

# **Introduction to Criminal Justice**

CJS 101

Fall 2007

Three Rivers Community College  
Mohegan Campus  
Norwich, Connecticut 06360

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Office Hours:

M 1:00 to 4:00

W 1:00 to 4:00

Fridays by appointment (Please call for an appointment)

I. **Course Title:** Introduction to Criminal Justice

II. **Course Information:**

A. CJS K101

B. Room Number: SCL 2

C. Day/Time: Thursday 6:30 AM to 9:15 PM

III. **Course Description:**

This course provides an overview of the criminal justice system in the United States.

Students will be exposed to the system's components: law enforcement, courts, and corrections from historical, theoretical, and philosophical perspectives.

IV. **Course Goals:**

- To understand and appreciate the evolution of the criminal justice system in the United States.
- To understand the dynamics of the American criminal justice system and its changing relationship to socio-economics, as well as political and cultural values.
- To appreciate the historic contribution of the Constitutional statutory, administrative, and common law to the American legal system.
- To understand the role of the executive, judicial and legislative branches of government, and how they affect change in the criminal justice system.

V. **Instructional Methods:**

A. Lecture

B. Discussion

C. Small Group Work

## **VI. Required Text:**

Criminal Justice: A Brief Introduction, by Frank Schmalleger, Seventh Edition, Pearson Prentice Hall (2006).

## **VII. Disabilities Statement:**

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Disabilities Counseling Services at 892-5751. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the counselor as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Disabilities Counselor. Your cooperation is appreciated.

## **VIII. Course Outline:**

Week #1 – 08-30 – Chapter 1, Introduction to Course/Instructor

Week #2 – 09-06 Chapter 2 **Quiz (Chap. 1 & 2)**

Week #3 – 09-11 Chapter 3

Week #4 – 09 -18 Chapter 4

Week #5 – 09-25 Chapter 5 **Exam (Chap. 3, 4, &5)**

Week #6 – 10-04 Chapter 6

Week #7 – 10-11 Chapter 7 **Quiz (Chap. 6 & 7)**

Week #8 – 10-18 Chapter 8

Week #9 – 10-25 Chapter 9 and Dr. Lee Lecture **Quiz (Chap. 8 & 9)**

Week #10 – 11-01 Chapter 10

Week #11 – 11-08 Chapter 11

Week #12 – 11-15 Chapter 12

Week #13 – 11-22 **No Class (Thanksgiving Recess)**

Week #14 – 11-29 Chapter 13

Week #15 – 12-06 **Final Exam Due (Chap. 10, 11, 12 & 13)**

## **XI. Evaluation Procedures**

Your final grade will be determined by a combination of quizzes, exams, current events file and class participation.

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tests                      | 65%                           |
| Current Event File         | 10% (10 articles at pts each) |
| Observation Report         | 15%                           |
| <u>Class Participation</u> | <u>10%</u>                    |
|                            | 100%                          |

All tests are take home. The test format will be short answer and multiple choice. The value of each test is based upon the number of chapters covered in the test. Each chapter is worth 5 points, so, if a test is on two chapters, then it is worth 10 points of your final grade.

The students will maintain a current event file containing news clippings over the course of the semester placing at least ten subject related article read each week into the file.

Students are required to conduct a field observation report. Students will observe court; participate in a police ride-a-long or other field activity as approved by the instructor. The assignment will be due by November 15<sup>th</sup>. The paper will be 3 to 5 pages (typed & double spaced) long and will describe the observation activity and will tie the observations to topics discussed in the class.

All grades will be posted on Vista. The grades will be expressed in a point value. For example: an exam is worth 25 points, a grade of between 0 and 25 points will be recorded. The total amount of points earned during the semester will correspond to the grade scale listed below.

## **X. Final Grade Scale**

|    |   |          |       |   |             |
|----|---|----------|-------|---|-------------|
| A  | = | 94 - 100 | D     | = | 63 - 66     |
| A- | = | 90 - 93  | D-    | = | 60 - 62     |
| B+ | = | 87 - 89  | F     | = | 00 - 59     |
| B  | = | 83 - 86  |       |   |             |
| B- | = | 80 - 82  | W     | = | Withdrawal  |
| C+ | = | 77 - 79  | I     | = | Incomplete  |
| C  | = | 73 - 76  | P / F | = | Pass / Fail |
| C- | = | 70 - 72  | AU    | = | Audit       |
| D+ | = | 67 - 69  |       |   |             |

## **XI. College Withdrawal Policy**

A verbal “drop or withdrawal” from course(s) will be accepted through the 10<sup>th</sup> week of classes in accordance with the designated withdrawal deadlines. Students will need to provide the following information: full name, address, date of birth, student identification number and social security number, course reference number (CRN), description/subject and instructor’s name, if VA / FA benefits, Verbal drops or verbal withdrawals are processed through the Registrar’s Office and Subase site ONLY.

## **XII. Instructor’s Attendance Policy**

Consistent attendance at class meetings is crucial to success in this course. You are expected to attend all classes in order to receive full benefit from instruction.

Students having attendance problems should speak with the instructor before taking any action.

If you are too sleepy to stay awake on class please leave class as you will not benefit from the instruction and will serve as a distraction to the class and instructor.

## **XIII. Academic Dishonesty**

Conduct which as its intent or effect the false representation of a student’s academic performance and/or knowingly and intentionally assisting another student to do so in any way constitute academic dishonesty. In the event of academic dishonesty, the College’s policy will be enforced.

## **XIV. Cellular Phones etc.**

Students are notified that cellular phones and beepers are allowed in class or in the Learning Resource Center only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

## **XV. Early Warning Policy**

Students experiencing academic difficulty and/or chronic absenteeism will be notified of their class standing.