



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

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| Course Acronym: | AJ |
| Course Number: | 100 |
| Descriptive Title: | Introduction to Administration of Justice |
| Division: | Health Sciences and Athletics |
| Department: | Administration of Justice |
| Course Disciplines: | Administration of Justice |
| Catalog Description: | This course introduces students to the characteristics of the criminal justice system in the United States. Focus is placed on examining crime measurement, theoretical explanations of crime, responses to crime, components of the system, and current challenges to the system. The course examines the evolution of the principles and approaches utilized by the justice system and the evolving forces which have shaped those principles and approaches. Although justice structure and process are examined in a cross cultural context, emphasis is placed on the United States justice system, particularly the structure and function of police, courts, and corrections. Students are introduced to the origins and development of criminal law, legal process, sentencing, and incarceration policies. |
| Prerequisite: | |
| Co-requisite: | |
| Recommended Preparation: | Eligibility for English 1A |
| Enrollment Limitation: | |
| Hours Lecture (per week): | 3 |
| Hours Laboratory (per week): | 0 |
| Outside Study Hours: | 6 |
| Total Course Hours: | 54 |
| Course Units: | 3 |
| Grading Method: | Letter Grade only |
| Credit Status: | Credit, degree applicable |
| Transfer CSU: | Yes |
| Effective Date: | Prior to July 1992 |
| Transfer UC: | Yes |
| Effective Date: | Prior to July 1992 |
| General Education: ECC | Area 2C - Social and Behavioral Science |
| Term: | |

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| | Other: |
| | CSU GE: Area D - Social Sciences |
| | Term: |
| | Other: |
| | IGETC: Area 4 - Social and Behavioral Sciences |
| | Term: |
| | Other: |
| Student Learning Outcomes: | <p>SLO #1 Components of the Criminal Justice System</p> <p>Given instructions provided and concepts demonstrated, videos viewed and textual material studied, AJ 100 students will be able to understand the concept of the criminal justice system and be able to identify and explain its various components.</p> <p>SLO #2 Police Agency Structure</p> <p>Given instructions provided and concepts demonstrated, videos viewed and textual material studied, AJ 100 students will be able to describe the basic structure of a policing agency and explain its component functions such as patrol, criminal investigation, traffic and its various administrative support functions.</p> <p>SLO #3 Crime Causation Theories</p> <p>Given instructions provided and concepts demonstrated, videos viewed and textual material studied, AJ 100 students will be able to be able to interpret a behavioral profile and be able to identify at least three crime causation theories that explain such behavior.</p> |
| Course Objectives: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate an understanding of criminological theories used to explain crime and criminality. 2. Explain the methods, theories, and concepts associated with the sources of crime data, the emerging patterns of criminal activity, and the costs of crime. 3. Understand the history, development, and structure, and function of American police, courts, and corrections. 4. Demonstrate an understanding of the history, structure, and function of the police. 5. Convey an understanding of the process of adjudication. 6. Show an understanding of corrections including the roles of probation, parole, and community corrections; as well as the functions of prisons and jails. 7. Identify and describe special issues in the criminal justice system involving juvenile delinquency, drugs, and the future development. 8. Critically analyze and discuss issues of crime and justice from varying perspectives. 9. Utilize conclusions from scholarly research in creating informed positions on controversial issues in criminal justice. 10. Effectively follow the appropriate writing style practiced in the social sciences. 11. Explain the definitions of crime and understand the extent of the crime problem in America. |
| Major Topics: | <p>I. OVERVIEW OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM (3 hours, lecture)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Defining criminal behavior - Conflict and Consensus Models |

- B. Compare and contrast the Crime Control vs. The Due Process models
- C. The purpose and goals of the criminal justice system

II. EXPLAINING THE CAUSATIONS OF CRIME (3 hours, lecture)

- 1.
 - A. Concepts of crime causation and criminological theories
 - B. Criminal victimology and fear of crime
 - C. The role of discretion in criminal processes

III. CRIME MEASUREMENT AND TRENDS IN THE UNITED STATES (3 hours, lecture)

- 1.
 - A. The Uniform Crime Report
 - B. Victim surveys
 - C. Crime trends in the United States
 - D. The costs of crime to society
 - E. The war on drugs

IV. OVERVIEW OF CRIMINAL LAW (3 hours, lecture)

- 1.
 - A. Written sources of criminal law
 - B. The purposes of criminal law
 - C. Crime classification system
 - D. Elements of a crime
 - E. Criminal defenses
 - F. Protecting civil liberties

V. THE HISTORY AND STRUCTURE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES (6 hours, lecture)

- 1.
 - A. The evolution of American law enforcement
 - B. Becoming a police officer
 - C. Recruitment of women and minorities
 - D. The structure of a law enforcement agency
 - E. The three levels of law enforcement in the United States
 - F. The role of private security in the criminal justice system

VI. PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS IN MODERN POLICING (3 hours, lecture)

- 1.
 - A. Policing strategies including Problem-Oriented Policing (POP), community policing, and COMPuter STATistics (COMPSTAT)
 - B. Building partnerships with the community
 - C. Accountability- police corruption and ethics

VII. POLICE AND THE CONSTITUTION (4 hours, lecture)

- A. The Bill of Rights including the 4th and 5th Amendments
- B. Due process including the 6th, 8th, and 14th amendments

