

Course Syllabus

Department : Criminal Justice
Course Title : Introduction to Criminal Justice
Section Name : CRIJ 1301
Start Date : 08-27-2012
End Date : 12-14-2012
Modality : Classroom/Face-to-Face
Credits : 3

Instructor Information

Name : Troy N. Thomas
OC Email : tthomas@odessa.edu
OC Phone # : 432-335-6505
Office Location : ET 158

Fall Office Hours:

Monday: 1:30– 4 PM
Tuesday: 1:30 – 4 PM
Wednesday: 1:30 – 4 PM
Thursday: 1:30 – 4 PM
Friday: By Appointment Only

Help from the instructor is available **at your** request. Appointments can be set up or you may contact instructor during office hours. Tutoring is available through the LRC.

Student Success Coaches

The Odessa College Student Success Coaches will help you stay focused and on track to complete your educational goals. If an instructor sees that you might need additional help or success coaching, he or she may submit a Retention Alert or a Starfish Alert. A Student Success Coach will contact you to work toward a solution.

Course Description

This course will examine the history and philosophy of criminal justice and ethical considerations; its nature and impact; an overview of the criminal justice system, law enforcement, court system, prosecution and defense, the trial process and corrections.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

ICOs

(1, 2, 4, 5, 6)

- 1) **Critical Thinking Skills** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- 2) **Communication Skills** - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- 3) **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- 4) **Teamwork** - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- 5) **Personal Responsibility** - to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making
- 6) **Social Responsibility** - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Course Objectives

1. The student will describe and explain the history, philosophy and ethical considerations of criminal justice. (1, 2, 4, 5, 6)
2. The student will define the nature and impact of crime on society and how it is integrated into the criminal justice system. (1, 2, 4, 5, 6)
3. The student will distinguish between the civil and criminal court systems. (1, 2, 4, 5, 6)
4. The student will interpret the relationship between the components of the criminal justice system. (1, 2, 4, 5, 6)
5. The student will use correct language skills, grammar and punctuation. (2)
6. The student will learn to proofread documents. (2)

Required Readings/Materials



Criminal Justice Today: An Introductory Text for the 21st Century

11th Edition

Frank Schmalleger

Course Requirements (Lectures, Assignments and Assessments)

DATES	ASSIGNMENT	DESCRIPTION
08-27-12 to 08-30-12 Quiz Chapter 1 and 4: Monday 09-04-12	Chapter 1: What is Criminal Justice? Chapter 4: Criminal Law	Pages 4-31 Pages 112-145
09-04-12 to 09-06-12 Labor Day Holiday 09-03-12 Quiz Chapter 5-6: Monday 09-10-12	Chapter 5: Policing: History and Structure Chapter 6: Policing: Purpose and Organization	Pages 148-175 Pages 176-213 Pages 215-244
09-10-12 to 09-13-12 Quiz Chapter 7-8: Monday 09-17-12	Chapter 7: Policing: Legal Aspects Chapter 8: Policing: Issues and Challenges	Pages 244-263 Pages 264-295
09-17-12 to 09-20-12 Quiz Chapters 9-10: Monday 09-24-12	Chapter 9: Adjudication Chapter 10: Pretrial Activities and the Criminal Trial	Pages 297-337 Pages 339-369
09-24-12 to 09-27-12 Quiz Chapter 11-12: Monday 10-1-12	Chapter 11: Sentencing Chapter 12: Probation, Parole, and Corrections	Pages 371-415 Pages 419-447
10-01-12 to 10-04-12 Quiz Chapter 13-14: Monday 10-08-12	Chapter 13: Prisons and Jails Chapter 14: Prison Life	Pages 449-487 Pages 489-537
10-08-12 to 10-11-12 Quiz Chapter 15-16: Monday 10-15-12	Chapter 15: Juvenile Justice Chapter 16: Drugs and Crime	Pages 541-567 Pages 570-607
10-15-12 to 10-18-12 Quiz Chapter 17-18: Monday 10-22-12	Chapter 17: Terrorism and Multinational Criminal Justice Chapter 18: The Future of Criminal Justice	Pages 610-645 Pages 647-675
12-10-12 to 12-13-12	Final Exam over sections 1301 and 1306	Combination of multiple choice, essay, short answer, true/false, listing questions

Assignments

Discussion and Attendance: 15% of final grade

You must come to class every day and you must participate in classroom activities and discussions. Over 7 unexcused absences will cause you to receive 0% for this portion of your grade.

