

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE (BCJ)

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula)

Definitions

BCJ 1 In these Regulations, and in the Syllabuses for the degree of Bachelor of Criminal Justice, unless the context otherwise requires -

‘Course’ means a course of instruction which normally carries 6 credits or in some cases 3 credits or multiples of 3, leading to one examination paper defined in the syllabus;

‘Workshop’ means one full-day devoted to work or study on selected topics which normally carries 1 credit. Performance is normally assessed by attendance and participation rather than by examination;

‘Paper’ means one or more of the following tests: a theoretical examination paper, a practical examination paper, an assessment paper as defined in the syllabus;

‘Credits’ means the weight assigned to each course relative to the total study load. The number of credits is indicative of the contact hours and/or study time associated with the course on a weekly basis;

‘Prerequisite’ means a course which candidates must have completed successfully before being permitted to take the course in question.

‘Semester Grade Point Average’ or ‘Semester GPA’ is the combined grade average of all courses attempted by a candidate (including failed courses) during a given semester, where each course is given a weight, normally equal to its credit-unit value.

‘Cumulative Grade Point Average’ or ‘Cumulative GPA’ is the combined grade average of all courses completed successfully by a candidate (failed courses are excluded) at the time of calculation, where each course is given a weight, normally equal to its credit-unit value.

‘Weighted Grade Point Average’ or ‘Weighted GPA’ is the combined grade average of all courses taken by a candidate weighted by the level of courses as determined by the Board of the Faculty.

Admission requirements

BCJ 2 To be eligible for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Criminal Justice, candidates shall:

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
 - (b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula;
 - (c) have at least 2 years of working experience in the field of criminal justice; and
 - (d) satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required; and
 - (e) complete the curriculum in accordance with the regulations that follow.
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BCJ 3 Candidates who does not have at least 2 years working experience in the field of criminal justice may be permitted to register in the curriculum if they demonstrate adequate preparation for studies and satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination.

Qualifying examination

BCJ 4

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test candidates’ formal academic ability or their ability to follow the courses of study prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent.
- (b) Candidates who are required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until they have satisfied the examiners in the examination.

Advanced standing

BCJ 5 Candidates for admission may be granted exemption of up to 60 credits, in recognition of studies completed elsewhere, as specified in the syllabuses. The candidates so exempted may be required to take the replacement credits in place of the exempted credits.

Length of curriculum

BCJ 6 The curriculum for the degree of Bachelor of Criminal Justice shall normally extend over 4 years consisting of 8 semesters of part-time study or 12 semesters including the summer semesters. Candidates shall not in any case be permitted to complete the curriculum in more than 6 years, which is the maximum period of registration.

Completion of curriculum

BCJ 7 To complete the curriculum of the Bachelor of Criminal Justice, candidates shall, unless otherwise required or permitted under the Regulations,

- (a) enrol in not less than 180 and not more than 198 credits;
 - (b) complete the required number of courses and workshops prescribed in the basic-level syllabus (38 credits);
 - (c) complete all required intermediate-level and advanced-level courses and workshops (not less than 130 credits); and
 - (d) complete and present a satisfactory dissertation (12 credits) on a subject within their approved field of study.
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Dissertation

BCJ 8 All students are required to complete and present a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words. The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval by a date prescribed in the syllabus in the year preceding the final year of study, and the dissertation shall be presented by a date prescribed in the syllabus. Candidates shall submit a statement that the dissertation represents their own work undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree.

Assessment

BCJ 9 At the end of each semester, candidates are assessed for each of the courses for which they are registered. The assessment may take one or a combination of forms prescribed in the syllabus and shall normally include the candidates' coursework during the semester. Only the satisfactorily completed courses will earn credits.

