 2000 word essay on one of six topics provided. Further details on this assessment, including the essay questions and marking criteria, will be provided during the first week of this course.

Exam

A three hour examination will be held during the University's examination period. This exam will assess your knowledge of the entire course content and will be comprised of multiple choice, short answer, and short essay questions. Further details on the structure of the exam will be provided during the course.

Mandatory Course Requirements

In order to receive a pass in this course you are required to obtain 50% or over across all items of assessment combined.

Written Assessment

All written work should be placed in the essay box on level 9 of the Murphy building or sent to the Institute (Institute of Criminology, Victoria University of Wellington, PO Box 600, Wellington) by courier or registered mail postmarked no later than 4pm on the due date.

Extensions

The coursework must be handed in by the **due date**. You are expected to keep to this deadline, as otherwise it is unfair to other students. Extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances, and should be sought from Russil Durrant **prior to the deadline**. Late submissions of work without permission will be penalised by the following deductions:

One grade (i.e. 5 marks) = period up to 24 hours past due date.

Two grades (i.e. 10 marks) = period more than 24 hours up to 72 hours past due date.

Work that is handed more than 72 hours late without permission will not be accepted and will therefore receive no marks.

Workload

Taking into account class attendance, reading for tutorials, preparation for assignments and so on, students should spend around 15 hours per week working for CRIM 321.

Communications

Further information about this course, including lecture outlines, handouts and other material will be provided to students via Blackboard throughout the semester. Students should check Blackboard regularly for updates on course material.

Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

General University Statutes And Policies

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Student and Staff Conduct
- Academic Grievances
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

Other Contact Information

Head of School:

Assoc. Professor Jenny Neale, MY1013

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International Student Liaison:

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Maori and Pacific Student Liaison

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Students with Disabilities Liaison:

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School Manager:

Carol Hogan, MY918

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School Administrators:

Monica Lichti, Alison Melling, Adam Meers

MY921, Tel: 463 5317, 463 5258, 463 5677

E-m: sacs@vuw.ac.nz

Referencing Guidelines

The following format for referencing is from the *Publication Manual* of the American Psychological Association (2001). We encourage you to learn and use the following format for referencing as part of the coursework done for the Institute of Criminology. The following examples are for the more common types of referencing which you will come across. However, if you need further information, please consult the latest edition of the Manual in the library.

1. Periodicals

(a) One author publication

In your reference list, cite as follows:

Henderson, L.N. (1985). The wrongs of victim's rights. *Stanford Law Review*, 38, 937- 1021.

- In text, use the following each time the work is cited: (Henderson, 1985); or Henderson (1985) argues that . . .

(b) Two author publication

In your reference list, cite as follows:

Hawkins, J. D., & Weis, J.G. (1985). The social development model: An integrated approach to delinquency prevention. *Journal of Primary Prevention*, 6, 73-97.

- In text, use the following each time the work is cited: (Hawkins & Weis, 1985); or Hawkins and Weis (1985) argue that

(c) Three or more author publication

In your reference list, cite as follows:

Lang, A.R., Goeckner, D.J., Adesso, V.J., & Marlatt, G.A. (1975). Effects of alcohol on aggression in male social drinkers. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 84, 508-518.

- In text, use the following the *first* time the work is cited: (Lang, Goeckner, Adesso & Marlatt, 1975), and everytime *after* this first citation as: (Lang et al. 1975).

2. **Books**

(a) **Reference to a one author book**

In your reference list, cite as follows:

Pratt, J. (1992). *Punishment in a perfect society*. Wellington: Victoria University Press.

- In text, use the following each time the work is cited: (Pratt, 1992); or Pratt (1992) asserts that . . .

(b) **Reference to a two author book, second edition**

In your reference list, cite as follows:

Downes, D. & Rock, P. (1982). *Understanding deviance* (2nd ed.). Oxford: Clarendon Press.

- In text, use the following each time the work is cited: (Downes & Rock, 1982); or Downes and Rock (1982) suggest that . . .

(c) **Reference to a chapter in an edited book**

In your reference list, cite as follows:

Ford, D.A. & Regoli, M.J. (1993). The criminal prosecution of wife assaulters: Process, problems, and effects. In N.Z. Hilton (Ed.), *Legal Responses to Wife Assault: Current Trends and Evaluation* (pp. 127-164). California: Sage.

- In text, use the following each time the work is cited: (Ford & Regoli, 1993); or Ford and Regoli (1993) claim that . . .

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(Date Stamp)

School of Social and Cultural Studies

Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

ANTHROPOLOGY

CRIMINOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY & SOCIAL POLICY

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Assignment Cover Sheet

(please write legibly)

Full Name: _____
(Last name) *(First name)*

Student ID: _____ Course (eg ANTH101): _____

Tutorial Day: _____ Tutorial Time: _____

Tutor's name: _____

Assignment Due Date: _____

CERTIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY

I certify that this paper submitted for assessment is the result of my own work, except where otherwise acknowledged.

Signed: _____ Date: _____