



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

*School of Social and Cultural Studies*

## INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY

# CRIM 326 CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS

**20 POINTS**

**TRIMESTER 2 2013**

### **Important dates**

**Trimester dates:** 15 July to 17 November 2013

**Teaching dates:** 15 July to 18 October 2013

**Mid-trimester break:** 26 August to 8 September 2013

**Study period:** 21–25 October 2013

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 25 October to 16 November 2013

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds)

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat)

## Class times and locations

**Lectures:** Friday, 12.00-13.50pm; Hunter LT119  
**Tutorials:** Wednesday, 12.00-12.50pm; KK217  
Friday, 2.10-3.00pm; KK217  
Friday, 3.10-4.00pm; KK217

## Names and contact details

**Course Coordinator:** Dr Russil Durrant  
Level 11, Murphy Building, MY1120  
Telephone: (04) 463 9980  
Email: [Russil.durrant@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Russil.durrant@vuw.ac.nz)  
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 1.00-2.00pm

## Communication of additional information

Further information about the course, including lecture outlines, hand-outs and other material will be provided to students via Blackboard throughout the trimester. Students should check Blackboard regularly for updates on course material. You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

## Prescription

CRIM 326 will provide an introduction to research methods in criminology. In this course the various different approaches to studying crime will be explored and the important ethical issues in doing criminological research will be presented. Note: this course is strongly recommended for students wishing to progress to Honours level study.

## Course content

Date	Lecture Topic	Tutorial Topic
19 July	Introduction; The nature and practice of research in criminology; Writing a research proposal <b>Dr Russil Durrant</b>	No Tutorial
26 July	Criminal justice statistics <b>Dr Russil Durrant</b>	Interpreting criminal justice statistics using Excel 1
2 August	Research Methodologies and Ethics <b>Dr Russil Durrant</b>	Interpreting criminal justice statistics using Excel 2
9 August	Sampling <b>Dr Russil Durrant</b> Working with victims and offenders <b>Associate Professor Julian Buchanan</b>	Research ethics
16 August	Introduction to Pasifika research methodologies; conducting research with Pasifika participants. <b>Dr Sailau Suaalii-Sauni</b>	No Tutorial

23 August	Survey research <b>Dr Russil Durrant</b>	Introduction to data analysis with SPSS
13 September	Experimental and longitudinal research designs <b>Dr Russil Durrant</b>	Quantitative data analysis using SPSS 1
20 September	Qualitative research methodologies <b>Associate Professor Julian Buchanan</b>	Quantitative data analysis using SPSS 2
27 September	Qualitative research analysis <b>Dr Fiona Hutton</b>	Qualitative analysis 1
4 October	Special topic: Interviewing victims of state crime <b>Dr Elizabeth Stanley</b>	Qualitative analysis 2
11 October	Historical and comparative research <b>Professor John Pratt</b>	No Tutorial
18 October	Course summary; exam revision <b>Dr Russil Durrant</b>	Historical and comparative research

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Describe and critically evaluate different methodological approaches used in criminological research
2. Critically evaluate the nature of criminal justice statistics
3. Describe the important social and ethical issues relating to research in criminology
4. Employ quantitative and qualitative research methods to investigate criminological phenomena

## Teaching format

This course comprises twelve 2 hour lectures and nine 1 hour tutorials.

Attendance as tutorials is mandatory. In order to meet the mandatory requirements for this course you must attend at least 7 out of 9 tutorials.

## Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Submit Assignments 1, 2, & 3
2. Submit the research proposal
3. Sit the final exam
4. Attend at least 7 out of 9 tutorials

## Workload

The total student work load for the course will be approximately 200 hours. This includes:

- Attendance at lectures and tutorials: 33 hours
- Reading, work on assignments, exam study: 167 hours

## Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Assignment 1: Tutorial report (1,000 words)	10	2,4	August 7, 4pm
2	Assignment 2: Tutorial report (1,000 words)	10	4	September 25, 4pm
3	Assignment 3: Tutorial report (1,000 words)	10	4	October 9, 4pm
4	Research proposal (2,000 words)	30	1,3	September 18, and/or October 16*, 4pm
5	Exam (3 hours)	40	1,2,3,4	25 October to 16 November

\*Students are only required to submit ONE research proposal for this course, but they may submit up to TWO DIFFERENT research proposals for this course, with the best mark counting towards their final grade. The first intake of research proposals is due by September 18 and the second intake of proposals is due by October 16.

Further information about each assessment item, including marking criteria, will be provided in the first week of trimester two.

## Submission and return of work

All written work should be placed in the essay box on level 9 of the Murphy Building by 4pm on the due date, or sent to the Institute of Criminology (Victoria University of Wellington, PO Box 600, Wellington 6140) by courier or registered mail postmarked no later than 4pm on the due date. Marked assignments will be available for collection between **2.00 and 4.00 pm** from Monday to Friday at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk.

## Penalties

The coursework must be handed in by the **due date**. You are expected to keep to this deadline, as otherwise it is unfair to other students. Extensions will be granted only in exceptional circumstances, and should be sought from Russil Durrant **prior to the deadline**. Late submissions of work without permission will be penalised by the following deductions:

One grade (i.e. 5 marks) = period up to 24 hours past due date.

Two grades (i.e. 10 marks) = period more than 24 hours up to 72 hours past due date.

**Work that is handed more than 72 hours late without permission will not be accepted and will therefore receive no marks.**

## Practicum/placement/field trip/internship arrangements

Not applicable to this course.

## Set texts

There is no set text for this course. Readings will be provided to students through Blackboard from the first week of trimester 2.

## Recommended reading

A list of recommended reading will be provided to students via Blackboard in the first week of trimester 2.

## Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

## Student feedback

CRIM 326 is a new course, offered for the first time in 2013. As such, no feedback is currently available for this course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)

## **School Contact Information**

Head of School: Dr Allison Kirkman, MY1013

Tel: 463 5676 E-m: [allison.kirkman@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:allison.kirkman@vuw.ac.nz)

International Student Liaison: Dr Hal Levine MY1023

Tel: 463 6132 E-m: [hal.levine@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:hal.levine@vuw.ac.nz)

Maori and Pacific Student Liaison: Dr Trevor Bradley, MY1101

Tel: 463 5432 E-m: [trevor.bradley@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:trevor.bradley@vuw.ac.nz)

Students with Disabilities Liaison: Dr Russil Durrant, MY1120

Tel: 463 9980 E-m: [russil.durrant@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:russil.durrant@vuw.ac.nz)

School Manager: La'Chelle Pretorius, MY918

Tel: 463 6546 E-m: [lachelle.pretorius@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:lachelle.pretorius@vuw.ac.nz)

School Administrators: Suzanne Weaver, Alison Melling, MY921,

Tel: 463 5317; 463 5258; 463 5677

E-m: [sacs@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:sacs@vuw.ac.nz)

School of Social and Cultural Studies: [www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs/](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs/)