

COURSE OUTLINE

Division: Corrections and Community Justice

Program: Adult Probation Officer

Course Code: CORR902

Course Title: Justice Issues in Aboriginal Communities

Course Effective Date: June, 2005

Previous course code & title: N/A

Required or Elective? Elective **Credits:** 1.5

Total Course Hours (face-to-face/Online): 21 **Lab Hours (if any):** N/A **Practicum Hours (if any):** N/A

Delivery methods:

Face-to-face (Yes/No) (Yes)

Distance (Yes/No) (Yes-Online)

Prerequisites: N/A

Equivalent Course(s) within the JI: Similar to COPO110: Overview of Aboriginal Justice Issues

Brief Description:

This 21-hour course is offered part time through online distance study over a designated number of weeks. It is also available on a 3-day face-to-face basis for contracted groups or organizations.

Within the criminal justice system, Aboriginal people represent a disproportionate number of offenders on a per capita basis. While our criminal justice system is adversarial in nature, the concept of justice for many Aboriginal cultures is to promote the healing of relationship, balance and restitution.

This course presents an overview of Aboriginal justice issues, explores the impact of historical assimilation and oppression, and examines the contemporary issues facing Aboriginal people in the criminal justice system. Your perceptions and experience in these areas will be explored through discussion groups in the course.

Participants will also be invited to provide a critical analysis of how Aboriginal people have been let down by the current justice system and to dialogue about what changes are needed to promote more effective working relationships with Aboriginal communities.

This course is suitable to individuals, groups and organizations who work with Aboriginal clients and communities, or for persons who are of Aboriginal heritage.

Evaluation Profile: Pass/Fail

Passing Grade (if applicable): Pass (must pass each evaluation method)

Evaluation Methods and Percentage of Total Grade:

- Online: three (3) assignments (P/F)
- Face-to-Face: Competency-based evaluation (P/F)

Learning Outcomes / Goals:

N/A

Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, the participant will be able to:

- Reassess current attitudes, assumptions and beliefs about Aboriginal people and leadership in Aboriginal communities.
- Identify common terminology often used to refer to Aboriginal people.
- Examine the cultural diversity of Aboriginal people in your province.
- Describe and discuss how historical injustice has negatively impacted Aboriginal people.
- Explore examples of Aboriginal justice in contrast to the Canadian justice system.
- Describe how what you have learned or discovered on this course will impact or change the relationships you form with Aboriginal persons.

Course Topics/Content:

1. COURSE OVERVIEW
2. MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT ABORIGINAL PEOPLE
3. WHO ARE THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF CANADA?
 - 3.1. First Nations
 - 3.2. Metis and Inuit
 - 3.3. Aboriginal
 - 3.4. Indian
 - 3.5. Status and non-status
 - 3.6. Treaty and non-treaty
 - 3.7. Band council vs. hereditary system
4. A PROFILE OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLE IN B.C.
5. HISTORICAL INJUSTICES AND THE IMPACT OF ASSIMILATION
 - 5.1. Indian Act
 - 5.2. Illegalization of ceremonies
 - 5.3. Residential schools
 - 5.4. Child welfare system
6. EXPLORING ABORIGINAL JUSTICE
 - 6.1. Alternative sentencing
 - 6.2. Healing circles and circle sentencing
 - 6.3. The role of elders
7. CONCLUSION

Text and Resource Materials:

Required:

- *Study Guide*
- The Aboriginal Peoples of British Columbia: A Profile
- Tribal Councils in British Columbia
- Historical Injustice and the Impact of Assimilation, *Kerry McKenzie*
- Circle Sentencing/Alternative Sentencing, *Judge Cunliffe Barnett*



- The Historical Relationship Between the Canadian Justice System and Aboriginal People, *Associate Chief Judge Murray Sinclair*.

Recommended:

N/A

Comments and Course Policies:

This course is delivered **online** and **face-to-face**.

In order to receive a Pass in this course, students must complete **all** required evaluative components.