



CRIM12003 *Criminology Theory*

Term 2 - 2024

Profile information current as at 06/07/2025 02:23 am

All details in this unit profile for CRIM12003 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This unit extends your basic knowledge of the theoretical underpinnings of criminology by considering a broad range of interdisciplinary contemporary theories of crime and penology. You will investigate how these theories can inform research, legislation, law enforcement and regulatory responses to crime. You will examine theoretical and practical case studies to consider how different theoretical approaches may lead to different and perhaps contradictory outcomes. This unit will also develop your methodological analysis skills, examining qualitative and quantitative data to test models suggested by theories of crime.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 2*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

There are no requisites for this unit.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2024

- Online

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 15%

2. **Case Study**

Weighting: 40%

3. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 45%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Class discussion

Feedback

Students felt they needed more time for discussion to complete the challenge activities during the live session.

Recommendation

The UC will develop a better time management plan.

Feedback from Student email.

Feedback

Students were satisfied with the PASS session for this unit.

Recommendation

The UC will attempt to offer the PASS session for the future iteration.

Feedback from SUTE

Feedback

Students felt more individualised feedback was needed.

Recommendation

The assessment feedback will be fine-tuned.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Critique, analyse and reflect on interdisciplinary contemporary theories of crime, their policy implications and practical outcomes
2. Research and develop a systematic approach to evaluating the effectiveness of criminology theories in managing criminal activity
3. Conceptualise crime using a variety of disciplines, discuss theories based on these conceptualisations, and how these theories influence law and social policy.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 15%	●		
2 - Case Study - 40%		●	●
3 - Written Assessment - 45%		●	●

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Communication			
2 - Problem Solving		•	
3 - Critical Thinking	•		
4 - Information Literacy	•		
5 - Team Work			
6 - Information Technology Competence			
7 - Cross Cultural Competence			•
8 - Ethical practice			•
9 - Social Innovation		•	
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures			

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 15%			•	•						
2 - Case Study - 40%		•					•	•	•	
3 - Written Assessment - 45%		•					•	•	•	

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Justine Hotten Unit Coordinator

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Schedule

Week 1 - 08 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction.	Tittle, C. R. (2016). Introduction: Theory and contemporary criminology. In A. R. Piquero (Ed.) <i>The Handbook of Criminological Theory</i> . Wiley. (pp. 1-17). Dooley, B. D. & Goodison, S. E. (2020). Falsification by atrophy: The Kuhnian process of rejecting theory in US criminology. <i>British Journal of Criminology</i> , 60(1), 24-44. Scott, J. (2014). The quantitative-qualitative divide in criminology: A theory of ideas' importance, attractiveness, and publication. <i>Theoretical Criminology</i> , 18(3), 317-334.	None.

Week 2 - 15 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Classical criminology.	Nagin, D. S. (2013). Deterrence in the twenty-first century. <i>Crime and Justice</i> , 42, 199-263. Clarke, R. V. & Cornish, D. B. (1985). Modeling offenders' decisions: A framework for research and policy. <i>Crime and Justice</i> , 6, 147-185. Cohen, L. E. & Felson, M. (1979). Social change and crime rate trends: A routine activity approach. <i>American Sociological Review</i> , 44(4), 588-608.	None.

Week 3 - 22 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Biological criminology.

None.

Week 4 - 29 Jul 2024

Week 5 - 05 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Social learning theories	Akers, R. (1996). Rational choice, deterrence, and social learning theory in criminology. The path not taken. <i>Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology</i> , 81(3), 653-676.	
	Eassey, J. M. & Krohn, M. D. (2018). Differential association, differential social organization, and white-collar crime: Sutherland Defines the Field. In R. A. Triplett (ed.) <i>The handbook of the history and philosophy of criminology</i> . Wiley (pp. 156-172).	Assignment 1: Online quiz (15%) Due date: Week 5 Friday (5 August 2024) 11:59PM AEST
	Pratt, T. C. Cullen, F. T., Sellers, C. S., Thomas, W. L., Madensen, T. D., Daigle, L. E., Fearn, N. E. & Gau, J. M. (2010) The empirical status of social learning theory: A meta-analysis. <i>Justice Quarterly</i> , 27(6), 765-802.	Online Quiz Due: Week 5 Monday (5 Aug 2024) 11:59 pm AEST

Vacation Week - 12 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
None.	None.	None.

