

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

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

Course Code and Number: CRIM 490		Number of Credits: 4 Course credit policy (105)													
Course Full Title: Honours Thesis Development Course Short Title: Honours Thesis Development															
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences		Department (or program if no department): CRIM													
Calendar Description: Provides an opportunity to develop a research proposal consisting of a comprehensive critical review of the literature and a data collection instrument related to an honours thesis project and complete a request for ethical review and minimal risk checklist.															
Prerequisites (or NONE):		Acceptance into the Criminal Justice Honours program and permission of a faculty supervisor.													
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: Yes; cannot be repeated for credit <i>(See policy 207 for more information.)</i> Grading System: Letter grades Delivery Mode: May be offered in multiple delivery modes Expected frequency: Annually Maximum enrolment (for information only): 6													
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Supervised directed learning (directed studies only)</td> <td>60</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>60</td> </tr> </table>		Supervised directed learning (directed studies only)	60									Total hours	60	Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because: This is part of the Criminal Justice Honours program and involves a unique research project designed in consultation with a UFV Criminology and Criminal Justice faculty member.	
Supervised directed learning (directed studies only)	60														
Total hours	60														
Scheduled Laboratory Hours Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		Transfer Credit (See bctransferguide.ca) Transfer credit already exists: No Submit outline for (re)articulation: No <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i>													
Department approval		Date of meeting: October 8, 2025													
Faculty Council approval		Date of meeting: November 7, 2025													
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval		Date of meeting: December 19, 2025													

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Apply relevant theory and research methods used in the social sciences to the identified topic.
2. Critically review previously conducted research.
3. Respond to potential ethical concerns in research.
4. Create research questions.
5. Develop a data collection instrument.
6. Integrate issues related to Indigenous Peoples, racialized groups, and/or marginalized populations into the theoretical framing, research questions, methodology, and data collection.
7. Complete research ethics forms.
8. Design a research project to carry out in CRIM 491.

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

Assignments:	100%	%	%
	%	%	%

Details:

Assignments include a research proposal (50%), research ethics forms (10%-25%), and data collection instruments (25%-40%).

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.)*

Independent study with a faculty supervisor

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. Online resource	Secretariat on Responsible Conduct of Research	Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans – TCPS 2	2022
2. Textbook	Babbie, E., Wagner-Huang, W.E., & Zaino, J.	Adventures in Social Research: Data Analysis Using IBM SPSS Statistics, Sage Publications	2022
3. Textbook	Creswell, J.W., & Poth, C.N.	Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches, Sage Publications	2024
4.			
5.			

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

- Critically reviewing literature
- Identifying research gaps
- Developing research questions
- Social science theories
- Methods of social science research
- Research ethics
- Creating data collection instruments
- Quantitative and qualitative research methods
- Collecting data
- Developing research proposals