

AJ 011: INTRO TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Proposer:

Name:	Email:
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Effective Term:

Fall 2024

Credit Status:

Credit - Degree Applicable

Subject:

AJ - Administration of Justice

Course Number:

011

Discipline:

And/Or	(Discipline)
		Administration of Justice (Police science, corrections, law enforcement)	

Catalog Title

Introduction to Criminal Justice

Catalog Description

Introduction to Criminal Justice offers an overview of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement, the courts, corrections, and the historical development and evolution of each. Students will examine crime causation theories and the structure, function, and decision-making processes of the criminal justice system from the perspective of the accused, the police, the courts, corrections, and victims.

Method of Instruction:

Distance Education
Lecture and/or Discussion

Course Units/Hours:

Course Units Minimum:

3

Lecture Hours Minimum (week)

3

Lab Hours Minimum (week)

0

Activity Hours Minimum (week)

0

Total Contact Hours Minimum (semester)

52.5

Total Outside Hours Minimum (semester)

105

Total Student Learning Minimum Hours (semester)

157.5

Repeatability:

No

Open Entry/Exit:

No

Field Trips:

Not Required

Grade Mode:

Standard Letter

TOP Code:

210500 - * Administration of Justice

SAM Code:

D - Possibly Occupational

Course Content

Methods of Assessment:

- Essay quizzes or exams
- Multiple choice tests
- Oral presentations
- Problem solving assignments or activities
- Problem solving quizzes or exams
- Short answer quizzes or exams
- Written essays or extended papers

Course Topics:

Course Topics	
1	Historical Roots, including contributions made by women and men of various ethnic and cultural groups
2	Crime in America (The Criminal Justice System, Criminal Law)
3	Policing (Legal Aspects, Organization)
4	Adjudication (The Courts, Courtroom Participants, Sentencing)
5	Corrections Punishment vs. Rehabilitation, Prisons and Jails, Prison Life
6	Societal calls for reform including from historically disenfranchised groups, various ethnic and minority communities

Course Objectives:

Course Objectives	
1	Provide a brief history of crime and the criminal justice system in America.
2	Critically analyze and discuss issues of crime and justice from varying cultural, ethnic, and Western/non-Western societal perspectives.
3	Identify and describe special issues in the criminal justice system involving juvenile delinquency, drugs, and their future development.
4	Demonstrate an understanding of the history, structure, and function of the police.
5	Understand the history, development, and structure, and function of American police, courts, and corrections.
6	Explain the methods, theories, and concepts associated with the sources of crime data, the emerging patterns of criminal activity, and the costs of crime.
7	Demonstrate an understanding of criminological theories used to explain crime and criminality and the social implications of crime on society.
8	Understand the extent of the crime problem in America and future implications utilizing the social, technological, economic, environmental, and political (STEEP) analysis
9	Explain the definitions of crime.

10	Effectively follow the appropriate writing style practiced in the social sciences.
11	Demonstrate the ability to raise critically relevant questions, including social justice issues and calls for reform, based on independent reading of criminal justice literature and course lectures.
12	Utilize conclusions from scholarly research, course lectures, and dialogue, in creating informed positions on controversial issues in criminal justice.
13	Show an understanding of corrections including the roles of probation, parole, and community corrections; as well as the functions of prisons and jails.
14	Convey an understanding of the process of adjudication and the social implications on society and historically disenfranchised communities.
15	Explain how multiculturalism and diversity present special challenges to, and opportunities for, the American system of criminal justice.
16	Explain the meaning of due process, and identify where due process guarantees can be found in the American legal system.
17	Describe the process of American criminal justice, including the stages of case processing.
18	Explain the structure of the American criminal justice system in terms of its major components and the functions they serve.

Course Outcomes:

Course Outcomes	
1	Students will be able to describe the history, objectives and functions of the criminal justice system in America.
2	Students will be able to differentiate between and explain the role of each of the three branches of the criminal justice system.
3	Students will be able to create informed positions on controversial justice issues and explain balancing the need to protect individual rights and the need for public order through the administration of justice.
4	Students will be able to discuss theories of crime and compare the effectiveness of various social responses to crime and criminals.

Assignments:

Assignment Type:	Details
Reading	Each week students will read an assigned chapter in the textbook and United States Supreme Court cases that are mentioned in the chapter. Their thinking about the issue involved in the case will be informed by their reading and they will ultimately write a paper analyzing the case arguments and decision.
Writing	Students will write a 500 word paper using APA style, on a law enforcement, court and correctional issue, analyzing and explaining the issue. Papers will be written at a college level, including accurate citations, spelling and grammar.
Homework	For a typical homework assignment, students will read a chapter in the assigned textbook then answer essay, fill in the blank, and multiple choice questions.

Textbooks or other support materials

Resource Type:	Details
Books	Lab, Williams, Holcomb, Burek, King and Buerger. Criminal Justice the Essentials, 6th ed. Oxford, 2022
Books	Braswell, Michael / Miller, Larry / Pollock, Joycelyn. Case Studies in Criminal Justice Ethics, Edition, 3RD 2021 Publisher : WAVELAND ISBN 13 : 9781478646204

Equity Review:

Yes

Transferable to CSU

Yes - Approved

**CSU General Education**

CSU GE D: Social Sciences
Transferable to CSU

Transferable to UC

Yes - Proposed

UC/IGETC General Education

IGETC 4: Social & Behavioral Sciences
Transferable to UC

COS General Education

COS GE D: Social & Behavioral Science

Other Degree Attributes

Degree Applicable
Not a Basic Skills Course

Distance Learning Addendum

DLA-Approved-May-13-2020 Used for 2022 Course Updates - updated.pdf

Banner Title:

Intro to Criminal Justice

Curriculum Committee Approval Date:

02/07/2024

Academic Senate Approval Date:

02/14/2024

District Governing Board Approval Date:

03/11/2024

Course Control Number:

CCC000195342

C-ID:

AJ110