

INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Course Syllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Overview of the American criminal justice process with emphasis upon its constitutional foundations (police, courts, and corrections), its constitutional limits, ethical issues, and the right of the individual from arrest through sentencing to release.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

In this course students will become acquainted with the criminal justice system in the United States. They will examine how the United States has dealt with the problem of criminal behavior over time. The impact of immigration and varying ethnic concerns about the definition of crime and criminality will be introduced to students. The course will use a traditional textbook which can be supplemented with e-mails, web-based materials, and CD-ROM abstracts which contain updated information on criminal justice issues.

COURSE GOALS:

The goals of the course are to:

- ! Increase the students' knowledge and end mythical beliefs concerning the American Criminal Justice System and its development.
- ! Increase the students' understanding of how crime affects the victim, offender, community, and society as a whole.
- ! The impact of immigration and varying ethnic concerns about criminality will be discussed.
- ! The War on Drugs and the need to deal with Terrorism in the world will be introduced to students.
- ! Citizen accountability towards participation in the criminal justice system and war on crime.
- ! This course contributes to general education by increasing the students' ability to:
 - Goal 1: Write and speak effectively
 - Goal 2: Acquire, process, and present quantitative and qualitative information using the most appropriate technologies including computers
 - Goal 3: Reason critically, both individually and collaboratively, draw sound conclusion from information, ideas, and interpretations gathered from various sources and disciplines and apply those conclusion to one's live and society
 - Goal 10: Understand the development of cultures and organizations of human societies throughout the world and their changing interrelationship with Western Society
 - Goal 11: Evaluate the impact of theories, events, and institutions of the social, economic, legal and political aspects of society
 - Goal 12: Comprehend and appreciate the development of diversity in America in all its forms

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The learning outcomes listed below are for this course and are universal in the state:

1. Describe the contributions of each of the components of the criminal justice system (police, courts, and corrections) to the administration of the justice system (including the juvenile justice system).

2. Explain the origin and evolution to the criminal justice system and how it has led to its current form.
3. Identify the major theories of criminal behavior and victimization.
4. Outline the process of a case as it progresses through the criminal justice system, commencing with the offense and culminating with the release from a disposition.
5. Trace the path of both the offender and the victim through the criminal justice system.
6. Define restorative justice and identify its role in serving the needs of participants in the criminal justice process.
7. Identify the mission, roles and strategies of policing.
8. Compare and contrast the differences between community-based and institutional corrections.
9. Discuss the competing rationales and justifications for sanctions.
10. Recognize and explain the impact of diversity in the system and on all those involved in the system.
11. Identify and discuss ethical issues in criminal justice.
12. Identify the different types of crime and their extent in society.
13. Identify emerging trends and technologies in the criminal justice system.
14. Explore the many different career paths in criminal justice.
15. Understand the basic concepts related to the elements of criminal law and procedure.
16. Identify and discuss various types of courts and court systems (e.g. juvenile, civil, etc.)

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Schmallegger, Frank J. (2015). Criminal Justice: A Brief Introduction. 11th Edition. ISBN-13:978-0133591316, ISBN 10: 013359131X, Paperback. 576 pages.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance will be taken and is required. After 3 un-excused absences, your final grade will be reduced by one letter grade.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

3 EXAMS

(100 points each)

The exams will consist of both objective questions and short essay questions. The exams will cover lecture materials, reading materials (both text books), films, presentations, and all other materials presented in class.

MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN AS LONG AS THE STUDENT PROVIDES DOCUMENTED MATERIAL/PROOF FOR THE FOLLOWING EXCUSES: death in immediate family, hospitalization of self or immediate family member, personal illness.

3 SUMMARY PAPERS

(50 points each)

STEP 1 (Obtain an Article):

You must read an article in the local paper which deals with the criminal justice system. The first paper should focus on a criminal court case. The second paper should deal with the police (policies, arrests, hires, training, etc.). The third paper should focus on the correctional system; again, this paper may focus on policies, development of new facilities, hires, training, etc. If you are not able to find an article on a local issue, you may then look on-line at news articles in the state of Ohio.

