

<b>ORIGINAL</b> Course Implementation Date:	January 2005
<b>REVISED</b> Course Implementation Date:	September 2020
<b>Course to be REVIEWED</b> Date: (six years after GSC approval)	June 2026

## OFFICIAL GRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

**Note:** The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

<b>Course Code and Number:</b> CRIM 715		<b>Number of Credits:</b> 3 See <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a> and the <a href="#">Principles for Course Credit Assignment: Graduate Studies</a>	
<b>Course Full Title:</b> Foundational Research Skills <b>Course Short Title (if title exceeds 30 characters):</b>			
<b>Faculty:</b> Faculty of Social Sciences		<b>Department/School:</b> School of Criminology and Criminal Justice	
<b>Calendar Description:</b> (55 words maximum)  Provides students with the foundational skills required to design and carry out a small-scale research project for their major paper requirements.			
<b>Prerequisites</b> (or NONE):		Admission to the Master of Arts (Criminal Justice).	
<b>Corequisites</b> (if applicable, or NONE):			
<b>Pre/corequisites</b> (if applicable, or NONE):			
<b>Antirequisite UFV Courses</b> (cannot be taken for additional credit) Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Dual-listed with: Equivalent UFV course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>			
<b>Total Contact Hours:</b> 45  <b>Sample structure of instructional hours:</b>  1. Face to face instruction (in class, lecture, etc.) 45 2. Lab hours 3. Online class learning 4. Community learning 5. Group work  <b>See:</b> <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a> and the <a href="#">Principles for Course Credit Assignment: Graduate Studies</a>  <b>Note:</b> For each contact hour students should expect to spend at least three hours further on coursework outside of class.		<b>Special Topics</b> (Double-click on box to select) Will this course be offered with different topics? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, the topic will be recorded when offered.  <b>Grading system:</b> Letter Grades: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit/No Credit: <input type="checkbox"/>  <b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, upon approval and on a case by case basis. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because  <b>Expected Frequency of Course Offerings</b> (every semester, annually, every other year, etc.): Annually	
<b>Senate Graduate Studies Committee</b>		<b>Date Approved:</b> June 2, 2020	

**Course Objective**

The overall purpose/rationale for this course is: to prepare students to design and carry out a small research project to fulfil the requirements of their Major Paper.

**Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the difference between qualitative and quantitative approaches to research.
2. Describe the advantages and disadvantages to different types of research methods.
3. Critically analyze published research and evaluation findings and results.
4. Articulate the role and importance of ethics in research.
5. Create data collection tools to measure a criminological construct or phenomenon.
6. Construct an excel database to collect, manage, and analyze data for their major paper.

**NOTE:** The following sections vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the specific instructor.

**Sample Instructional Methods** (face to face instruction, online collaborative, online self-directed, experiential, student led learning, etc.).

Face to face instruction.

**Sample Text(s) and Resource Materials:**

Rennison, C.M. & Hart, T.C. (2018). Research methods in criminal justice and criminology. Sage Publications.  
Hagan, F. (2017). Research methods in criminal justice and criminology. Pearson.

**Sample Required Additional Supplies and Materials** (software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)

N/A

**Sample Evaluation Methods and Weighting**

(e.g., term paper, essay, assignment, research paper, final exam, midterm exam, major paper, thesis, practicum, research proposal, lab work, etc.)

Assignments	50%	Literature Review	25%	Research Proposal	25%	%
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**Sample Course Content and Topics****BLOCK 1: Introduction to Criminal Justice Research**

- Role of research in guiding policy and practice
- Qualitative versus quantitative research approaches
- Critically consuming research and evaluation findings
- Ethical concerns in research
- Developing research questions
- Role of literature reviews

**BLOCK 2: Qualitative Research**

- Data collection techniques
- Sampling
- Research proposals
- Data collection instrument design

**BLOCK 3: Quantitative Research**

- Data collection techniques
- Sampling
- Research proposals
- Data collection instrument design

**BLOCK 4: Working with Data**

- Preparing data for analysis
- Descriptive analysis of data
- Thematic analysis of data