

CRIM3020: Crime, Power and the State

Nu Space

Semester 1 - 2024



OVERVIEW

Course Description This course applies criminological theories to analyses of contemporary crime and deviance. It equips students with an understanding of the intersection of knowledge, discourse, power, and forms of state governance. Topics may include risk society, governmentality, class and gender theories, and how aspects of globalisation and science have transformed the nation-state's engagement with crime, deviance and security. The course provides the opportunity for students to integrate and consolidate knowledge and skills learned throughout the criminology and combined degrees and the criminology major. This enables students to articulate a clear analysis of crime, criminality, and victimisation as influenced through institutional power.

Skills Focus Structural and writing skills
Writing to a lay audience
Critical thinking

Assumed Knowledge CRIM1010 or CRIM1020, plus 20 CRIM or SOCA coded units at 2000 level

Contact Hours
Nu Space
Lecture
Online
1 hour(s) per Week for 12 Weeks starting Week 1

Tutorial
Face-to-face on campus Nu Space
1 hour(s) per Week for 11 Weeks starting Week 2

Unit Weighting 10
Workload Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Dr Justin Ellis Justin.Ellis@newcastle.edu.au (02) 4921 5682 Consultation: I am available by email or phone, and by consultation in person. Please email me for an appointment.
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	Newcastle School of Law and Justice 5th Floor Nu Space 409 Hunter Street Newcastle Law-School@newcastle.edu.au +61 2 4921 8666

SYLLABUS

Course Content	The course will include discussion of crime and power across the following dynamic areas: gender; race; class; youth crime and deviance; financial and corporate crime; violent crime; terrorism; criminal victimisation; policing and crime prevention; the influence of the media.
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Apply criminological theory to analyses of power and crime.2. Articulate a clear analysis of crime, criminality, and victimisation as influenced by institutional power.3. Evaluate the impact of crime on people of varying gender, race, class, and social economic status.4. Demonstrate critical thinking skills through explaining the connection between state power and definitions of crime and deviance.5. Produce written knowledge for public dissemination on criminal justice issues.
Course Materials	Required Text: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- McKinnon, Catriona, Jubb, Robert, Tomlin, Patrick (2019), Issues in Political Theory (4th edition), Oxford University Press, Oxford (eBook available)

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Introduction: Crime, Power and the State	<p>McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Introduction in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 1-5.</p> <p>McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 1: Political Obligation in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 6-24.</p> <p>Lee, M, Ellis, J, Keel, C, Jackson, J, Wickes, R (2022), When Law-and-Order Politics Fail, British Journal of Criminology, 62(5), 1270–1288.</p>	No assessments due this week.
2	4 Mar	Liberty, Crime and Punishment	<p>McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 2: Liberty, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 25-47.</p> <p>McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 3: Crime and Punishment in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 48-69.</p> <p>For tutorial discussion: Taking Invisible Crimes and Social Harms Seriously in Invisible Crimes and Social Harms, edited by P. Davies, P. Francis, and T Wyatt (2014). Palgrave Macmillan, UK: pp. 1-25.</p>	No assessments due this week.
3	11 Mar	Democracy and power	<p>McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 4: Democracy, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 70-90.</p> <p>McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 5: Power in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 91-111.</p>	No assessments due this week.
4	18 Mar	Equality and Social Justice	<p>McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 6: Equality and Social Justice, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 112-131.</p> <p>For tutorial discussion: Bacchi, C. (2012). Introducing the 'What's the Problem Represented to be?' approach. <i>In</i> Engaging with Carol Bacchi: Strategic</p>	Quiz 1 (Chap. 1-4) opens 9am Monday and closes 11:59pm Friday.

