

Prepared by the Department of Social Sciences, Behavioral Sciences, and Human Services

Date of Departmental Approval: February 10, 2017

Date Approved by Curriculum and Programs: March 1, 2017

Effective: Fall 2017

1. Course Number: CRJ 100

Course Title: Introduction to Criminal Justice

2. Description: This course is a study of the nature and history of criminal justice. Students are provided an overview of the three entities of criminal justice system: law enforcement, corrections, and the judicial system. Students examine and evaluate how each entity works separately as well as with each other. Measuring crime and analyzing the ethics of crime control allow students to determine the effectiveness of laws and policies in contemporary society.

3. Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following.

- Identify the major elements of the criminal justice system in the United States;
- Delineate the challenges in law enforcement, corrections, and the judicial system;
- Engage in critical thinking, rational inquiry, and research in the history and development of criminal justice both domestically and internationally;
- Identify the ethical dilemmas that exist within the criminal justice system pertaining to policing and the law;
- Demonstrate communication skills by organizing and presenting ideas relative to the three components of the criminal justice system;
- Illustrate the role of the courts and how it effects policing and corrections;
- Identify and analyze Constitutional Amendments and how they are applied to the citizenry; and
- Demonstrate an appreciation for cultural diversity and its role in criminal justice.

4. Credits: 3 credits

5. Satisfies General Education Requirement: No

6. Prerequisite: None

7. Semester Offered: Fall

8. Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation: The student's final grade will be based on examinations, written assignments, and other forms of assessments.

9. General Topical Outline

Criminal Justice and Criminology
Crime Stats and Measuring Crime
Overview of Causalities of Criminal Behavior
Criminal and Civil Law
The Development of Policing
Law Enforcement in the United States
Legal Aspects and Ethics in Policing
Structure of the Courts in the United States
Notable Court Cases
The Trial Process
Overview of Corrections
Prisons and Jails
Juvenile Justice
Drugs and Criminal Activity
Contemporary and Global Crime Concerns