

POLS*3300 Governing Criminal Justice**Credit Weighting:** 0.50**Pre-/Co-Requisites:** 1 of: POLS*2350;
POLS*2250;
POLS*2300**Restrictions:** Priority Access Course**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION****Name:** Kate Puddister**Email:** kpuddist@uoguelph.ca**Office Location:** 510 MacKinnon**GENERAL DETAILS**

The course provides an overview of the policy processes and outcomes of the Canadian criminal justice system. To achieve this aim, students will be introduced to the primary agencies in the criminal justice policy community and learn how these policy actors relate to one another, using various theoretical and analytical perspectives from the fields of political science, public policy and public management. In particular, this course will examine the police, ministries of justice and public safety, the legal system, sentencing and the correctional system. Current events and topical issues in criminal justice will be used to facilitate the learning process. While the focus is on the Canadian criminal justice system, some comparisons will be made with other countries when appropriate.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Identify the primary agencies and actors in the Canadian criminal justice system and understand how they relate to one another
- Analyze and evaluate the operation of the criminal justice system for strengths and weaknesses in terms of accountability, transparency, independence, and oversight
- Explain the policymaking process and the relationship between politics and public policy
- Recognize the challenges and unique nature of criminal justice policy
- Conduct basic legal and public policy research

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Online quizzes: 15%

Midterm (in-class): 25%

Paper: 25%

Final Exam: 35%

methods of assessment are tentative and may subject to change.

REQUIRED READING

All readings available electronically.