			Interventions and Exchanges (pp. 21–24). The University of Adelaide Press.	
5	25 Mar	Toleration	McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 7: Toleration, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 132-153. Ellis J.R. (2021) Sexual Citizenship, Community Policing and ‘Conflicted Intimacy’. In: Policing Legitimacy. Springer, Cham. pp. 103-120	Essay due by 11:59pm Friday.
6	1 Apr	Multiculturalism	McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 8: Multiculturalism, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 154-175.	
7	8 Apr	Gender	McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 9: Gender, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 176-198.	Quiz 2 (Chap 5-9) opens 9am Monday and closes 11:59pm Friday.
Mid-Term Break				
Mid-Term Break				
8	29 Apr	Global Poverty	McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 10: Global Poverty, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 199-219.	No assessments due this week.
9	6 May	Human Rights	McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 11: Human Rights, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 220-240.	Parliamentary submission due by 11:59pm Friday.
10	13 May	Sovereignty and Borders	McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 12: Sovereignty and Borders, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 241-262.	No assessments due this week.
11	20 May	War and Intervention	McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 13: War and Intervention, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP; pp. 263-283.	Presentations due 11:59pm Friday
12	27 May	The Environment	McKinnon, C, Jubb, R, Tomlin, P (2019). Chapter 14: The Environment, in Issues in Political Theory, OUP	Quiz 3 (Chap 10-14) opens 9am Monday and closes 11:59pm Friday.
13	3 June	Conclusion of course		
Examination Period				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1a	Essay (40%)	11:59pm Friday (Week 5).	Individual	40%	1, 2, 3, 4
1b	Parliamentary submission (30%)	11:59 Friday (Week 9)	Individual	30%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
2	Presentation (15%)	11:59pm Friday (Week 11)	Individual	15%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
3	Canvas quizzes x 3 (15%)	Quiz 1 (Chap. 1-4) opens Week 4 Monday 9am and closes Friday 11:59pm. Quiz 2 (Chap 5-9) opens Week 7 Monday 9am and closes Friday 11:59pm. Quiz 3 (Chap 10-14) opens Week 12 9am and closes Friday 11:59pm.	Individual	15% 5% for each quiz	1, 2

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

You are entitled to apply for special consideration if adverse circumstances have had an impact on your performance in an assessment item. This includes applying for an extension of time to complete an assessment item. Prior to applying, you must refer to the Adverse Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure, available at <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>. If you require an extension, please lodge an application for adverse circumstances the online Adverse Circumstances system, along with supporting documentation. Please make adverse circumstances applications well before the submission deadline. No resubmissions are permitted.

Assessment 1a - Essay (40%)

Assessment Type Purpose

Essay

The purpose of this assessment is for students to write an essay that demonstrates a critical analysis of the power dynamics between the state, civilians and other stakeholders in defining and responding to harm(s).

Description

1. Select a major theme from the textbook (E.g. gender, toleration, multiculturalism, liberty) and identify a current criminal justice problem in Australia (e.g. domestic violence, bias-motivated conduct, domestic extremism, Indigenous incarceration rates, environmental degradation, offshore detention of asylum seekers). Narrow your focus through offence/type of harm, jurisdiction, time-period, demographics and any other relevant criteria.

2. Write an essay that critically analyses how your chosen criminal justice problem is impacted by the power dynamics between the state, civilians, and other stakeholders (e.g., advocates, NGOs, peak bodies, lobby groups, corporations). For example, how do government, victim and NGO responses differ in solving the problem of domestic violence, or bias-motivated conduct, or domestic extremism? How do differing perspectives on responsibility impact responses to criminal justice problems?

3. Apply relevant theory from the textbook and other sources to explain the positions of the stakeholders in relation to the problem. Prioritise primary sources such as legislation, parliamentary debates (Hansard), parliamentary inquiries and submissions to parliamentary

inquiries. Familiarising yourself with these sources will prepare you for working in a range of research and policy contexts (including the research required in assessment 1b and assessment 2).

