COURSE TITLE:
CRJ110: Introduction to Criminal Justice

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Introduces students to the basic components of the criminal justice system in the United States. Concepts of crime, crime data, victimization, perspectives and views of crime, theory, and law are discussed. Particular attention to the criminal justice process, interaction and conflict between criminal justice agencies, and current criminal justice issues are examined.

GUARANTEED TRANSFER (GT) PATHWAYS COURSE STATEMENT
The Colorado Commission on Higher Education has approved CRJ110 for inclusion in the Guaranteed Transfer (GT) Pathways program in the GT-SS3 category. For transferring students, successful completion with a minimum C- grade guarantees transfer and application of credit in this GT Pathways category. For more information on the GT Pathways program, go to: Colorado Department of Higher Education (GT) Pathways

This course is one of the Statewide Guaranteed Transfer courses.

- CRJ 110 GTSS3 Required Syllabus Information

CREDIT HOURS:
3

SUGGESTED PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE:
None Required
The CCCOnline Course Policies page contains information about the student's role in the classroom, grading policies, and rights and responsibilities.
COURSE MATERIALS

Your textbook is available online as an eText. You do not need to purchase any additional materials. For specific information on refund policies and the optional black and white textbook available for purchase please contact the CCCOnline bookstore.

MINIMUM COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

To complete this course, you will need regular access to a computer from which you can get to the Internet and use email. In order to ensure that your course functions properly, you MUST run the System Check. This is a CRITICAL STEP, and taking time to do it now will eliminate a tremendous amount of frustration for you later. To run the System Check, click Tools in the course NavBar and then click System Check.

REQUIRED ETEXT:

MAIN ETEXT


TEXTBOOK SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES WEBSITE:

CJ Central

DIGITAL MATERIALS ACCESS AND SETUP

This course uses VitalSource which integrates the eText directly into the course site.

- Visit the VitalSource Course Start page for details on first access of the materials.
COURSE COMPETENCIES AND OBJECTIVES

STUDENT OUTCOMES:
The competencies you will demonstrate in this course are as follows:

I. Develop an informed understanding of the basic components of justice processes
II. Compare the various goals and perspectives of the criminal justice system
III. Recognize the major sources of crime data, including their uses and limitations
IV. Explain the major theories of crime, criminal behavior, and victimization
V. Examine the historical foundations of law and policing in modern society
VI. Identify criminal court systems and the process of an adversarial system
VII. Evaluate correctional systems, sentences, and the purposes of punishment
VIII. Explore future trends in law enforcement, criminal court and correctional processes

The module objectives that will permit students to demonstrate course competencies are:

MODULE 1

Outcomes | Competencies
--- | ---
1 Describe the American criminal justice system in terms of the three major components | I
2 Analyze the steps taken in a case from crime through corrections | II
3 Discuss crime control and due process perspectives | II
4 Compare/Contrast the different reporting methods | III
5 Describe the historical foundations of the law in the US | V

MODULE 2

Outcomes | Competencies
--- | ---
1 Explore the development and social research in relation to criminological theories | IV
2 Discuss the historical development of policing in the US | V
3 Examine the challenges police face in modern society | VIII

MODULE 3

Outcomes | Competencies
--- | ---
1 Explore the development of American courts and the associated structures and work groups | I
2 Describe the criminal trial process as well as the pretrial steps and activities | VI
3 Describe the five goals of contemporary sentencing and the importance of victims’ rights and alternative sentencing | IV
4 Explain the sources of law including substantive and procedural | V
### Module 4

**Outcomes**

1. Compare/Contrast the differences between probation and parole
2. Investigate the difference between private and public prisons and the role of corrections
3. Describe major issues that prisons/prisoners face today
4. Analyze the different types of sanctions and apply them to a case

**Competencies**

- VII
- VII
- VIII
- VII

### Module 5

**Outcomes**

1. Compare and contrast the adult and juvenile system and the different perspectives and goals of system
2. Discuss the legal impact of court decisions in relation to the juvenile justice system
3. Discuss the history of drug abuse and anti-drug legislation and its impact on society
4. Summarize various efforts throughout history to respond to the drug program and an assessment of each
5. Analyze the current and future roles of technology and the impact on the criminal justice system

**Competencies**

- I, II
- I, V
- V
- V
- VIII
GRADING AND EVALUATION

METHODS:

Evaluation includes a combination of discussion participation, assignments, and other evaluation. Rubrics will be provided for assignments and discussions.

GRADING POLICIES:

Mark all Module due dates on your calendar for this class. You may submit assignments AHEAD of schedule. Late assignments accepted on a case-by-case basis with prior approval from instructor.

SUMMARY OF GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussions (10 @ 25 points each)</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (6 @ 75 points each)</td>
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<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Experience (1 @ 100 points)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm and Final (1 each @ 100 points each)</td>
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<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
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Grading Scale

A = 90 to 100%   B = 80 to 89%   C = 70 to 79%   D = 60 to 69%   F = 59% and below

DISCUSSIONS

Discussions in this class explore a variety of criminal justice topics. Please review the Discussion Rubric for more information regarding discussions. In order to facilitate the discussion component, you are expected to answer the initial discussion question using outside resources by the first due date listed in the schedule and respond to peers by the second due date. The responses should elicit further conversation.

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are graded using the Assignment Rubric.

FIELD EXPERIENCE

You are expected to complete a field experience for one of your later assignments in this course. You have several different types of experiences to choose from, including:

- Ride along with officer
• Court visit (minimum two hours)
• Cell museum tour (www.thecell.org)
• Jail tour

EXAMS (MIDTERM AND FINAL)

The exams in this course are timed and you have one attempt. Exams are graded for accuracy.
COURSE SCHEDULE

The Schedule is subject to change as needed.

This page summarizes all of the graded assignments, exams, and reading assignments for the course. If you want, you can print it out and post it somewhere handy.

This course is not self-paced. All assignments (papers, quizzes, discussions, etc.) are to be completed by no later than the due date.

NOTE: Important CCCOnline semester dates (e.g., drop/withdraw/term end) appear on the CCCOnline calendar.

**MODULE 1**

**Reading/Assignments/Exams**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment 1: Components of the Criminal Justice System</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2: Reporting Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion 1: Introductions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion 2: Crime Control vs Due process – Initial Response (Replies to Others)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Due Dates**

**MODULE 2**

**Reading/Assignments/Exams**

| Assignment 1: Criminological Theories |
| Midterm |
| Discussion 1: The War on Drugs - Initial Response (Replies to Others) |
| Discussion 2: Challenges of Policing – Initial Response (Replies to Others) |

**Due Dates**

**MODULE 3**

**Reading/Assignments/Exams**

| Assignment 1: Sentencing Report |
| Discussion 1: The Role of Sentencing – Initial Response (Replies to Others) |
| Discussion 2: Sentencing Goals and Purposes – Initial Response (Replies to Others) |

**Due Dates**

**MODULE 4**

**Reading/Assignments/Exams**

| Assignment 1: Sentencing Options |
| Discussion 1: Sanctions – Initial Response (Replies to Others) |
| Discussion 2: For-profit Prisons – Initial Response (Replies to Others) |

**Due Dates**
# Module 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading/Assignments/Exams</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read: Chapters 15 - 18</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 1: City Crime Report</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 2: Field Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion 1: Juvenile Justice – Initial Response (Replies to Others)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion 2: Legalization vs Decriminalization – Initial Response (Replies to Others)</td>
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