

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

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

Course Code and Number: CRIM 220		Number of Credits: 3 Course credit policy (105)													
Course Full Title: Research Methods in Criminology Course Short Title: Research Methods															
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences		Department/School: Criminology and Criminal Justice													
Calendar Description: An introduction to criminological research to develop research and analytical skills by focusing on theories of inquiry, conceptualizing core research questions, identifying ethical considerations, and designing methods for hypothesis testing and data collection using qualitative and quantitative methods.															
Prerequisites (or NONE):		CRIM 100 and one of the following: CRIM 104, CRIM 105, PSYC 101, PSYC 102, or SOC 101.													
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):															
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):															
Antirequisite Courses (<i>Cannot be taken for additional credit.</i>) 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>		Course Details Special Topics course: No <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: No <i>(See policy 207 for more information.)</i> Grading System: Letter grades Delivery Mode: May be offered in multiple delivery modes Expected frequency: Every semester Maximum enrolment (for information only): 36													
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lecture/seminar</td> <td>45</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total hours</td> <td>45</td> </tr> </table>		Lecture/seminar	45									Total hours	45	Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) PLAR is available for this course.	
Lecture/seminar	45														
Total hours	45														
Scheduled Laboratory Hours Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		Transfer Credit (See bctransferguide.ca) Transfer credit already exists: Yes Submit outline for (re)articulation: Yes <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i>													
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. Generate a realistic research question or hypothesis that applies theoretical principles.
2. Apply principles of research ethics, including informed consent, confidentiality, and responsible data management.
3. Synthesize prior research on a selected research problem in a literature review using appropriate format and style conventions.
4. Develop empirical indicators for concepts at the nominal, ordinal, interval, and ratio levels of measurement.
5. Articulate the strengths and weaknesses of various research methods, including qualitative and quantitative approaches.
6. Explain Indigenous research methods and their contributions to ethical, community-engaged research.
7. Describe the merit of knowledge translation and knowledge exchange techniques in conveying “evidence” to decision and policy makers.
8. Design a research proposal that addresses methodology, ethical considerations, and data collection strategies.

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

Final exam:	30%	Assignments:	45%	Quizzes/tests:	25%
	%		%		%

Details:

Assignments may include completion of the TCPS 2 ethics tutorial, a literature review, research proposal, and presentations.

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.*)

Lectures, group and individual projects.

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	Dantzker, M.L., & Hunter, R.D.	Research Methods for Criminology and Criminal Justice, Jones and Bartlett Learning	2022
2. Textbook	Bachman, R.D., & Schutt, R.K.	The Practice of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice, Sage Publications	2023
3. Textbook	Maxfield, M.G., Babbie, E.R., & Schuck, A. M.	Research Methods for Criminal Justice and Criminology, Cengage	2025
4. Textbook	Rennison, C.M., & Hart, T.C.	Research Methods in Criminal Justice and Criminology, Sage Publications	2022
5. Textbook	Smith, L.T.	Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples, Zed Books	2012

Required Additional Supplies and Materials (*Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.*)**Course Content and Topics**

- Everyone can be a researcher
- The history of scientific inquiry
- Experimental designs
- The role of research in the social sciences, ethical considerations in research
- Examples of classic research in criminology
- Sampling
- Surveys and questionnaires
- Document and content analysis
- Field research
- Interviewing
- Indigenous research methods
- Community-engaged research and participatory action research
- Strengths and limitations of quantitative and qualitative research methods