

Prepared by the Department of Social Sciences and Human Services

Date of Departmental Approval: October 1, 2007

Date approved by Curriculum and Programs: January 17, 2008

Effective: Fall 2008

1. **Course Number:** CRJ 125  
**Course Title:** Contemporary Policing
2. **Description:** This course is a general overview of policing in the United States today, concentrating on history, organization - public and private - as well as personal issues, police operations, and critical and emerging issues.
3. **Student Learning Outcomes (instructional objectives: intellectual skills):**  
Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following:
  - Engage in critical thinking by reading, writing and understanding the history and development of policing in order to understand the role of police and policing in the U.S., including traditional and contemporary views of police discretion, culture and operations, and enhance insight into the system as well as personal and professional choices.
  - Develop communication skills by organizing and presenting ideas in a logical order, actively listen, respond to and build on ideas generated in class. The student will use information presented, write clearly and effectively, and develop persuasive communication skills based on facts. Analyze the organization of police agencies and engage in critical thinking with respect to the interdependent rights and obligations of the citizen and the agency, and use logic, reason and critical thinking skills to evaluate different responses.
  - Examine their values as they learn to appreciate cultural diversity and its role in policing, as well as identify conflicting values and solutions to those conflicts. Recognize moral and ethical dilemma, including subculture norms.
  - Compare and contrast law enforcement approaches to policing, including community policing, and promising new ideas in contending with the unique issues confronting police today.
  - Develop the ability to recognize, compare and examine personal as well as societal values, and understand ethical decision-making and issues.
4. **Credits:** 3 credits
5. **Satisfies General Education Requirement:** No
6. **Prerequisite:** None
7. **Semester(s) Offered:** Fall, Spring
8. **Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation:** The student's final grade is based on exams, written assignments, a research paper, and meaningful class participation that demonstrate the ability of the student to apply logic, reasoning and critical thinking skills. As part of the evaluation the student must demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively as well as to examine their own values.
9. **General Topical Outline (Optional):**

Introduction to Policing & History of Policing Organization of Departments and Agencies Becoming a Police Officer Police Role Police Discretion & Culture Police Operations Traditional & Contemporary Police and Community Relations	Police and the Law Police Ethics and Deviance Women & Minorities Computers & Technology Specific Police Problems and Issues Policing & Homeland Defense
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