Grades

BCJ 10 Candidates performance in the course shall be assessed with the grading system as prescribed in UG 5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

Failure to satisfy examiners

BCJ 11 Candidates who fail in any course may, as directed by the Board of Examiners, be permitted to present themselves for re-assessment with or without repeating the failed course. The Board of Examiners shall decide the timing and the form(s) of re-assessment. Candidates shall not be allowed to repeat a course for which they have achieved a passed grade for upgrading purposes, nor shall they be permitted to repeat a course more than once. The failed grade will be recorded in the official transcripts. The new grade obtained after re-assessment will also be recorded and will replace the previous F grade in the calculation of the weighted grade point average. As failed courses shall not be credited towards a degree, failed compulsory courses must be re-assessed.

BCJ 12 Candidates who have failed to present a satisfactory dissertation may be permitted to submit a new or revised dissertation within a specified period.

Absence from examination

BCJ 13 Candidates who are unable because of their illness to be present for any written examinations may apply for permission to present themselves for a supplementary examination to be held before the beginning of the first semester of the following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of the first day of absence from any examination. Candidates who fail to satisfy the examiners in one or more papers in such a supplementary examination shall be considered under the provisions made in these Regulations for failure at the first attempt at the examination, except that a further supplementary examination shall not be permitted.

Eligibility for the award of the degree

BCJ 14 At the end of each semester, candidates' performance shall be assessed for the purposes of determining:

- (a) their eligibility for progression to an award of the degree;
 - (b) their eligibility for the award; or
 - (c) whether they be required to be discontinued from the programme.
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BCJ 15 Candidates shall be permitted to progress if they have:

- (a) not exceeded the maximum period of registration;
- (b) accumulated not less than 38 credits and attained a GPA of 1.50 or above over the first academic year of study; and
- (c) attained an overall GPA of 1.50 or above at end of each subsequent academic year of study.

Those candidates who have not been able to fulfil the requirements above shall be recommended for discontinuation from the programme under General Regulation G 12.

BCJ 16 To be eligible for the award of the degree BCJ, candidates shall have:

- (a) achieved a weighted GPA of 1.00 or above;
- (b) accumulated a minimum of 180 credits;
- (c) completed the curriculum in accordance with the regulations and syllabuses; and
- (d) complied with the General Regulations and the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

Examination results

BCJ 17 A list shall be published of candidates successful in the examinations for each semester. A list of candidates who have successfully completed all degree requirements shall be published in five divisions: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours Division One, Second Class Honours Division Two, Third Class Honours, and Pass.

SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

GENERAL FEATURES

1. Aims and Objective of the Programme

The bachelor degree is designed for students who wish to obtain a professional qualification in the field of criminal justice. The degree programme aims to provide both a practical and academic grounding in the core knowledge and skills required for service in modern criminal justice systems while providing scope for specialisation in policing, corrections or criminology. The degree caters for both the experienced criminal justice practitioner and those seeking a career in this or related fields. For practitioners it offers the benefit of tertiary level training and an opportunity to develop a broader knowledge of the core disciplines in criminal justice. It also prepares students for entry-level criminal justice careers or postgraduate work by providing a comprehensive understanding of the social, legal, and scientific aspects of the administration of justice.

The specific objectives of the programme are six fold: First, it provides students with a locally developed curriculum that is directly relevant to local and regional crime and justice issues and practices. Second, it informs students of the latest research and developments in criminal justice. Third, it equips students with analytical skills and independent self-learning capability that are essential for life-long learning. Fourth, it enables students to examine critically problems and controversies in the administration of criminal justice in Hong Kong and the region. Fifth, it assists students in developing the knowledge, values and skills necessary for quality and ethical service in the criminal justice system. Sixth, it provides students with a stimulating and challenging learning environment that enhances communication, presentation, problem solving and teamwork skills.

2. Credit Exemptions

- A. The amount of advanced credits to be granted shall be determined by the Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences as follows:
 - I. On a case-by-case basis, candidates may apply to be granted:
 - (i) up to 24 advanced credits if they hold a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Order Studies awarded by the University of Leicester in conjunction with School of Professional and Continuing Education; or
 - (ii) up to 60 advanced credits if they hold a M.A. in Public Order Studies or a M.Sc. in Public Order Studies awarded by the University of Leicester in conjunction with the School of Professional and Continuing Education.