Current Event Assignment: 15% of final grade

As assigned, each student will complete one 'current event' assignment. The student will pick an article from a newspaper or approved web site and give a presentation to the class about the article. The student will submit a copy of the article to the instructor. The student will be provided with a question sheet to assist the student in making the presentation to fellow classmates.

Group Projects: 30% of final grade

There will be two group projects for this course and details will be discussed at a later date.

Quizzes: 20% of final grade

Each Thursday, students will participate in a short (10 question) quiz. The quizzes will be made up of multiple choice, short answer, true/false and listing questions. The quizzes will cover lectures and the reading material for the week. A review will be provided for students to work on outside of class. A review will also be provided in class before quizzes are administered. If absent, missed quizzed CANNOT be made up unless the absence is excused.

Final Exam: 20% of final grade

The final exam will be a comprehensive exam. In other words, your final will cover what you have learned through the entire semester. The final exam will be a combination of multiple choice, essay/short answer, true/false, fill-in-the-blank and listing questions.

Grading Policy

90-100 – A

80-89 – B

70-79 – C

60-69 – D

Below 59 – F

Special Needs

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability services at 432-335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

Learning Resource Center (Library)

The Library, known as the [Learning Resources Center](#), provides research assistance via the [LRC's catalog \(print books, videos, e-books\)](#) and [databases \(journal and magazine articles\)](#). [Research guides](#) covering specific subject areas, [tutorials](#), and the "[Ask a Librarian](#)" service provide additional help.

Student E-mail

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email.**

Student Portal

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email.**

Technical Support

For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6878 or online at https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm.

Important School Policies

Information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or students' and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the [Odessa College Student Handbook](#).

DISCLAIMER: Each student is responsible for checking the syllabus frequently as it will be updated as often as needed.

Expectations for Engagement – Face to Face Learning

To help make the learning experience fulfilling and rewarding, the following Expectations for Engagement provide the parameters for reasonable engagement between students and instructors for the learning environment. Students and instructors are welcome to exceed these requirements.

Reasonable Expectations of Engagement for Instructors

1. As an instructor, I understand the importance of clear, timely communication with my students. In order to maintain sufficient communication, I will
 - provided my contact information at the beginning of the syllabus;
 - respond to all messages in a timely manner through telephone, email, or next classroom contact; and,

- notify students of any extended times that I will be unavailable and provide them with alternative contact information (for me or for my supervisor) in case of emergencies during the time I'm unavailable.
2. As an instructor, I understand that my students will work to the best of their abilities to fulfill the course requirements. In order to help them in this area, I will
 - provide clear information about grading policies and assignment requirements in the course syllabus, and
 - communicate any changes to assignments and/or to the course calendar to students as quickly as possible.
 3. As an instructor, I understand that I need to provide regular, timely feedback to students about their performance in the course. To keep students informed about their progress, I will
 - return classroom activities and homework within one week of the due date and
 - provide grades for major assignments within 2 weeks of the due date or at least 3 days before the next major assignment is due, whichever comes first.

Reasonable Expectations of Engagement for Students

1. As a student, I understand that I am responsible for keeping up with the course. To help with this, I will
 - attend the course regularly and line up alternative transportation in case my primary means of transportation is unavailable;
 - recognize that the college provides free wi-fi, computer labs, and library resources during regular campus hours to help me with completing my assignments; and,
 - understand that my instructor does not have to accept my technical issues as a legitimate reason for late or missing work if my personal computer equipment or internet service is unreliable.
2. As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to communicate quickly with the instructor any issue or emergency that will impact my involvement with or performance in the class. This includes, but is not limited to,
 - missing class when a major test is planned or a major assignment is due;
 - having trouble submitting assignments;
 - dealing with a traumatic personal event; and,
 - having my work or childcare schedule changed so that my classroom attendance is affected.
3. As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to understand course material and requirements and to keep up with the course calendar. While my instructor is available for help and clarification, I will
 - seek out help from my instructor and/or from tutors;
 - ask questions if I don't understand; and,
 - attend class regularly to keep up with assignments and announcements.

Student Success

This course Intro to Criminal Justice CRIJ 1301 – Fall 2012 has been identified as a course by Career, Technical, and Workforce Education as one in which teaching and learning strategies adopted by AVID will be implemented. As a student in the Criminal Justice program, you will be expected to develop an understanding of the strategies, to model the strategies, to maintain fidelity of implementation, and to examine how these strategies may impact your effectiveness as a professional in your chosen area of occupation, either through coursework or practicum experience as outlined by the course instructor.