

Course Syllabus

Department : Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice Department

Course Title : Intro to Criminal Justice

Section Name : CRIJ_1301_4

Start Date : 01/18/11

End Date : 05/12/11

Modality : FACE-TO-FACE

Credits : 3

Instructor Information

Name : Geoffrey Schwende

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Course Description

History and philosophy of criminal justice and ethical consideration; crime defined; its nature and impact; overview of criminal justice system; law enforcement; court system; prosecution and defense; trial process; corrections.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

[Scans](#)

1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 11

Course Objectives

The student will describe and explain the history, philosophy and ethical considerations of criminal justice; define the nature and impact of crime on society and how it is integrated into the criminal justice system; distinguish between the civil and criminal court systems; and interpret the relationship between the components of the criminal justice system.

PLEASE PUT YOUR DEPARTMENT SPECIFIC INFORMATION IN THIS AREA

Required Readings/Materials

Criminal Justice Today an Introductor text for the 21st century

Frank Schmalleger, 11th ed.

ISBN - 13: 978-0-13-507409-1

Course Requirements (Lectures, Assignments and Assessments)

Topic/Overview: This week focuses on

Summary of Assignments & Activities

Item(Name)	Type	Description	Due
Week 1	Discuss	Chapter 1: Crime In America	TBA
		<p>Brief history</p> <p>Explain criminal and social justice</p> <p>Explain the structure of the system</p> <p>Describe stages of criminal case processing</p> <p>Explain due process and where it is found</p> <p>Describe evidence-based practices</p> <p>Explain multiculturalism and diversity present challenges</p>	
	Discuss	Chapter 2: The Crime Picture	
		<p>Describe the history and nature of the FBI's UCR/NIBRS Program</p> <p>Describe the history and nature of the National Crime Victimization Survey Program</p> <p>List and explain the differences between the UCR/NIBRS and the NCVS programs</p>	
	Outside	Read Chapters 3 and 4	
Week 2	Discuss	Chapter 3: The Search for Causes	
		<p>Explain the nature of criminological theory</p> <p>Discuss the Classical School of criminology</p> <p>Describe the biological theories</p> <p>Explain the mapping of human DNA</p> <p>Describe psychological explanation for crime</p>	

		<p>Describe sociological theories of crime causation</p> <p>Identify kinds of crime control policies</p> <p>Describe conflict theories</p> <p>Identify three emergent theories of crime causation</p>	
	Discuss	Chapter 4: Criminal Law	
		<p>Explain the nature and purpose of law</p> <p>Discuss the nature of the rule of law</p> <p>Identify the various types of law</p> <p>List the five categories of crime</p> <p>List the eight general features of crime</p> <p>Explain what is meant by the "elements" of criminal offense</p> <p>Discuss four broad categories of criminal defenses</p>	
	Outside	Read Chapters 5 and 6	
Week 3	Discuss	Chapter 5: Policing: History and Structure	TBA
		<p>Summarize the historical development of policing including the Prohibition era</p> <p>Describe the three major levels of public law enforcement</p> <p>Identify significant federal law enforcement agencies and their responsibilities</p> <p>Explain the role of the state law enforcement agencies</p> <p>Identify various local law enforcement agencies</p> <p>Describe the extent of private protective services</p>	

	Discuss	Chapter 6: Policing: Purpose and Organization	
		<p>Explain the police missions</p> <p>List and discuss the five core operational strategies</p> <p>Define the term police management</p> <p>Identify three styles of policing and discuss their differences</p> <p>Describe the role of police in the post 9/11 environment</p> <p>Explain police discretion</p> <p>Demonstrate why professionalism and ethics are important</p> <p>Identify issues related to ethnic and gender diversity</p>	
Week 4	Exam	Written exam over Chapters 1 - 6	TBA
		See grading policy	
	Outside	Read Chapters 7 and 8	
Week 5	Discuss	Chapter 7: Policing: Legal Aspects	TBA
		<p>Identify legal restraints on police actions and identify abuse of police power</p> <p>Explain how the Bill of Rights inspired legal restraints</p> <p>Describe the circumstances of properly conducted searches or seizures</p> <p>Define arrest and describe how the process may not be consistent with legal understandings</p> <p>Describe the intelligence function, interrogations and explain the role of Miranda warnings</p>	
	Discuss	Chapter 8: Policing: Issues and Challenges	

