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Criminal Justice Syllabi Fall 2012

Criminal Justice Syllabi 2012

2012

CJUS 101-03 Introduction to Criminal Justice

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CJUS 101/INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE
FALL 2012
MON 6:00-8:30
COHEN 193

Dr. Y.G. Hurst
Office: Cohen 155
Office number: 745-1070

Office Hrs: Tues. 11:30-2:00
Thur. 11:30-2:00
or by appointment

Course Description

Introduction to criminal justice is a course designed to familiarize students with the components, history, and legal basis of the criminal justice system. Moreover, the main objective of this course is to illustrate how each component of the system operates to form the criminal justice system as whole.

This course is designed to meet Program Student Learning Objective #1: As a result of completing this program/course, students should know the functions, roles, and issues within each component of the justice system. Additionally, by the end of this course students should know:

- The history and legal basis of the criminal justice system.
- The function and structure of various components of the criminal justice system.
- The serious policy debates confronting the American criminal justice system.

Require Reading

Siegal, L. (2010) Introduction to Criminal Justice 12th Edition. Wadsworth Publishing: Belmont, CA.

Course Requirements and Grading

Exams-Three required exams will be administered throughout the semester. The format of each test will be given prior to the exam, and unless notified exams are not comprehensive. There will also be a comprehensive, optional final exam. This optional final exam allows students who have performed well throughout the semester the opportunity to waive the final. Students who are not satisfied with required exam grades may take the final, and drop their lowest exam grade. It is important to note that students are not allowed to make up required exams. Therefore, if by some chance a student fails to take a required exam, his/her best bet would be to take the optional final.

In class writing assignment- Students will be expected to write short papers (1-2 pages in length) in response to a question or issue posed by the professor. These questions or issues will come from the weekly readings. Students should expect to be given an

class writing assignment on a weekly basis. The first week of class, and exam weeks are probably the only exceptions. The assignments must be completed in class on the day in which the topic is given. Students may be called on to discuss their answers.

Debates- During the second week of class, each student will be assigned to a debate team. Debate teams are responsible for fully researching the issue to which they have been assigned to either support or oppose. This is a group project that requires members of the team to work together to not only provide a strong argument for their side, but also challenge the argument of the opposing side. Students must also be prepared to answer any questions asked by the opposing side, class, and professor. These debates will likely take most of the semester to adequately research and prepare. Therefore, one week of class is reserved solely for team debates (see course outline).

Handouts, outlines, and/or visual aids are required as supplementary material for each debate team. Regardless of what groups present first, every group is required to submit to me on the first day of debates their required supplemental materials. Again, this material is due when debates begin; no exceptions. While I do not need to see what students are planning to say during their presentations, you must submit all of the required supplemental material that will be presented to support your argument.

Grades will be determined according to the following breakdown and scale:

Exams:	45%	100-90	A
In class writing:	30%	89-80	B
Debates	<u>25%</u>	79-70	C
	100%	69-60	D
		below 60	F

Some Important Class Policies

Students are expected to read course material, and be prepared prior to coming to class.

Students are expected to come to class on time. Moreover, the instructor reserves the right to alter the course grading to address issues of poor attendance and/or poor class preparation.

Academic dishonesty (cheating) is not permitted. Students considering cheating should read the section in your handbook that addresses this issue and its consequences.

Students must be on time to take exams. No make-up exams will be given in this course.

In class papers must be written in class on the date in which they are assigned.

Grade complaints may be made up to 1 week after an exam or paper is returned to the class. This may be done either by neatly writing or typing why you thought your answer was correct or why you thought a question was unfair. A grade change is not guaranteed, but if a student has a complaint that the professor perceives as reasonable his/her score may be changed.

Tentative Course Schedule

Week1:	Aug. 20 th	Topic:	Introduction and the nature & extent of crime
		Reading:	Chapter 2
Week 2:	Aug. 27 th	Topic:	Nature & extent of crime cont'd and Criminal law
		Reading:	Chapter 2 & 4
Week 3:	Sept.3 rd	Labor Day	
Week 4:	Sept. 10 th	Topic:	Organization of the police & the rule of law
		Reading:	Chapters 7, 9
Week 5:	Sept. 17 th	Exam #1/debate preparation	
Week 6:	Sept. 24 th	Topic:	The Court and its Workers & Pretrial procedures
		Reading:	Chapters 10, 11
Week7:	Oct. 1 st	Topic:	The criminal trial
		Reading:	Chapter 12
Week 8:	Oct.8 th	Topic:	Punishment & sentencing
		Reading:	Chapter 14
Week 9:	Oct. 15 th	Exam #2/debate preparation	
Week 10:	Oct. 22 nd	Topic:	Community based corrections, prison & jails
		Reading:	Chapters 15 & 16

Week 11:	Oct. 29 th &	Topic: Living in and leaving prison
Week 12:	Nov. 5 th	Reading: Chapter 17
Week 13:	Nov. 12 th	Exam #3
Week 14:	Nov. 19 th	Debate preparation
Week 15:	Nov. 26 th	Debates/wrap up
Week 16:	Dec. 3 rd	Optional Comprehensive Final