

Masters paper in Restorative Justice

“Critical Issues in Restorative Justice”

**This 15 point paper will be offered in the second semester 2008
in a block course over 3 weekends between July and September**

The focus of this paper is the ongoing development of restorative justice within an international context. A conceptual and theoretical base is provided so that restorative justice can be critically analysed. This analysis is contextualised within emerging international debates on contemporary issues confronting restorative justice. Students will have the opportunity to focus on a particular area of interest as they critique and analyse the challenges of applying restorative justice in both criminal and non criminal settings.

Content will include:

- Emerging national and international themes in restorative justice, the debates they initiate and New Zealand's place in an international context
- Definitions of restorative justice and the implications for retributive justice
- Issues in relation to: principles and concepts, stakeholders, government and systems, practitioners, practice, social justice, indigenous and religious perspectives
- Ethical issues in restorative justice
- The challenges of applying restorative justice processes in criminal and non criminal settings (gendered violence, medical and health related issues, schools, business and investment issues)

This paper brings practitioners together from a range of backgrounds to engage in experiential learning and theory so that practice skills can be enhanced. It provides a forum for learning, sharing of best practice and establishing networks.

Assessment process:

- Oral presentation
- Two written assignments (the first approx 1500 words and the second approx 3,000 words)

For further information contact:

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