



ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2005  
REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2027  
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval): January 2032  
Course outline form version: 26/01/2024

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

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

Course Code and Number: CRIM 215	Number of Credits: 3 <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a>
Course Full Title: Theory and Practice of Restorative Justice	
Course Short Title: Restorative Justice	
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences	Department/School: Criminology and Criminal Justice
<b>Calendar Description:</b> Discusses theoretical, historical, and philosophical perspectives on restorative justice, and the foundational principles and values of restorative justice as a response to crime and violence distinct from traditional methods within the criminal justice system. Processes and program models will be examined.	
Prerequisites (or NONE):	9 university-level credits.
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	NONE
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	NONE
Antirequisite Courses (Cannot be taken for additional credit.)  Former course code/number:  Cross-listed with:  Equivalent 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>Course Details</b>  Special Topics course: <b>No</b> <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i>  Directed Study course: <b>No</b> <i>(See <a href="#">policy 207</a> for more information.)</i>  Grading System: <b>Letter grades</b>  Delivery Mode: <b>May be offered in multiple delivery modes</b>  Expected frequency: <b>Annually</b>  Maximum enrolment (for information only): <b>36</b>
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours	
Lecture/seminar	45
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>45</b>
Scheduled Laboratory Hours	
Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Department approval	Date of meeting: November 5, 2025
Faculty Council approval	Date of meeting: December 5, 2025
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	Date of meeting: January 30, 2026

## Learning Outcomes

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

1. Analyze the historical context for restorative justice from a variety of cultural and philosophical perspectives.
2. Describe a variety of theoretical constructs in support of and critical of restorative justice.
3. Articulate the impacts of victimization and the needs of victims following criminal acts.
4. Identify the factors leading to offending behaviour and the connection between responsibility and accountability.
5. Explain the importance of building community capacity to develop restorative justice programs.
6. Analyze the variety of restorative practices and their applications.
7. Describe the role and possibilities for restorative justice within criminal justice systems, specifically as it relates to the Youth Criminal Justice Act, Indigenous Peoples, and other racialized and marginalized groups.
8. Explain a variety of ways for developing and maintaining restorative justice programs within the community and school settings.

## Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting (Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)

Quizzes/tests:	40%	%	%
Assignments:	60%	%	%

### Details:

Assignments may include in-class small group discussions, critical reflection assignments, presentations, and self-assessment exercises.

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

## Typical Instructional Methods (Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)

Lecture and discussion.

## Texts and Resource Materials (Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources \(OER\)](#) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Textbook	Johnstone, G.	Restorative Justice: Ideas, Values, and Debates (Routledge)	2011
2. Textbook	Woolford, A., & Nelund, A.	The Politics of Restorative Justice: A Critical Introduction (Fernwood)	2019
3. Textbook	Zehr, H.	The Little Book of Restorative Justice	2015
4. Textbook	Elliott, E.M.	Security with Care: Restorative Justice and Healthy Communities (Fernwood Books)	2011
5. Textbook	Milward, D., & Rudin, J.	Chapter 9: Indigenous Courts and Sentencing Circles in Indigenous Law and Canadian Criminal Justice (Emond Montgomery Publications Ltd)	2025

## Required Additional Supplies and Materials (Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)

## Course Content and Topics

- What is restorative justice
- History of restorative justice
- Theories of restorative justice
- Restorative justice approaches
- Restorative justice in the Criminal Code of Canada and the Youth Criminal Justice Act
- Indigenous Peoples and restorative justice in Canada
- Restorative justice as a process for responding to racialized and marginalized groups
- Actors in restorative justice
- Restorative justice, race, and gender
- Individual and collective dimensions of restorative justice
- Restorative justice and transitional justice
- Critiques of restorative justice
- The politics of restorative justice