Weighting
Length
Due Date
Submission Method

NB: The two written assessments (1a and 1b) are interrelated, so you will need to read the purpose, description, and criteria for both assessments before you commence the essay.
40%

1000 words (10% leeway on word count)

11:59pm Friday (Week 5)

Online

The essay must be submitted electronically through Turnitin (located in Canvas in the CRIM3020 'Assignments' section as a .doc or .docx file (NOT pdf. or Pages).

Please ensure that you keep a back-up copy of your report. You should always keep at least one electronic copy of your work on a memory stick or a cloud-service (e.g. Dropbox). Ensure that you continuously update your essay when you work on it. Please also ensure that you have uploaded your file correctly. The School of Law and Justice takes no responsibility for lost work.

Please also include a coversheet, which should include: your name; student number; the essay question you are addressing; due date (plus details of any formal extension provided; word count (including subheadings and in-text citations and excluding references).

Ensure that you have received a submission receipt from TurnItIn confirming successful submission.

No resubmissions are permitted.

Assessment Criteria

High-quality submissions will include consistent application of the following criteria...

1. Appropriate essay structure to systematically respond to the essay prompt and objectives
2. Sophisticated arguments that demonstrate exceptional knowledge and understanding of the chosen criminal justice problem and how it is impacted by the power dynamics between the state, civilians, and other stakeholders
3. Effective research methodologies appropriate to the task, and demonstrated integration of the sources selected into a coherent argument including at minimum TEN (10) references (which can include the textbook, but which must also include sources that contain empirical evidence)
4. Higher-order critical thinking about the power dynamics between the state, civilians, and other stakeholders in defining and responding to harm(s)
5. Articulate, well-structured and concise written expression with minimal grammar, punctuation, spelling, and syntactical errors, and effective citation and referencing processes

Return Method
Feedback Provided

Online

Online - Returned Work - 3 working weeks post-submission. Online via TurnItIn.

IMPORTANT WRITTEN ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU READ THE 'CRIMINOLOGY WRITING GUIDE' IN THE 'MODULE' SECTION OF CANVAS AND FOLLOW THE ADVICE CLOSELY.

Assessment 1b – Submission to a parliamentary inquiry (30%)

Assessment Type
Purpose

Report

For students to compose a submission to a parliamentary inquiry applying their knowledge of the criminal justice issue explored in Assessment 1a. Students will demonstrate their capacity to translate their knowledge of criminal justice issues and influence a range of audiences.

Description

As an independent researcher in criminology, you are required to compose a submission to a parliamentary inquiry about your chosen criminal justice issue (the issue explored in Assessment 1a).

You are required to source and select a 'Terms of Reference' on a parliamentary inquiry (active or closed) and respond to this in your submission.

You can find example Terms of Reference on parliamentary inquiry websites and parliamentary committee websites (see links below as a guide).

We will also discuss terms of reference in detail in the lectures and tutorials. In your response to a parliamentary inquiry, you should aim to explore the following:

Key issues - Identify the key problems or issues that need to be addressed.

Evidence - Refer to relevant research, laws, policies or findings. The committee wants to be informed by expert opinion (for this assessment that will include the need to use in-text citations and a full reference list).

Case Studies - Include an example/s of how individuals, communities or organisations are affected by the issue. The committee wants to know about the human side of a policy and its effects.

Recommendations - Try to identify possible solutions. The committee wants to know what can be done to address a problem.

Upper House Committees- NSW Parliament
<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/Documents/Committeebrochures/Guide%20to%20writing%20submissions.pdf>

Sources to support you to write a submission to a parliamentary inquiry:

Purpose and format of a submission to a parliamentary inquiry:
https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Making_a_submission

Structure and Guidelines for writing a submission to a Parliamentary Inquiry-

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/Documents/Committeebrochures/Guide%20to%20writing%20submissions.pdf>

An example of the end-to-end process of a parliamentary submission. Includes set-up, terms of reference, submissions including recommendations.
<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2562>

IMPORTANT WRITTEN ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU READ THE 'CRIMINOLOGY WRITING GUIDE' IN THE 'MODULE' SECTION OF CANVAS AND FOLLOW THE ADVICE CLOSELY.

