



**CURRICULUM GUIDELINES**

**A: Division: INSTRUCTIONAL**

**Date: SEPTEMBER 1999**

**B: Department/  
Program Area: CRIMINOLOGY**

New Course

Revision

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **M, N, P, Q**

Date Last Revised: **JANUARY 1987**

**C: CRIM 254**

**D: RESEARCH METHODS IN CRIMINOLOGY**

**E: 3**

Subject & Course No.

Descriptive Title

Semester Credits

**F:** Calendar Description: This is an introductory course in concepts and techniques basic to research in Criminology. It will include principles which guide the researcher; terminology; selection of topic material; defining and measuring variables; the concept of the research hypotheses; research design; sampling methods; qualitative and quantitative data; application of statistics in research; ethics in criminological research. The total thrust will be towards research in criminology and criminal justice but this will be achieved by means of an interdisciplinary approach.

**G:** Allocation of Contact Hours to Types of Instruction/Learning Settings

Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings

**Lecture / Seminar**

Number of Contact Hours: (*per week/ per semester for each descriptor*)

**Lecture: 3 Hrs.**  
**Seminar: 1 Hrs.**

Number of Weeks per Semester: **14 Weeks**

**H:** Course Prerequisites:  
**CRIM 150**

**I:** Course Corequisites:  
**NONE**

**J:** Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:  
**NONE**

**K:** Maximum Class Size:  
**35**

**L:** PLEASE INDICATE:

Non-Credit

College Credit Non-Transfer

College Credit Transfer:

Requested

Granted

SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS ([www.bccat.bc.ca](http://www.bccat.bc.ca))

**M: Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of the course, the successful student will be able to:

1. Explain the research enterprise.
2. Discuss the concepts relating to theory, variables and causality.
3. Identify and analyse sampling techniques.
4. Identify and analyse questionnaires.
5. Identify and analyse interview techniques.
6. Conduct general qualitative research methods.
7. Explain the measurement and presentation of variables.
8. Perform general statistical analysis.

**N: Course Content:**

1. Qualitative Research Methods
  - Definition
  - Types of observation
  - Content analysis
2. Ethical Concerns in Research
3. Theory, Variables and Causality in Research
4. Experimental Research Design
5. Sampling Techniques
  - Functions
  - Probability and non-probability sampling
6. Data Collection Strategies
  - Questionnaire function, types, administration and construction
  - Interview function, types, administration and construction
7. Measurement of Variables
  - Operationalization
  - Levels of measurement
  - Types of scaling procedures
8. Validity and Reliability of Measures
9. Hypothesis Testing and Theory Verification
  - Types and function hypotheses, construction, sets
  - Hypothesis testing
10. Statistics
  - Definitions
  - Functions
11. Central Tendency and Dispersion

Subject and Course No.

**O: Methods of Instruction:**

The instructor will primarily use lectures and may use audio-visual material, guest lectures, seminars, discussions and assignments to cover the material.

**P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:**

Champion, Dean. (1993). Research Methods for Criminal Justice and Criminology. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

**Q: Means of Assessment:**

Evaluation will be carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. The instructor will provide a written course outline with specific evaluation criteria at the beginning of the semester. Evaluation will be based on some of the following:

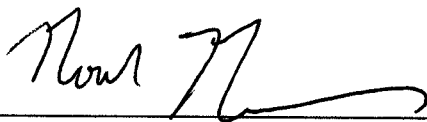
- 1. Short Answer Tests
- 2. Exams
- 3. Oral Presentation
- 4. Research project/ term paper
- 5. Class participation

An example of one possible evaluation scheme would be:

Seminar Attendance and Participation	10%
Term Paper	20%
Debate	10%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

**R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR**

Under review.

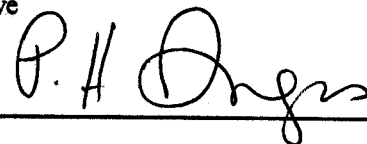


Course Designer(s)



Dean/Director

Education Council/Curriculum Committee Representative



Registrar