Week 6 - 19 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Control theories.	Özbay, Ö & Özcan, Y. Z. (2006). A test of Hirschi's social bonding theory: Juvenile delinquency in the high school of Ankara, Turkey. <i>International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology</i> , 50(6), 711-726.	None.
	Hirschi, T. & Gottfredson, M. (2000). In defense of self-control. <i>Theoretical Criminology</i> , 4(1), 55-69. Pratt, T. & Cullen, F. T. (2000). The empirical status of Gottfredson and Hirschi's general theory of crime: A meta-analysis. <i>Criminology</i> , 38(3), 931-964.	

Week 7 - 26 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Social disorganisation theories.	<p>Bursik, R. J. (1988) Social disorganization and theories of crime and delinquency: Problems and prospects. <i>Criminology</i>, 26(4), 519-551.</p> <p>Sampson, R. J., Randebush, S. W. & Earls, F. (1997) Neighborhoods and violent crime: A multilevel study of collective efficacy. <i>Science</i>, 277(5328), 918-924.</p> <p>Zimmerman, G. M. & Messner, S. F. (2012). Person-in-context: Insights and issues in research on neighborhoods and crime. In R. Loeber & B. C. Welsh (eds.) <i>The future of criminology</i>. Oxford University Press (pp. 70-78).</p>	None.
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Week 8 - 02 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Labelling theories.	<p>Paternoster, R. & Iovanni, L. (1989). The labelling perspective and delinquency: An elaboration of the theory and an assessment of the evidence. <i>Justice Quarterly</i>, 6(3), 359-394.</p> <p>Matsueda, R. L. (1992). Reflected appraisals, parental labelling, and delinquency: Specifying a symbolic interactionist theory. <i>American Journal of Sociology</i>, 97(6), 1577-1611.</p> <p>Kim, H. J. & Gerber, J. (2012). The effectiveness of reintegrative shaming and restorative justice conferences: Focusing on juvenile offenders' perceptions in Australian Reintegrative Shaming Experiments. <i>International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology</i>, 56(7), 1063-1079.</p>	None.

Week 9 - 09 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Conflict theories.	<p>Pavlich, G. (1999). Criticism and criminology: In search of legitimacy. <i>Theoretical Criminology</i>, 3(1), 29-51.</p> <p>Daly, K. & Chesney-Lind, M. (1988). Feminism and criminology. <i>Justice Quarterly</i>, 5(4), 497-538.</p> <p>Donnermeyer, J. F. & DeKeserdy, W. (2008). Toward a rural critical criminology, <i>Southern Rural Sociology</i>, 23(2), 4-28.</p>	None.
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Week 10 - 16 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Developmental and life-course criminology.	<p>Moffitt, T. E. (1993). Adolescence-limited and life-course-persistent antisocial behavior: A developmental taxonomy. <i>Psychological Review</i>, 100(4), 674-701.</p> <p>Laub, J. & Sampson, R. (1993) Turning points in the life course: Why change matters to the study of crime. <i>Criminology</i>, 31(3), 301-325.</p> <p>Farrington, D. P. (2003) Developmental and life-course criminology: Key theoretical and empirical issues – The 2002 Sutherland Award Address. <i>Criminology</i>, 41(2), 221-255.</p>	None.