REFERENCES: To ensure that you are developing your research skills within Criminology you will need to draw on academic sources in addition to the textbook for this assessment. As a guide you are expected to include at minimum TEN (10) references for this assessment, which can include the textbook.

REFERENCING: Harvard referencing (author/date and page number/s if direct quoting) is standard for all criminology assessments. Lecture notes are not to be cited in written assessments. The majority of your references must be peer-reviewed academic sources; that is, books and peer reviewed journal articles and other reliable sources such as the Australian Institute of Criminology. If you are unsure if a source is suitable for inclusion, contact your course co-ordinator. Please take this advice very seriously: it is very likely you will receive a very poor mark if these basic requirements are not followed.

General Guides, Pathways and Learning Support, Referencing Guides and Research Support Guides: <https://libguides.newcastle.edu.au/>

Weighting 30%
Length 800 words (10% leeway on word count)
Due Date 11:59pm Friday (Week 9)

Submission Method	Online The submission must be made electronically through Turnitin (located in Canvas in the CRIM3010 'Assignments' section as a .doc or .docx file (NOT pdf. or Pages). Please ensure that you keep a back-up copy of your report. You should always keep at least one electronic copy of your work on a memory stick or a cloud-service. Ensure that you continuously update your essay when you work on it. Please also ensure that you have uploaded your file correctly. The School of Law and Justice takes no responsibility for lost work. Please also include a coversheet, which should include: your name; student number; the topic you are addressing; due date (plus details of any formal extension provided; word count (including subheadings and in-text citations and excluding references). Ensure that you have received a submission receipt from Turnitin confirming successful submission. No resubmissions are permitted.
Assessment Criteria	High-quality submissions will include consistent application of the following criteria. <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Appropriate structure to systematically respond to the terms of reference exploring a relevant and clearly define criminal justice issue.2. Sophisticated arguments that demonstrate exceptional knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice issue and terms of reference.3. Effective research methodologies appropriate to the objectives of a submission to a parliamentary inquiry and demonstrated integration of the sources selected.4. Higher-order critical thinking about the implications of the criminal justice issue linked to the terms of reference.5. Articulate, well-structured and concise written expression with minimal grammar, punctuation, spelling, and syntactical errors, and effective citation and referencing processes
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Returned Work - 3 working weeks post-submission. Online via Turn It In..

Assessment 2 – Presentation (15%)

Assessment Type	Presentation
Purpose	For students to develop and record a video submission to a parliamentary inquiry applying their knowledge of the criminal justice issue in Assessment 1b. Students will demonstrate their capacity to translate their knowledge of criminal justice issues and influence a range of audiences.
Description	Presenting skills have taken on renewed significance with the spread of audio-visual links within criminal justice agencies and the spread of generative AI, which has demanded that students, professionals and criminal justice experts verbally defend their arguments. Knowledge translation to varied audiences is also a useful communication skill. In this video submission to a parliamentary inquiry, students will record a 5 minute-presentation based on their written submission to a parliamentary inquiry.
Weighting	15%
Length	5 minutes
Due Date	11:59pm Friday (Week 11)
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Appropriate structure to systematically respond verbally to a terms of reference exploring a relevant and clearly define criminal justice issue.2. Sophisticated, well delivered arguments that demonstrate exceptional knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice issue and terms of reference.3. Higher-order critical thinking about the implications of the criminal justice issue linked to the terms of reference4. Well-structured and concise verbal expression5. Effective presentation skills.
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online via Canvas

Assessment 3 – Canvas quizzes x 3 (15% - 5% for each quiz)