- C. Changes in patrol and investigative methodology
- D. Reasonable suspicion and probable cause
- E. The elements of an arrest
- F. Case law surrounding the Constitution

VIII. STRUCTURE AND ROLE OF COURTS (3 hours, lecture)

- 1.
 - A. The roles of Federal, State, and local courts
 - B. The process of adjudication
 - C. The courtroom work group

IX. TRIAL PROCEDURES (5 hours, lecture)

- 1.
 - A. The role of the prosecutor including prosecutorial screening of cases
 - B. The role of the judge in the criminal trial
 - C. Pretrial procedures including arraignment, plea bargaining, evidentiary hearings, preliminary hearings, the Grand Jury process
 - D. The trial process including jury selection, testimony
 - E. The role of the jury including evaluating evidence, deliberations, and the trial verdict
 - F. Appeals
 - G. The civil court process

X. PUNISHMENT AND SENTENCING (2 hours, lecture)

- 1.
 - A. The purpose of punishment
 - B. The structure of sentencing including mandatory sentencing laws
 - C. Inconsistencies in sentencing in regards to minorities and women
 - D. Sentencing reform
 - E. The capital punishment debate

XI. STRUCTURE AND PURPOSE OF THE CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM (3 hours, lecture)

- 1.
 - A. Contemporary correctional philosophy
 - B. Correctional institutions Federal, State, and local
 - C. The role of Community Corrections
 - D. Private prisons

XII. LIFE BEHIND BARS AS AN INMATE (4 hours, lecture)

- 1.
 - A. Prison culture
 - B. The daily life of an inmate
 - C. The role of the correctional officer
 - D. Medical and other services
 - E. Women's prisons
 - F. Parole, release, and reentry into society

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| | <p>XIII. THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM (3 hours, lecture)</p> <p>1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Background and history B. Contemporary thought on juvenile justice C. Case law and juvenile court processes D. The Juvenile Probation Officer <p>XIV. INNOVATIONS AND CHANGES IN TECHNOLOGY (4 hours, lecture)</p> <p>1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. National Incident Management System B. Laboratory devices, fingerprint/ Deoxyribonuclei Acid (DNA) databases, Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) C. Early warning and intervention systems D. Future forecasting in the criminal justice system <p>XV. CONTEMPORARY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION (5 hours, lecture)</p> <p>1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Immigration reform B. Homeland Security C. Cyber threats D. Emerging radical groups |
| Total Lecture Hours: | 54 |
| Total Laboratory Hours: | 0 |
| Total Hours: | 54 |
| Primary Method of Evaluation: | 1) Substantial writing assignments |
| Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation: | In a two-page essay, compare and contrast the Crime Control and Due Process criminal justice models and explain how they affect the balance of power in the criminal justice system. Submit essay to the instructor. |
| Critical Thinking Assignment 1: | Read and prepare a literature review summary of a law enforcement journal article. Utilize conclusions from the research to prepare a 400-500 word essay in American Psychological Association (APA) format presenting an informed position on a controversial issue in law enforcement. Submit essay to the instructor. |
| Critical Thinking Assignment 2: | In a 1200-1300 word essay in APA format, prepare a case study analysis of an emerging issue in the criminal justice system. Analyze the impact of that issue to the system. Utilize a minimum of four different research sources. Submit case study to the instructor. |
| Other Evaluation Methods: | Completion, Embedded Questions, Essay Exams, Fieldwork, Matching Items, Multiple Choice, Oral Exams, Other (specify), Other Exams, Performance Exams, Quizzes, Reading Reports, Term or Other Papers, True/False, Written Homework |
| Instructional Methods: | Demonstration, Discussion, Group Activities, Guest Speakers, Lecture, Multimedia presentations, Other (specify), Role play/simulation |
| If other: | Internet Presentation/Resources |

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| Work Outside of Class: | Answer questions, Problem solving activity, Required reading, Study, Written work (such as essay/composition/report/analysis/research) |
| If Other: | |
| Up-To-Date Representative Texts: | Callie Rennison and Mary Dodge, <u>INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE</u> , 4th edition, Sage, 2021. |
| Alternative Texts: | |
| Required Supplementary Readings: | |
| Other Required Materials: | |
| Requisite: | |
| Category: | |
| Requisite course(s): List both prerequisites and corequisites in this box. | |
| Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). | |
| Requisite Skill: | |
| Requisite Skill and Matching Skill(s): Bold the requisite skill(s). If applicable | |
| Requisite course: | |
| Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). | |
| Requisite Skill: | Eligibility for English 1A |
| Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). If applicable | This course involves reading college textbook and writing papers. A student's success in this class will be enhanced if they have these skills. Summarize, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize college-level texts. Write a well-reasoned, well-supported essay that demonstrates application of the academic writing process. |
| Enrollment Limitations and Category: | |
| Enrollment Limitations Impact: | |

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| Course Created by: | John Hampton |
| Date: | 12/15/1973 |
| Original Board Approval Date: | Spring 1974 |
| Last Reviewed and/or Revised by: | Dina Mauger |
| Date: | 09/14/2023 |
| Last Board Approval Date: | 12/18/2023 |
| Effective Term: | FALL 2024 |