- II. Candidates who are granted advanced credits may be required to complete a certain specified number of basic-level courses before they will be allowed to enrol in intermediate-level or advanced-level courses.
 - III. Advanced credits granted shall not normally be included in the calculation of the cumulative GPA, but, if so decided by the Board of Faculty, may be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.
- B. Candidates holding a Higher Diploma in Criminal Justice awarded by the School of Professional Continuing Education are eligible:
- (i) for exemption of 38 advanced credits (all basic-level courses and workshops) and admission to the intermediate-level curriculum of the Bachelor of Criminal Justice on the condition that they fulfill the Bachelor of Criminal Justice admission requirements.
 - (ii) Advanced credits granted shall not normally be included in the calculation of the cumulative GPA, but, if so decided by the Board of Faculty, may be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.

3. Exemption from courses

Candidates for admission who hold a Diploma in Criminal Justice, (formerly entitled Certificate in Criminal Justice) awarded on or before 2000 by the School of Professional and Continuing Education may be exempted from doing four basic-level criminal justice courses on the grounds that equivalent subjects have been passed in the Diploma in Criminal Justice. The exempted basic-level courses are as follows:

- Crime and criminals
- Introduction to criminal justice
- Law enforcement
- Perspectives on crime

Candidates are required to earn an equivalent number of course credits by satisfactorily completing intermediate-level courses in this programme totalling 24 credits. These courses may include general studies courses and optional criminal justice courses listed in the syllabuses for this programme.

4. Curriculum Requirements

Regulations BCJ 1 to BCJ 8 specify the requirements with which candidates have to comply for completion of the Bachelor of Criminal Justice degree programme. Further details of the requirements are given in the syllabuses.

A. Basic-Level

In their first year of study candidates should take all the 38 credits of basic-level courses which include the successful completion of the language studies courses prescribed in Regulation UG 3 'Requirements for Graduation' of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula. Candidates who are non-Chinese speaking or have no knowledge of the language, may be exempted from attending the Chinese language enhancement course and permitted to substitute 3-credit intermediate-level general studies course for it. Candidates must complete the basic-level curriculum in accordance with Regulations BCJ 7 and BCJ 15 before proceeding to enrol in intermediate-level courses.

Candidates should take the following basic-level courses:

Language Studies courses

CRJU1001. Professional English communication skills (3 credits)

CRJU1002. Chinese language enhancement (3 credits)

Criminal Justice courses

CRJU1003. Crime and criminals (6 credits)

CRJU1004. Introduction to criminal justice (6 credits)

CRJU1005. Law enforcement (6 credits)

CRJU1006. Perspectives on crime (6 credits)

CRJU1007. Research methods in criminal justice (6 credits)

and two Criminal Justice Workshops (2 credits)

B. Intermediate-Level

Candidates should select not less than 90 nor more than 102 credits of intermediate-level courses which include the successful completion of the general studies courses prescribed in Regulation UG 3 'Requirements for Graduation' of the Regulations of First Degree Curricula. For the fulfilment of Regulation UG 3, candidates shall also obtain a pass in an information technology proficiency test, or successfully complete a 3-credit course in information technology.

Candidates should take the following intermediate-level courses:

General Studies Courses

CRJU2001. Social sciences foundation (3 credits)

CRJU2002. Introduction to information technology (3 credits)

CRJU2003. Science, technology and society (3 credits)

General Studies elective courses (9 – 15 credits)

Criminal Justice courses

CRJU2004. Corrections (6 credits)

CRJU2005. Courts and the judicial process (6 credits)

CRJU2006. Criminal behaviour (6 credits)

CRJU2007. Criminal law (6 credits)

CRJU2008. Introduction to forensic science (6 credits)

CRJU2009. Juvenile justice (6 credits)

Criminal Justice elective courses (30 – 36 credits)

and six Criminal Justice Workshops (6 credits)

C. Advanced-Level

Candidates should take not less than 36 nor more than 42 credits of the advanced-level courses in addition to the 4 Criminal Justice Workshops (4 credits) and a 12-credit dissertation.

5. Coursework and Examination Ratio

Each 3-credit and 6-credit course leads to one written examination paper which will be one or two hours in length respectively. The final grading of each course will be determined by examination performance and coursework assessment in the ratio of 60:40, unless otherwise specified, and the workshops are assessed on coursework only. Results will be determined by the Board of Examiners, the teachers responsible for the course, and the External Examiner.

The examination and assessments of courses carrying weightings other than 3 and 6 credits are detailed in the syllabuses.

6. Criminal Justice Workshops

Candidates are required to attend and participate in the specified number of criminal justice workshops. The workshops are designed to actively involve students in acquiring firsthand knowledge of the latest developments and concerns in criminal justice. Workshops will run for total of 6 hours (3 hours in the morning and 3 hours in the afternoon). The total number of hours involved in the workshops will run from 12 to 14 hours which includes preparation for the workshops and follow-up work. Candidates are required to write a final report on what was accomplished in the workshop. Candidates are assessed on the basis of performance in the workshop and an assessment of written work.

7. Dissertation

Candidates are required to complete and present a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words. The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval by a date prescribed in the syllabus in the year preceding the final year of study, and the dissertation shall be presented by a date prescribed in the syllabus; candidates shall submit a statement that the dissertation represents their own work undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree. The dissertation must provide evidence of original work or a capacity for critical analysis.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Basic-Level Courses

CRJU1001. Professional English communication skills (3 credits)

A course designed to provide an English skills component to help students understand and use spoken and written English. Topics include: how to access, abstract, analyse, organise and summarise information; how to ask questions and negotiate meanings; how to make effective grammatical and lexical choices; how to write reports and assignment essays. Students will be asked to undertake a certain amount of reading and produce some written work on subjects closely related to lecture topics.

CRJU1002. Chinese language enhancement (3 credits)

A course designed to help students to improve their use of written Chinese in an academic setting. Students will be asked to undertake a certain amount of reading and produce written work on subject closely related to lecture topics.

CRJU1003. Crime and criminals (6 credits)

An overview of specific types of crimes and offenders including violent crime, property crime, white collar crime, public order offences, professional crime, political crime, and organised crime. Emphasis is placed on the research findings and the development of typologies of crime and criminals.

CRJU1004. Introduction to criminal justice (6 credits)

Survey of the administration of criminal justice including the structural components of the criminal justice system and the stages of the justice process from the detection of crime and arrest through prosecution, adjudication, sentencing and correctional outcome. Emphasis is placed on the analysis of practices and procedures within the context of the Hong Kong criminal justice system.

CRJU1005. Law enforcement (6 credits)

A survey of law enforcement which includes an examination of the functions and responsibilities of the police; police discretion and accountability; historical development of the police as an institution in modern society, models and styles of police behaviour.

CRJU1006. Perspectives on crime (6 credits)

An introduction to major historical and contemporary theories of crime and deviance. This will include consideration of classical and positivist theories of crime, biological and psychological factors, social structural and social process theories, Marxist explanations of criminal behaviour and the emergence of neo-classic theories of crime.

CRJU1007. Research methods in criminal justice (6 credits)

An introduction to research methods in criminal justice and criminology with reference to both pure and applied research. The course is designed to provide the basic conceptual tools for understanding and interpreting criminal justice research, as well as designing, conducting and evaluating research projects.

Intermediate-Level Courses**CRJU2001. Social Sciences foundation (3 credits)**

A course designed to provide a broad exposure to the various social science disciplines, focusing the interrelations that exist between the various disciplines and the unique contribution that each makes to our understanding of human behaviour and the larger society.

CRJU2002. Introduction to information technology (3 credits)

This course introduces students to information technology, its uses and applications. Topics include: basic computing concepts, practical experience in using computer applications, and appreciation of how computers can be used to solve problems and facilitate routine tasks.

CRJU2003. Science, technology and society (3 credits)

An interdisciplinary course which examines the interrelationships that exist between modern science, technology, and society. Topics include the relationship between technology and social change, contemporary discoveries, dilemmas and debates with emphasis on controversial scientific issues, media representations of science and technology and the relations of science and technology to structures of power.

CRJU2004. Corrections (6 credits)

History, development and functions of correctional institutions including prisons; the impact of incarceration on inmates; the interactional structure of the prison environment; different modes of correctional intervention; and sentencing policies and their relationship to correctional objectives.

CRJU2005. Courts and the judicial process (6 credits)

A critical investigation of the criminal judicial process from setting bail through sentencing. The course covers such topics as the role of courts, court structure, and procedural law governing judicial processing.

CRJU2006. Criminal behaviour (6 credits)

An examination of the psychology of criminal conduct and the social psychological explanations of individual and group offending.

CRJU2007. Criminal law (6 credits)

A study of the principles, doctrines and rules of criminal law in Hong Kong; the sources of substantive criminal law and historical development of common law principles responsibility; comparisons with alternative legal traditions will be made.

CRJU2008. Introduction to forensic science (6 credits)

An introduction to crime scene investigation and such topics as recognition, identification, individualisation and evaluation of physical evidence.

CRJU2009. Juvenile justice (6 credits)

A survey of theoretical approaches to juvenile delinquency; the history, development and functions of the juvenile justice system; the legal rights of accused juveniles; methods and models of rehabilitating juvenile offenders; and the prevention of delinquency.

Intermediate-Level General Studies Elective Courses**CRJU2010. Elementary statistical methods (3 credits)**

This course provides students with basic foundation in statistics so that they can collect data properly, present data meaningfully, and interpret data and draw conclusions. Topics include: collection and compilation of data (including official statistics, sample surveys, sampling designs) and analysis and presentation of data including measurement scales and presenting data using tables and graphs.

CRJU2011. Gender and equal opportunity (3 credits)

This course aims to increase students' awareness, knowledge and understanding of the key concepts and debates about gender and equal opportunity. Topics include: gender socialisation, patriarchy, sexual harassment, and equal opportunity.

CRJU2012. Introduction of human resource management (6 credits)

A course designed to give students an introduction to recruitment, selection, management development and training including performance evaluation, career development and management, and management compensation and benefits.

CRJU2013. Introduction to music of the world (6 credits)

This course introduces a range of music from throughout the world and discusses issues raised by cross-cultural research. Topics include: Western music, Asian music, and tribal music.

CRJU2014. Introduction to politics and public administration (6 credits)

A course designed to introduce the fundamental concepts of political science, focusing on the relationship between public administration and politics.

CRJU2015. Introduction to psychology (6 credits)

A course designed to give an introduction to the study of human behaviour in social contexts. Topics include social perception, cognition, motivation and attitudes. Key concepts that are used in the analysis of cultures, social structures, social processes and social change will be introduced.

And any other course approved by the Academic Committee

Intermediate-Level Criminal Justice Elective Courses**CRJU2016. Comparative police systems (6 credits)**

An exploration of different approaches to policing in selected societies includes such topics as the historical development of the police, colonial policing and different perspectives on the problem of crime.

CRJU2017. Computer crime (6 credits)

An overview of the legal issues and investigative procedures forensic computing special use to control computer based crime.

CRJU2018. Corruption and its control (6 credits)

An examination of corrupt practices in modern economies with particular reference to Hong Kong and the region. Special attention is given to methods of control and strategies that have been used in Hong Kong other parts of the world.

CRJU2019. Crime prevention (6 credits)

An investigation of the prevention of crime utilising changes in both the physical and social environments.

CRJU2020. Crime and punishment (6 credits)

A survey of theories of punishment which examines the social and historical context of punishment as well as its evolution in society. Students will be introduced to contemporary debates on penal policy and corrections within the criminal justice system.

CRJU2021. Drugs and crime (6 credits)

A survey of the history, pharmacology, health effects, and crime-related aspects of drug abuse. This includes the effects on criminal behaviour, the legal response to drug abuse, and the treatment and prevention of drug abuse.

CRJU2022. Family violence (6 credits)

Introduction to the study of family violence issues. Includes such topics as typology and history of family abuse, issues in domestic violence, treatment approaches, and public policy issues.

CRJU2023. Introduction to security (6 credits)

An overview of major topics pertaining to private security operations. These include the historical development of private security, the role of private security in society, and current practices and standards.

CRJU2024. Organized crime (6 credits)

An overview of the types of individuals and organizations involved in organize crime, the type of activities conducted, historical and political forces which facilitate organized crime, and official responses to this type of crime.

CRJU2025. Police problems and practices (6 credits)

An analysis of traditional and contemporary issues and problems in law enforcement. Topics include corruption; police use of deadly force; and the utilisation of law enforcement to combat corporate crime, computer crime and terrorism.

CRJU2026. Investigative interviewing (6 credits)

The general principles, legal context and methods of interviewing victims, witnesses and suspects. Topics include memory recall, vulnerable witness, deception, suggestibility and confessions.

CRJU2027. Women and the law (6 credits)

An examination of women in their legal roles as wives, mothers, workers, criminals and victims. Emphasis is placed on the study of female delinquency and crime, and how the criminal justice system responds to female offenders.

CRJU2028. Victimology (6 credits)

An examination of the role of victims in crime, the treatment of victims in the criminal justice system, the decision to report crime and to prosecute offenders, and victim assistance and compensation.

And any other course approved by the Academic Committee

Advanced-Level Courses**CRJU3001. Corrections: working with offenders (6 credits)**

An examination of various treatment methods employed in the rehabilitation of offender including prison programmes, probation, parole, and community based programmes for adults and juveniles.

CRJU3002. Behavioural analysis and risk management (6 credits)

The course examines the role of actuarial (victim and offender databases) and clinical risk assessment in the investigation of crime. It critically explores the role of 'profiling' in the tasking and targeting of law enforcement resources and reviews the techniques applied to both the investigation of serial offenders and the identification of high risk offenders.

CRJU3003. Criminal justice and individual rights (6 credits)

An examination of the full range of rights in criminal justice, not only in terms of broad philosophical and social issues but also in relation to specific instances. These include the rights of the accused, witness, victims, convicts, and the average citizen.

CRJU3004. Criminal justice policy and planning (6 credits)

An examination of the problems confronting the Hong Kong criminal justice system in the areas of criminal law, law enforcement, courts and corrections. This includes the effects of community pressure groups, legislation and political power on policy development. Models and other alternatives for reforming the criminal justice process will be discussed, such as programme planning, development and management.

CRJU3005. Criminal justice research seminar (6 credits)

Discussion and evaluation of problems in the contemporary criminal justice system. Emphasis is placed on individual research and presentation of findings.

CRJU3006. Problems in policing (6 credits)

Current problems, concerns, issues and legislation affecting policing as they relate to and are of interest to students and the instructor.

CRJU3007. Selected issues in criminal justice (6 credits)

A variable content course exploring issues of special concern in criminal justice. The course provides an opportunity to study in depth areas that are of interest to staff and students.

CRJU3008. Seminar in corrections (6 credits)

Current problems, concerns, issues and legislation affecting corrections as they relate to and are of interest to students and the instructor.

CRJU3009. Seminar in forensic science (6 credits)

An examination and evaluation of current issues in the field of law enforcement science with an aim to improve understanding how various forms of physical evidence can be utilised as an investigation tool.

CRJU3010. Security management seminar (6 credits)

Current problems, concerns, issues and legislation affecting the private security industry as they relate to and are of interest to students and the instructor.

CRJU3011. Dissertation (12 credits)

Candidates are required to complete and present a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words. The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval in June, proceeding the final year of study, and the dissertation shall be presented by a date specified by the academic committee. Candidates shall submit a statement that the dissertation represents their own work undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree. The dissertation must provide evidence of original work or a capacity for critical analysis. Candidates are required to submit their dissertation at the end of their last semester of studies.

And any other course approved by the Academic Committee

All Levels**CRJU4000. Criminal justice workshops (12 credits)**

Candidates are required to attend and participate in two workshops in their basic-level studies, six workshops in their intermediate-level studies and four workshops in their advanced-level studies. Each workshop will carry one credit. Candidates are required to write a final report on what was accomplished in each workshop. Candidates are assessed on the basis of performance in each workshop and an assessment of written work.