



PICT103

Introduction to Criminology

S1 Day 2016

Dept of Policing, Intelligence & Counter-Terrorism

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

James Martin

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Credit points

3

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit aims to introduce students to the theory and practice of Criminology. It will explore definitions of crime, theories of crime and criminality and contemporary issues in criminology. With reference to relevant research and theory the unit aims to give students an appreciation of three broad areas, what is crime? who is a criminal? and the application of contemporary theory to contemporary social issues.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Identify and distinguish between major criminological theories, e.g. strain theory, differential association, biological positivism;

Research and locate different academic sources and express judgement about their validity;

Engage in informed criminological discussion with criminology staff and other students;

Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Tutorial/online participation	10%	Throughout semester
Online Quiz - Mid-Semester	10%	Friday 8/4
Online Quiz - End of Semester	10%	Friday 5/6
Annotated Bibliography	20%	Monday 14/3
Research Essay Plan	10%	Tuesday 26/4
Research Essay	40%	Tuesday 14/6

Tutorial/online participation

Due: **Throughout semester**

Weighting: **10%**

In class or online participation (online for external students only)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Engage in informed criminological discussion with criminology staff and other students;

Online Quiz - Mid-Semester

Due: **Friday 8/4**

Weighting: **10%**

Online quiz

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and distinguish between major criminological theories, e.g. strain theory, differential association, biological positivism;

Online Quiz - End of Semester

Due: **Friday 5/6**

Weighting: **10%**

Online quiz

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and distinguish between major criminological theories, e.g. strain theory,

differential association, biological positivism;

Annotated Bibliography

Due: **Monday 14/3**

Weighting: **20%**

Annotated Bibliography

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Research and locate different academic sources and express judgement about their validity;

Research Essay Plan

Due: **Tuesday 26/4**

Weighting: **10%**

Essay Plan

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Research Essay

Due: **Tuesday 14/6**

Weighting: **40%**

Research Essay

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and distinguish between major criminological theories, e.g. strain theory, differential association, biological positivism;
- Research and locate different academic sources and express judgement about their validity;
- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Delivery and Resources

UNIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

- You should spend an average of at least 9 hours per week on this unit. This includes

listening to pre-recorded lectures prior to tutorial discussions and reading weekly required readings detailed in iLearn.

- Internal students are expected to actively participate in tutorials. This involves appropriate preparation before class (i.e. listening to online lecture content and completing required weekly readings). Students should provide relevant document (e.g. a medical certificate) if they miss a tutorial.
- External students are required to contribute to on-line discussions. Further information regarding online discussion requirements are available on iLearn.

REQUIRED READINGS

- The citations for all the required readings for this unit are available to enrolled students through the unit iLearn site and at Macquarie University's Library EReserve site. Electronic copies of required readings may be accessed at the EReserve site.
- The core text for this unit is Marmo, M, De Lint, W, and Palmer, D (2012) *Crime and Justice: A Guide to Criminology*, 4th edition, Thomson Reuters. This text is available in the University bookshop.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

- Recommended readings will be posted to the unit iLearn site as Session 1 progresses.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

- Personal PC and internet access are essential for this unit. Basic computer skills and skills in word processing are also a requirement.
- The unit can only be accessed by enrolled students online through <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au>

SUBMITTING ASSESSMENT TASKS

- All assessment tasks are to be submitted, marked and returned electronically. This will only happen through the unit iLearn site.
- Assessment tasks must be submitted as a MS word document by the due date.
- All assessment tasks will be subject to a 'Turnitin' review as an automatic part of the submission process.
- The granting of extensions of up to one week are at the discretion of the unit convenor and tutorial staff. Any requests for extensions must be made in writing before the due date for the submission of the assessment task. Extensions beyond one week are subject to special consideration. The policy for this is detailed under Policy and Procedures.

LATE SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT TASKS

All assignments which are received after the due date, and where no extension has been granted by the course convener or tutor, will incur a deduction of 5% for the first day, and 2% for each subsequent day including the day on which the work is received. Weekends and public holidays are included.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

Students who are prevented from completing any of the work required to complete this unit should report the circumstances via an Application for Special Consideration form to the Registrar's Office. This letter must be accompanied by a completed Professional Authority Form (<http://www.student.mq.edu.au/ses/Special%20Consideration.html>) or other proper evidence.

Unit Schedule

Module 1 - Introduction to criminology

Module 2 - Measuring crime

Module 3 - Crime in the news

Module 4 - The criminal mind

Module 5 - The criminal world

Module 6 - Serious assault and homicide

Module 7 - Youth crime

Module 8 - Gender and crime

Module 9 - Race and crime

Module 10 - Illicit drugs and crime

Module 11 - Gangs and gangsters

Module 12 - Crimes of the powerful

Module 13 - Environmental crime

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

New Assessment Policy in effect from Session 2 2016 http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html. For more information visit http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new_assessment_policy_in_place_from_session_2/

Assessment Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Research and locate different academic sources and express judgement about their validity;
- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Assessment task

- Research Essay

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify and distinguish between major criminological theories, e.g. strain theory, differential association, biological positivism;
- Research and locate different academic sources and express judgement about their validity;
- Engage in informed criminological discussion with criminology staff and other students;
- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Assessment tasks

- Annotated Bibliography
- Research Essay Plan

- Research Essay

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Research and locate different academic sources and express judgement about their validity;
- Engage in informed criminological discussion with criminology staff and other students;
- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Assessment tasks

- Research Essay Plan
- Research Essay

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify and distinguish between major criminological theories, e.g. strain theory, differential association, biological positivism;
- Research and locate different academic sources and express judgement about their validity;
- Engage in informed criminological discussion with criminology staff and other students;
- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Assessment tasks

- Online Quiz - Mid-Semester
- Online Quiz - End of Semester
- Annotated Bibliography
- Research Essay Plan
- Research Essay

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify and distinguish between major criminological theories, e.g. strain theory, differential association, biological positivism;
- Research and locate different academic sources and express judgement about their validity;
- Engage in informed criminological discussion with criminology staff and other students;
- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Assessment tasks

- Tutorial/online participation
- Annotated Bibliography
- Research Essay Plan
- Research Essay

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Research and locate different academic sources and express judgement about their validity;
- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Assessment tasks

- Annotated Bibliography
- Research Essay Plan
- Research Essay

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify and distinguish between major criminological theories, e.g. strain theory, differential association, biological positivism;
- Research and locate different academic sources and express judgement about their validity;
- Engage in informed criminological discussion with criminology staff and other students;
- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Assessment tasks

- Annotated Bibliography
- Research Essay Plan
- Research Essay

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social

justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Engage in informed criminological discussion with criminology staff and other students;
- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Assessment tasks

- Tutorial/online participation
- Research Essay Plan
- Research Essay

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Engage in informed criminological discussion with criminology staff and other students;
- Analyse and demonstrate critical understanding of major criminological theories with regard to particular types of criminal offence.

Assessment task

- Research Essay