



Course Information

Course Title	Court Systems and Practices
Course Prefix, Num. and Title	CRIJ 1306 Court Systems and Practices
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 is a study of the court system as it applies to the structures, procedures, practices and sources of law in American courts, using federal and Texas statutes and case law.
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. All aspects of the American judicial system, jurisdiction, history and structure
- B. Fragmented yet interdependent nature of the criminal justice court system
- C. Courthouse actors in the criminal justice process and the steps in the criminal justice process
- D. Sources of law
- E. Realities of criminal justice case processing compared to theory
- F. Controversies involved in the competing interests in the criminal justice system
- G. Comparisons of the American legal system with other systems in the world.

Course Learning Outcomes:

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

- 1. Describe the American judicial systems (civil, criminal, and juvenile), their jurisdiction, development and structure.
- 2. Analyze the function and dynamics of the courtroom work group.
- 3. Identify judicial processes from pretrial to appeal.
- 4. Describe the significant Constitutional Amendments, doctrines, and other sources of law in the American judicial system.

Methods of Assessment:

- 1. Tests/quizzes, homework, discussions, paper
- 2. Tests/quizzes, homework, discussions
- 3. Tests/quizzes, homework, discussions
- 4. Tests/quizzes, homework, discussions, paper

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

Seigel, Larry J., Schmalleger, Frank and Worrall, John L., Courts and Criminal Justice in America, Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson Prentice Hall, 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%

Legal/systems analysis paper(s) 15-30%

Version: 3/20/2019

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