		<p>Describe the police working personality</p> <p>List and describe different types of police corruption</p> <p>Explain the danger of police work</p> <p>Describe situation most likely to use force</p> <p>Describe racial profiling and biased policing</p> <p>Describe civil liability issues</p>	
	Outside	Read Chapter 9 and 10	
Week 6	Discuss	Chapter 9: The Courts: Structure and Participants	TBA
		<p>Describe the development of American courts and explain the dual-court system</p> <p>Describe a typical state court system</p> <p>Explain the structure of the federal court system</p> <p>Describe the courtroom work group and its members</p> <p>Identify theories of professional members of the courtroom</p> <p>Identify the roles of the non-professionals in the courtroom</p>	
	Discuss	Chapter 10: Pretrial Activities and the Criminal Trial	
		<p>List and explain the steps during pretrial activities</p> <p>Describe the nature and purpose of the criminal trial</p> <p>Identify various stages of a criminal trial</p>	
	Outside	Read Chapters 11 and 12	

Week 7	Discuss	Chapter 11: Sentencing	TBA
		<p>Describe five goals of contemporary criminal sentencing</p> <p>Describe the nature of indeterminate sentencing</p> <p>Describe the nature of structured sentencing and identify models today</p> <p>Identify alternative sanctions and sentencing innovations</p> <p>Describe the nature and importance of the presentence investigation report</p> <p>Describe the history of victims' rights and services</p> <p>List the four traditional sentencing options</p> <p>Outline the argument for and against capital punishment</p>	
	Discuss	Chapter 12: Probation, Parole, and Community Corrections	
		<p>Explain the history, nature, and purposes of probation</p> <p>Explain the history, nature, and purposes of parole</p> <p>Describe the advantages and disadvantages of both</p> <p>Describe the legal enforcement of probation and parole</p> <p>Explain the nature of the job of the offices in each</p> <p>Explain what intermediate sanctions are and list the advantages</p> <p>Discuss the likely future of both</p>	
	Outside	Read Chapters 13 - 14	
Week 8	Exam	Written Exam over Chapters 7 - 12	TBA
		See grading policy	

	Discuss	Chapter 13: Prisons and Jails	
		<p>Describe the history of early punishments</p> <p>Outline the historical development of prisons</p> <p>Discuss the major characteristics and purpose of today's prisons</p> <p>Explain the role of jails in corrections and issue that face administrators</p> <p>Describe the role of private prisons today</p>	
	Discuss	Chapter 14: Prison Life	
		<p>Describe the realities of prison life and subcultures</p> <p>Illustrate the differences between men and women's prisons</p> <p>Describe the prison life from correction officer's point of view</p> <p>Discuss the causes of prison riots and the stages</p> <p>Discuss the legal aspects of prisoner's rights and precedent-setting U.S. Supreme Court cases</p> <p>Describe the major problems and issues that prisons face today</p>	
	Outside	Read Chapter 15 & 16	
Week 9	Discuss	Chapter 15: Juvenile Justice	TBA
		<p>Describe the history and evolution of the juvenile justice system</p> <p>Name the important U.S. Supreme Court decisions relating to juvenile justice</p> <p>Describe their impact on the handling of juveniles by the system</p> <p>Explain the similarities and differences between juvenile and adult systems of justice</p>	

		Identify possible future directions in juvenile justice	
	Discuss	Chapter 16: Drugs and Crime	
		<p>Explain the nature of illegal drugs and what constitutes an illegal drug</p> <p>Discuss the history of drug abuse and antidrug legislation</p> <p>Identify the different types of illegal drugs in this country</p> <p>Explain the link between drugs and other social problems</p> <p>Describe various efforts to respond to the drug problem and assess the effectiveness</p>	
	Outside	Read Chapters 17 and 18	
Week 10	Discuss	Chapter 17: Terrorism and Multinational Criminal Justice	TBA
		<p>Describe the principles that form the basis of Islamic law</p> <p>Identify important international criminal justice organizations and explain their roles</p> <p>Explain globalization and its relationship to crime and terrorism</p> <p>Distinguish between human smuggling and trafficking and their extent of problems today</p> <p>Define terrorism and identify two major types</p>	
	Discuss	Chapter 18: The Future of Criminal Justice	
		<p>Describe the historical relationship between technological advances and criminal activity</p> <p>Explain the important role technology has played, will play, in the fight against crime</p> <p>Provide an overview of criminalistics and explain how evolving technology contributes to advances</p>	

Grading Policy

Each week, I will provide grades or scores and comments on assignments within 6 days of when they were submitted. After I send feedback each week, I will post a notification in the **Main** forum.

Late assignments receive a 10% deduction for each day they are late if assignments are not posted by 11:59 p.m. central on the day they are due. Assignments more than 5 days late will not be accepted. Technological issues will not be considered as valid grounds for late assignment submission. In the event of a server outage, students should submit assignments to the instructor.

Percentage %	Grade
95+	A
90-94	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
64-66	D
60-63	D-
<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](http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **All assignments or correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email.**

Student Portal

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

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