STEP 2 (Write a One-Half Page Summary):

- Each paper must be properly cited and referenced according to **Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, (APA)**.
- papers must be typed, double-spaced
- the margins must be 1" top/bottom/left/right
- you must use a standard font (Courier/Times New Roman size 12 pt.) DO NOT use a "larger" font in order to take up more space
- The required length of the summary paper is ½ page.
- The assignment must be turned into the instructor in person unless other arrangements are made with the professor beforehand, no later than the beginning of class on the due date
- REMEMBER, THIS IS A SUMMARY PAPER, NOT AN OPINION PAPER. MAKE SURE YOU WRITE IT IN THE 3RD PERSON

READING ASSIGNMENTS and DISCUSSION TOPICS:

WEEK 1	Chapter 1	What is Criminal Justice? Crime in the Last Half Century American Criminal Justice: The System American Criminal Justice: The Process Due Process and Individual Rights Criminal Justice and Criminology Multiculturalism and Diversity in Criminal Justice
WEEK 2	Chapter 2	Understanding Crime and Victimization Theories of Crime Causation: Why They Do It Choice Theory Biological Theories Psychological Theories Sociological Theories Social Structure Theories Social Process Theories Control Theories Conflict Theory Integrated Theories Theories of Female Criminality Theories of Victimization
Week 3	Chapter 3	The Crime Picture The Uniform Crime Reports The National Crime Victimization Survey Comparisons of the UCR and NCVS Special Categories of Crime
Week 4	Chapter 4	Criminal Law The Nature and Purpose of Law The Rule of Law

Types of Law
 General Categories of Crime
 General Features of Crime
 Elements of Specific Criminal Offense
 Types of Defenses to a Criminal Charge

Week 5	Chapter 5	Police Organization and Management Development of Professional Policing in the United States Federal Law Enforcement Agencies State-Level Agencies Local Agencies Police Administration Police Departments as Learning Organizations Discretion and the Individual Officer
Week 6	Chapter 6	Policing: Legal Aspects The Abuse of Police Power Individual Rights Search and Seizure Arrest The Intelligence Function
Week 7	Chapter 7	Issues in Policing Police Personality and Culture Corruption and Integrity The Dangers of Police Work Police Civil Liability Racial Profiling Police Use of Force Professionalism and Ethics Private Protective Services
Week 8	Chapter 8	The Courts American Court History Pretrial Activities
Week 9	Chapter 9	The Courtroom Work Group and the Criminal Trial The Courtroom Work Group: Professional Courtroom Actors Outsiders: Nonprofessional Courtroom Participants The Criminal Trial Improving the Adjudication Process
Week 10	Chapter 10	Sentencing The Philosophy and Goals of Criminal Sentencing Indeterminate Sentencing Structured Sentencing Truth in Sentencing Federal Sentencing Guidelines Innovations in Sentencing

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sentencing Environment The Victim - Forgotten No Longer Traditional Sentencing Options
Week 11	Chapter 11	Corrections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is Probation? What is Parole? Probation and Parole: The Pluses and Minuses The Legal Environment The Federal Probation System The Job of Probation and Parole Officers Intermediate Sanctions The Future of Probation and Parole
Week 12	Chapter 12	Prisons and Jails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prisons Today Jails Private Prisons
Week 13	Chapter 13	Prison Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Male Inmate's World The Female Inmate's World The Staff World Prison Riots Prisoner's Rights Issues Facing Prisons Today
WEEK 14	Chapter 14	Returning to Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History of Prison Release Early Release Today Time Off for Good Behavior: "Good Time" Bad Time Parole Parole Board Parole Hearings Parole Guidelines Suing the Parole Board Parole Rules Parole Supervision Returning to Prison: The Effectiveness of Parole Legal Issues in Parole Revocation Making It on the Outside Losing Rights
WEEK 15	Chapter 15	Juvenile Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History of the Juvenile Justice System Juvenile Court Jurisdiction

Police Processing of the Juvenile Offender
The Pretrial Stage of Juvenile Justice
The Waiver of Jurisdiction
The Juvenile Trial
Disposition and Treatment
Institutionalization
Postdisposition: The Rights to Treatment
History of Capital Punishment and Juveniles

GRADING:

Grades will be computed based on a point system. There are 450 points possible in this course.

A = 450 - 414 (92% - 100%)

B = 413 - 360 (80% - 89%)

C = 359 - 315 (70% - 89%)

D = 314 - 270 (60% - 69%)

Academic Honesty is expected!

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