CJUS 101-02 Introduction to Criminal Justice

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Course Description

An overview of the components of the criminal justice system: courts, law enforcement, and corrections.

Primary Student Learning Outcomes (PSLO’s) After completing this course students should be able to:

1. Describe the functions and roles of each component of the justice system.
2. Name and critically examine the major criminological theories on crime causation.
3. Explain the roles and functions of administrators in each component of the justice system.
4. Explain and give fundamental elements of criminal and constitutional law.
5. Skills to fundamentally perform, analyze, and evaluate social research.
6. Model professional behavior and skills.

Course Objectives

1. The history and legal basis of the criminal justice system.
2. The function and structure of the various components of the criminal justice system.
3. The serious policy debates confronting the American Criminal Justice System.

Textbook: No textbook is required. Assigned reading articles are on Canvas. In an effort to facilitate class discussion, students are expected to complete assigned readings prior to the class in which they will be discussed. (See Class schedule, attached) Periodically throughout the semester, new reading assignments will be added on current topics. Those articles will be distributed in class and posted on Canvas.

Assignments

In addition to the readings each student will be required to submit two typewritten reaction papers on an issue assigned by the instructor related to criminal justice. The due dates, format and grading rubric for these assignments will be discussed at length in class and in a separate handout.
Exams, Grading & Attendance

There will be three exams consisting of multiple-choice and short essay questions. The essay questions will be chosen from a list of potential essay questions that will be handed out in advance of each exam. Contributions to the final grade will be as follows: First exam = ¼, Second exam = ¼, Third exam = ¼, and Average of two Reaction Papers = ¼.

Grading Scale:   93-100 A  83-87 B   73-77 C    88-89 B+  Below 70 F  
               90-92 A-  80-82 B-   70-72 C-    78-79 C+

Attendance is mandatory. Students will be penalized a grade for each unexcused absence. Make-up exams are only allowed by permission of the instructor due to extreme circumstances. Documentation will be required.

Disability Services

Any student who feels that he/she may need academic accommodation based on the impact of a disability (e.g.: sensory, learning, psychological, medical, mobility) should contact me to arrange an appointment to discuss your needs as soon as possible. I rely on the Disability Services Office for assistance in verifying your eligibility for academic accommodations related to your disability. If you have not previously contacted Disability Services, I encourage you to do so at 513-745-3280 on the Fifth Floor of the Conaton Learning Commons, Room 514 or e-mail Cassandra Jones at jonesc20@xavier.edu, to coordinate reasonable accommodations.

CLASS SCHEDULE (11:30-12:45pm, TR)

Aug. 25    Introduction, Course Requirements, Syllabus

Aug. 27, Sep. 1, 3    What is Criminal Justice?  
                     Justice and the American Network (Eskridge)

Sep. 8, 10, 15    The Crime Picture  
                  Highlights From 20 Years of Surveying Crime Victims (Zawitz)

Sep. 17, 22, 24, 29    Criminal Law  
                       Crime and Criminal Law (Walsh)

Oct. 1    First Exam

Oct. 6    Police History  
          Development of the American Police (Uchida)

Oct. 8    No Class. Fall Break!
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<td>Oct. 13, 15</td>
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| Oct. 20, 22  | Police Function
*Police Culture, Individualism, and Community Policing* (Paoline) |
| Oct. 27, 29, Nov. 3 | Legal Aspects of Policing
*Legal Issues in Policing* (Meadows) |
| Nov. 5       | **Second Exam**                                                       |
| Nov. 10, 12  | The Courts
*Federal and State Courts* (Walsh) |
| Nov. 17, 19  | Courtroom Work Group
*Careers in the Courts* (DeLucia)
*Prosecuting for Safety’s Sake* (Pepinsky) |
| Nov. 24      | The Criminal Trial                                                    |
| Nov. 26      | **No Class. Thanksgiving!**                                          |
| Dec. 1, 3    | Sentencing, Probation, Parole and Community Corrections               |
| Dec. 8, 10   | Structure of Prisons and Jails
*Jail Overcrowding: Social Sanitation and the Warehousing of the Urban Underclass* (Welch)
*Private Prisons* (Diluilio) |
| Tuesday, Dec. 15 | **Final Exam 10:30am-12:20pm.**                                        |