



Course Information

Course Title	Introduction to Criminal Justice
Course Prefix, Num. and Title	CRIJ 1301 Introduction to Criminal Justice
Division	Social and Behavioral Science
Department	Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement
Course Type	Academic General Education Course (from ACGM, but not WCJC Core)
Course Catalog Description	This course provides a historical and philosophical overview of the American criminal justice system, including the nature, extent, and impact of crime; criminal law; and justice agencies and processes.
Pre-Requisites	TSI satisfied in Reading and Writing
Co-Requisites	Enter Co-Requisites Here.

Semester Credit Hours

Total Semester Credit Hours (SCH): Lecture Hours:	3:3:0
Lab/Other Hours	
Equated Pay Hours	3
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Lab Hours	0
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Clinical Hours	0
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Practicum Hours	0
Other Hours Breakdown	0

Approval Signatures

Title	Signature	Date
Prepared by:		
Department Head:		
Division Chair:		
Dean/VPI:		
Approved by CIR:		

Additional Course Information

Topical Outline: Each offering of this course must include the following topics (be sure to include information regarding lab, practicum, and clinical or other non-lecture instruction).

- A. Components (law enforcement, courts, and corrections) and operations of the criminal justice system in the U.S.
- B. Past, present and future operation of the adult criminal and juvenile justice systems in the U.S.
- C. Unique vocabulary of criminal justice
- D. Criticisms of the criminal justice system in the U.S.
- E. Employment opportunities in criminal justice
- F. Work experience information from people currently employed in Criminal Justice field
- G. Extent of crime problem, victimization, causation theories
- H. Basics of criminal law
- I. Criminal court procedure including sentencing

Course Learning Outcomes:

Learning Outcomes – Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 1. Describe the history and philosophy of the American criminal justice system.
- 2. Explain the nature and extent of crime in America.
- 3. Analyze the impact and consequences of crime.
- 4. Evaluate the development, concepts, and functions of law in the criminal justice system.
- 5. Describe the structure of contemporary federal, state, and local justice agencies and processes.

Methods of Assessment:

- 1. Tests/quizzes, homework, class discussions
- 2. Research papers, tests, homework
- 3. Tests/quizzes, homework
- 4. Tests/quizzes, homework, class discussions
- 5. Tests/quizzes, homework, class discussions

Required text(s), optional text(s) and/or materials to be supplied by the student:

Gaines, Larry K. and Miller, Roger LeRoy CJ Belmont CA: Wadsworth Cengage, most recent edition.

Suggested Course Maximum:

35

List any specific or physical requirements beyond a typical classroom required to teach the course.

None

Course Requirements/Grading System: Describe any course specific requirements such as research papers or reading assignments and the generalized grading format for the course.

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

0-69 F

Tests/quizzes 40-60%
Research paper(s) 15-30%
Homework 10-20%
Discussions 10-20%
Attendance 5-10%

Curriculum Checklist:

- Administrative General Education Course** (from ACGM, but not in WCJC Core) – No additional documents needed.
- Administrative WCJC Core Course.** Attach the Core Curriculum Review Forms
 - Critical Thinking
 - Communication
 - Empirical & Quantitative Skills
 - Teamwork
 - Social Responsibility
 - Personal Responsibility
- WECM Course** -If needed, revise the Program SCANS Matrix and Competencies Checklist