



Faculty of Social & Community Services

## Field Placement Project Library

This resource is part of a Project Library built to provide hours in lieu of attending placement. Each project will engage you in self-directed work that will enable you to meet course and program learning outcomes connected to your current field placement course. If you select this project, please let your Seminar Instructor know.

### Project Title: Impact COVID-19 on the Criminal Justice System in Ontario

Course Name: CJS 210 - Field Practicum Seminar 1 or CJS 260 Field Practicum Seminar II

Number of Hours: 35 hours

**Project Abstract:** The COVID-19 virus has influenced the daily procedures in organizations, institutions and agencies around Ontario (and the world). Short-term measures have been exercised to ensure the safety of all parties and the long-term impact is still being evaluated. The Ontario court system will face long-term effects (Loriggio, Casey, & Canadian Press, 2020).

References:

Loriggio, Paola, et al. "COVID-19 Measures Could Have Lasting Impact on Ontario Courts: Experts." *National Post*, 13 Mar. 2020, [nationalpost.com/pmn/news-pmn/canada-news-pmn/schlatter-trial-continues-amid-new-covid-19-measures-halting-upcoming-jury-trials](https://nationalpost.com/pmn/news-pmn/canada-news-pmn/schlatter-trial-continues-amid-new-covid-19-measures-halting-upcoming-jury-trials).

**Instructions:**

You will examine the current climate in the Ontario Courts and the impact of the COVID-19 virus. You will develop your essay to outline the current precautions and also examine the future consequences to the judicial system.

Your essay will consider and reflect on the following:

1. What changes or measures have the Ontario Courts implemented thus far as a result of the COVID-19 virus?
2. How have these measures (noted in Question 1) affected the work flow and procedures in the courts?
3. How will key participants of the courts be affected by the changes implemented? (Lawyers, Accused, Victims, Court Staff etc)
4. In Ontario, generally court trials are expected to be completed in 18 months of charges being laid (may be extended to 30 months) however, with the changes implemented, accused individuals may experience

additional delays. Any delays beyond these timeframes are "presumptively unreasonable" and violate the accused's charter right to be tried within a reasonable time. If so, would COVID-19 be considered "presumptively unreasonable" or not and would this affect trial dates and how? Explain your answer using case-law and additional sources to support your answer.

Additional Instructions:

Your paper will address the above questions/items. Your essay should follow a formal essay structure with an introduction, body and conclusion. You are expected to reference all materials and sources used within your essay. Your paper should be **no more than 4 pages length** (not including references), double spaces, size 10-12 size font.

**This project connects to the following learning outcomes:**

LO # 3 Identify and consider how individual biases, triggers, social location, experience and values may impact interactions or contribute to oppression with respect to race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, political belief, religion, immigration status and mental or physical disability

LO # 8 Demonstrate an awareness and ability to employ security techniques used by Agency to protect the public, and provide a safe and secure work environment for staff and a safe and secure institutional., residential or community setting for clients

LO# 9 Demonstrate an awareness and ability to apply major helping systems such as the mental health system, the social assistance system and community information systems to help clients achieve their goals

**Project Deliverable:** A short paper that outlined the questions listed above.

**Project Submission Instructions:** The project will be submitted on Blackboard in the form of one document. Therefore, all the components of the assignment will be saved in the form of one document and submitted online.

Assignment Rubric

Grading	SAT		UNSAT/INC	
Criteria/Scale	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Needs Improvement	Inadequate
Resources/ Appendices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well documented</li> <li>Research clearly exhibited</li> <li>Accurate information collected</li> <li>Easily read</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearly documented</li> <li>Some effort noted in completed research</li> <li>Correct information (missing some information)</li> <li>Fairly well organized</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is some level of documentation however, some ambiguities exist</li> <li>Difficult to understand</li> <li>Incorrect information presented</li> <li>Poorly organized</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was not apparent organization to the paper</li> <li>Difficult to follow</li> <li>No format</li> </ul>
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Document is logically organized</li> <li>Easily followed</li> <li>Structured and organized</li> <li>Effective, smooth, and logical transitions</li> <li>Professional format</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paper has a clear organizational structure with some digressions, ambiguities or irrelevances</li> <li>Easily followed</li> <li>Basic transitions</li> <li>Structured format</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is some level of organization though digressions, ambiguities, irrelevances are too many</li> <li>Difficult to follow</li> <li>Ineffective transitions</li> <li>Rambling format</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no apparent organization to the paper.</li> <li>Difficult to follow</li> <li>No or poor transitions</li> <li>No format</li> </ul>
Grammar/ Mechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manipulates complex sentences for effect/impact</li> <li>No punctuation or mechanical errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses complex sentences</li> <li>Few punctuation or mechanical errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses compound sentences</li> <li>Too many punctuation and/or mechanical errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses simple sentences</li> </ul>
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vocabulary is sophisticated and correct as are sentences which vary in structure and length</li> <li>Uses and manipulates subject specific vocabulary for effect</li> <li>Writer's tone is clear, consistent and appropriate for intended audience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vocabulary is varied, specific and appropriate</li> <li>Frequently uses subject specific vocabulary correctly</li> <li>Writer's tone emerges and is generally appropriate to audience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vocabulary is used properly though sentences may be simple</li> <li>Infrequently uses subject specific vocabulary correctly</li> <li>Writer's tone exhibits some level of audience sensitivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vocabulary is unsophisticated, not used properly in very simple sentences.</li> <li>Uses subject specific vocabulary too sparingly</li> </ul>
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central idea is well developed and clarity of purpose is exhibited throughout the paper</li> <li>Abundance of evidence of critical, careful thought and analysis and/or insight</li> <li>Evidence and examples are vivid and specific, while focus remains tight.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central idea and clarity of purpose are generally evident throughout the essay</li> <li>Evidence of critical, careful thought and analysis and/or insight</li> <li>There are good, relevant supporting examples and evidence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The central idea is expressed though it may be vague or too broad;</li> <li>Some sense of purpose is maintained throughout the essay</li> <li>Some evidence of critical careful thought and analysis and/or insight</li> <li>There are some examples and evidence though general</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central idea and clarity of purpose are absent or incompletely expressed and maintained</li> <li>Little or no evidence of critical, careful thought analysis and/or insight</li> <li>There are too few, no examples and evidence or they are mostly irrelevant</li> </ul>