



EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2004
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A: Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL** Effective Date: **SEPTEMBER 2004**

B: Department / **CRIMINOLOGY** Revision New Course
Program Area: **FACULTY OF HUMANITIES &**
SOCIAL SCIENCES If Revision, Section(s) **C, G, H, M, N, O,**
Revised:

Subject & Course No	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
F:	Calendar Description: This is an introductory course in concepts and techniques basic to research in Criminology. It will include principles which guide the researchu	

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Explain the research enterprise.
2. Discuss the concepts relating to theory, variables and causality.
3. Identify and analyse sampling techniques.
4. Identify and analyse questionnaires.
5. Identify and analyse interview techniques.
6. Conduct general qualitative research methods.
7. Explain the measurement and presentation of variables.
8. Review ethical issues.

N: Course Content:

1. Qualitative Research Methods
 - Definition
 - Types of observation
 - Ethnomethodology
 - Field notes
2. Ethical Concerns in Research
3. Theory, Variables and Causality in Research
4. Experimental Research Design
 - Classical experimental design
 - Matching
5. Sampling Techniques
 - Functions
 - Probability and non-probability sampling
6. Data Collection Strategies
 - Questionnaire function, types, administration and construction
 - Interview function, types, administration and construction
7. Measurement of Variables
 - Operationalization
 - Levels of measurement
 - Types of scaling procedures
8. Statistics
 - Definitions
 - Functions
9. Central Tendency and Dispersion

O: Methods of Instruction:

The course will employ a variety of instructional methods to accomplish its objectives, including some of the following: primarily lectures and may use audio-visual material, guest lectures, seminars, discussions and assignments to cover the material.

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:

Texts will be updated periodically. A typical example is:

Champion, Dean. (2000). Research Methods for Criminal Justice and Criminology. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Q: Means of Assessment:

Evaluation will be based on course objectives and carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. The instructor will provide a written course outline with specific evaluation criteria at the beginning of the semester. Evaluation will be based on some of the following:

1. Exams, quizzes
2. Research project/ term paper

An example of one possible evaluation scheme would be:

Midterm Exam 1	35%
Midterm Exam 2	35%
Research Paper	20%
Final Quiz	<u>10%</u>