Assessment Type	Quiz
Description	There will be THREE (3) quizzes, each comprising 10 questions. The quizzes will open at 9am on the Monday of the week and close 11:59pm on the Friday. During this period, you will be able to log on and complete each quiz in a one-hour time-frame. You can attempt each quiz a maximum of twice, and the highest score across your attempts will be recorded. The questions from each quiz come from the textbook, and each quiz comes from a random selection of database questions. No student will have the same quiz as another.
Weighting	15%
Due Date	Quiz 1 (Chap. 1-4) opens Week 4 Monday 9am and closes Friday 11:59pm. Quiz 2 (Chap 5-9) opens Week 7 Monday 9am and closes Friday 11:59pm. Quiz 3 (Chap 10-14) opens Week 12 9am and closes Friday 11:59pm.
Submission Method	Online
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	No Feedback.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Assessment Moderation

To ensure that grades are fair both within and between courses and cohorts, Newcastle Law School has a rigorous policy of moderating and reviewing assessment. The School Assessment Board (SAB) reviews all final grades before they are released to students, and the SAB process may result in the overall marks of a class being moved up or down by a specific amount, thus impacting individual marks. This is consistent with grading practices in other Law Schools across the country and important to ensure the integrity of assessment. This means that the final grade you are awarded may not be the sum of marks you have received in all assessments.

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas course site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or

announcements on the Canvas course site.

- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.
- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face-to-face meetings or supervision.

Communication with the Course Coordinator

Course Coordinators offer office hours each week, in a mix of both in-person and virtual meetings throughout the semester. Students should use these office hours to ask questions about course content and assessment. Questions about content and assessment should not be emailed to the Course Coordinator. Email is reserved for time sensitive communications, which does not include questions about course content.

Please also read your course outline and course announcements before contacting your Course Coordinator, as if the information is already available to you, you will be redirected back to the source.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

Adverse Circumstances

As per the University of Newcastle's 'Adverse Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure', adverse circumstances do not apply to any assessment item worth less than 30%. Please do not apply for AC for assignments worth less than 30% of the course grade, as your request will be rejected. You are entitled to apply for special consideration because adverse circumstances have had an impact on your performance in a major assessment item (worth 30% or more of the final grade). This includes applying for an extension of time to complete an assessment item. Prior to applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure, available at <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>. All applications for Adverse Circumstances must be lodged via the online Adverse Circumstances system, along with supporting documentation.

Reasonable Adjustment Plans

Accommodations in Reasonable Adjustment Plans are not automatically applied to assessment items. Students should contact the Course Coordinator during posted in-person or virtual office hours, or via email, to request implementation of a specific accommodation(s) in a Reasonable Adjustment Plan. This is to ensure that instructors can collaborate with students to meet their learning needs and so that the most appropriate adjustments are applied. Please do not send your RAPs at the beginning of semesters, only forward them to Course Coordinators for the purpose of specific requests for one assignment. RAPs will not be applied across all assessments for any course; each request will be assessed on a merit basis, and having a RAP does not guarantee an accommodation will be granted.

Please note, extensions for quizzes will not be granted – the quizzes should take around 25-30 minutes to complete. You have been given 60 minutes, therefore the requirement for additional time has already been built into the assessment design.

Important Policy Information

The 'HELP for Students' tab in UoN Online contains important information that all students should be familiar with, including various systems, policies and procedures.

Wellness Contacts

There are a variety of pressures on law students, and being able to perform well academically under pressure, without excessive stress will contribute to enhanced outcomes in wellbeing and academic results. Reach out to support services and learn ways to maintain your mental health, deal with stress and common issues like perfectionism, procrastination and anxiety.

To access UON support:

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/support/personal>

Ph: 4921 6622 or email: counselling@newcastle.edu.au

For support outside of office hours call the University Crisis Support Line on 1300 653 007 or for chat sms 0488 884 165.

For immediate support contact Lifeline 24/7 on 13 14 11 or <https://www.lifeline.org.au/>

This course outline was approved by the Dean of the School of Law and Justice. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without the Dean's approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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