Week 11 - 23 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Convict and lived experience criminology.	<p>Antojado, D. (2023). "Nothing About Us Without Us": Analyzing the potential contributions of lived experience to penological pedagogy. <i>Journal of Criminal Justice Education</i>. 1-18.</p> <p>Ross, J. I., Richards, S., Newbold, G., Lenza, M., & Grigsby, R., (2011). In W. S. DeKeseredy and M. Dragiewicz, <i>Routledge Handbook of Critical Criminology</i> (pp. 160-171). Routledge.</p>	<p>Assignment 2: Workbook (40%) Due date: Week 11 Friday (23 September 2024) 11:59PM AEST</p> <p>Workbook Due: Week 11 Monday (23 Sept 2024) 11:59 pm AEST</p>

Week 12 - 30 Sep 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Review.	None.	None.

Review/Exam Week - 07 Oct 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
None.	None.	Assignment 3: Case study (45%) Due date: Exam week Monday (7 October 2024) 11:59PM AEST

Exam Week - 14 Oct 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
None.	None.	None. Case study Due: Exam Week Monday (14 Oct 2024) 11:59 pm AEST

Assessment Tasks

1 Online Quiz

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

Students will complete an online quiz. There are 15 questions in total. Questions are True/False and Multiple Choice. The time limit is 2 hours once students start the online quiz.

Number of Quizzes

1

Frequency of Quizzes

Other

Assessment Due Date

Week 5 Monday (5 Aug 2024) 11:59 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 5 Monday (5 Aug 2024)

Weighting

15%

Assessment Criteria

The answer will be shown once students complete the online quiz.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Critique, analyse and reflect on interdisciplinary contemporary theories of crime, their policy implications and practical outcomes

Graduate Attributes

- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy

2 Workbook

Assessment Type

Case Study

Task Description

Students will be provided with a reflective task of the challenge activities in the sessions of Modules 2-11. Word length per task is 150 words (total 1,500 words). These tasks are available in the study guide of each Module.

Assessment Due Date

Week 11 Monday (23 Sept 2024) 11:59 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 11 Monday (23 Sept 2024)

Weighting

40%

Assessment Criteria

This assignment will be assessed against three criteria. The first is level of reflection, which will assess whether students link lecture and workshop materials explicitly and clearly, demonstrating excellent understanding. The second is presentation, which will assess whether students provide an excellent individual and overall structure in writing and explain perspectives in a coherent and cohesive manner. The third is completeness, which will assess whether students complete all the workbook tasks.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Via Moodle.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Research and develop a systematic approach to evaluating the effectiveness of criminology theories in managing criminal activity
- Conceptualise crime using a variety of disciplines, discuss theories based on these conceptualisations, and how these theories influence law and social policy.

Graduate Attributes

- Problem Solving
- Cross Cultural Competence
- Ethical practice
- Social Innovation

3 Case study

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

In this assessment, students work on the following tasks to write a 1500-word case study. (1) Students select an agency or organisation that works with drug offenders. (2) Students briefly describe the work of the agency or organisation and describe the 'philosophy' upon which the agency or organisation bases its practice. (3) Students pick a theory that is relevant to the agency or organisation. (4) Students give details about the theory by identifying the theorist and the key components of the theory. (5) Students apply the theory to the agency or organisation by linking the key components of the theory to the work of the agency or organisation. (6) Students evaluate what the agency or organisation does with ex-prisoners in terms of the theory.

Assessment Due Date

Exam Week Monday (14 Oct 2024) 11:59 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Exam Week Monday (14 Oct 2024)

Weighting

45%

Assessment Criteria

This assignment is assessed by five criteria. Introduction is based on whether students provide a clear introduction. Organisation is based on whether the ideas are arranged in a logical, structured and coherent manner. Content knowledge is based on whether students demonstrate a balanced and high level of detailed knowledge of core concepts by providing a high level of analysis. Presentation is based on whether the quality of writing is a high standard. Conclusion is based on whether students provide a detailed and focused summary of the ideas presented.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Via Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Research and develop a systematic approach to evaluating the effectiveness of criminology theories in managing criminal activity
- Conceptualise crime using a variety of disciplines, discuss theories based on these conceptualisations, and how these theories influence law and social policy.

Graduate Attributes

- Problem Solving
- Cross Cultural Competence
- Ethical practice
- Social Innovation

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem