

| COURSE OUTLINE  |  |                     |
|---|--|---------------------|
| <b>TERM: Fall 2026</b>                                | <b>COURSE NO: CRIM 470</b>             |                     |
| <b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>                                    | <b>COURSE TITLE: Domestic Homicide</b> |                     |
| <b>OFFICE: LOCAL:</b><br><b>E-MAIL: @capilanou.ca</b> | <b>SECTION NO(S):</b>                  | <b>CREDITS: 3.0</b> |
| <b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>                                  |  |                     |
| <b>COURSE WEBSITE:</b>                                |  |                     |

Capilano University is named after Chief Joe Capilano (1854–1910), an important leader of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nation of the Coast Salish Peoples. We respectfully acknowledge that our campuses are located on the unceded territories of the səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh), shíshálh (Sechelt), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.

### COURSE FORMAT

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

### COURSE PREREQUISITES

CRIM 370

### CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course examines high-risk, nearly lethal, and lethal forms of domestic violence with a focus on causes, patterns, risk factors, prevention and intervention strategies, and structural and systemic barriers to safety. Through the application of critical and intersectional lenses, students explore how gender, race, Indigeneity, legal status, class, sexuality, and ability impact victimization, perpetration, and access to justice in cases of domestic homicide. A key component is case-based domestic homicide reviews that mirror the processes and procedures of real life domestic violence death review committees, which are guided by the principle: *we speak for the dead to protect the living*.

### REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES\*

Cross, P. (2024). *And sometimes they kill you: Confronting the epidemic of intimate partner violence*. Between the Lines.

Dawson, M. (2017). *Domestic homicides and death reviews: An international perspective*. Springer.

Jaffe, P., Scott, K., and Straatman, A-L. (2020). *Preventing domestic homicide: Lessons learned from tragedies*. Elsevier.

\*Sample texts

## COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

**On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:**

- Critically evaluate the causes, patterns, and risk factors associated with high-risk, nearly lethal, and lethal forms of domestic violence, including intimate partner homicide, familicide, and child homicide.
- Analyse domestic homicide cases through structured death review processes, demonstrating the ability to identify systemic failures, risk factors, barriers to safety, and potential points of intervention.
- Apply critical and intersectional frameworks to examine how factors such as gender, Indigeneity, race, immigration status, class, sexuality, disability, and location shape experiences of domestic homicide and access to justice and safety.
- Assess the roles and limitations of existing legal, institutional, and community-based responses in preventing domestic homicides, particularly among marginalized and underserved populations.
- Propose evidence-informed, equity-oriented strategies for the prevention of domestic homicide, grounded in case analysis, trauma-informed approaches, and principles of social justice.

## COURSE CONTENT

| Week  | Topic  |
|-------|--|
| 1     | Introduction to domestic homicide: Considerations for research and practice  |
| 2     | Risk factors and barriers to safety: High risk, nearly lethal, and lethal domestic violence  |
| 3     | Domestic violence death reviews: Theory, ethics, and practice  |
| 4     | Intimate partner homicide and femicide   |
| 5     | Multiple domestic killings: Homicide-suicide, familicide, familicide-suicide, and lovers' triangle killings                        |
| 6     | Children killed in the context of domestic violence  |
| 7     | Keeping it in the family: Parricide, patricide, matricide, fratricide, and sororicide  |
| 8     | Women who kill: Violent resistance, mercy killings, infanticide, and Post-Partum Psychosis and Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy deaths |
| 9     | Indigenous communities, settler colonialism, and barriers to safety  |
| 10    | Culture doesn't kill, but system failures do: Domestic homicide in immigrant and refugee communities                               |
| 11    | Domestic homicides in rural, remote, and northern Canada   |
| 12    | 2SLGBTQQA+ communities and domestic homicide   |
| 13    | Lessons learned from tragedies: Preventing domestic homicide   |
| 14-15 | <b>Final Exam Period</b>   |

**EVALUATION PROFILE**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Analytic writing assignments, case studies, reflections, and/or presentations (5-30% per) | 90% |
| Participation and/or attendance   | 10% |
| <b>TOTAL: 100%</b>  |     |

\*Participation includes class discussions and dialogue, note taking, completion of readings, and/or co-created criteria during first week of class.

**GRADING PROFILE**

|             |            |            |           |
|-------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| A+ = 90-100 | B+ = 77-79 | C+ = 67-69 | D = 50-59 |
| A = 85-89   | B = 73-76  | C = 63-66  | F = 0-49  |
| A- = 80-84  | B- = 70-72 | C- = 60-62 |           |

**Incomplete Grades**

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

**Late Assignments**

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date listed. If you anticipate handing in an assignment late, please consult with your instructor beforehand.

**Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.**

Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises. Some missed labs or other activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor.

\*\*\* Accommodations can be made to honour community needs and traditional practices.

**Attendance**

Students are expected to attend all classes and associated activities.

**English Usage**

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

**Electronic Devices**

Students may use electronic devices during class for note taking only.

**On-line Communication**

Outside of the classroom, instructors will (if necessary) communicate with students using either their official Capilano University email or eLearn; please check both regularly. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

## UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS

### Tools for Success

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <https://www.capilanou.ca/student-services/>

**Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Safe Alert App](#)**

### Policy Statement (S2009-06)

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

### Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information:

<https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

**Academic dishonesty** is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

**Cheating:** Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

**Fraud:** Creation or use of falsified documents.

**Misuse or misrepresentation of sources:** Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

**Plagiarism:** Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

**Self-Plagiarism:** Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

**Prohibited Conduct:** The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

### **Sexual Violence and Misconduct**

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence Procedure (found on Policy page

<https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>)

**Emergencies:** Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.