



EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2004
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A: Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL**

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:

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

The primary objective of this course is to familiarize students with psychologically-based theoretical explanations of criminal behaviour. Students will learn to critically evaluate and assess psychological theories of crime. Students will be able to explain from different psychological theoretical approaches how criminal behaviour is acquired and maintained. Finally, students will learn how to critically evaluate and assess empirical research of criminal behaviour.

N: Course Content:

1. Introduction and Overview
 - Definitions
 - Free Will vs. Determination
 - Self-Report Studies
 - Limitations
2. Theory
 - Psychoanalytic/Psychodynamic Theory
 - Behaviourism
 - Kohlberg/Erikson
 - Social Cognitive Theory
 - Eysenck's Theory of Personality and Crime
3. Biological Factors
 - Anthropometry
 - Quantitative Genetics
4. Psychopathy
 - Why Include a Personality Disorder?
 - Current Explanations of Psychopathy and Criminal Behaviour
 - Etiology of Psychopathy
 - Role of the Family
 - Neuro-Physiological Concepts
5. Mentally Disordered Offender
 - Criminal Responsibility
 - Specific Disorders and Their Relationship to Criminal Offending
6. Violence/Homicide
 - Defining Violence
 - Theoretical Perspectives
 - Physiology
 - Environmental Factors
 - Family Violence
 - Personality
 - Correlate
 - Multicide (Mass, Spree, and Serial)
7. Sexual Offences
 - Fetishism and Relationship to Crime
 - Exhibitionism and Voyeurism
 - Pedophilia
 - Sexual Assault

R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

Under review.