

Coffeyville Community College

SOCI-124

COURSE SYLLABUS

FOR

INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Antoinette Tackett

Instructor

COURSE NUMBER: SOCI-124 **COURSE TITLE:** Introduction to Criminal Justice

CREDIT HOURS: 3

INSTRUCTOR: Antoinette Tackkett

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OFFICE HOURS: Posted on office door.

PREREQUISITE(S): None

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS:

Criminal Justice Mainstream and Crosscurrents , John Randolph Fuller, 2nd Ed. Prentice Hall. 2010.
Paper folder for current events.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is an introductory course designed to give an overview of the various components of the justice system. This course is designed for men and women at the beginning of their academic careers and to those who are working in the field of criminal justice and want to broaden their knowledge and advance professionally. Criminal justice is a practical science exploring the roles of law enforcement, the courts, corrections and criminal behavior and their relationships within the larger framework of public policy.

EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES:

1. The learner will gain a working knowledge of the machinery of justice as they gain an understanding of the criminal justice system and its agents of social control.
2. Students will develop skills for critical analysis as they examine various theoretical approaches to police, courts, and corrections throughout history in the U.S. and abroad.
3. Students will begin to explore the relationship between ideology, power and criminal justice.
4. Students will enhance their research and writing skills.
5. The student will be prepared for further courses within the discipline.

LEARNING TASKS & ACTIVITIES:

1. A current events workbook will be required of each student. The last Thursday of the month, the student will hand in his notebook with 2 current events clipped from newspapers or from online news reports and a written commentary by the student assessing the veracity and/or bias of the news item as well as analyzing the crime committed. Critical thinking will be encouraged and graded. **NO PLAGIARISM ALLOWED.**
2. Discussions and debates in class will reinforce the developing skills of critical thinking and enhance the understanding of the machinery and complexity of the justice system in today's world.
3. See activity schedule attached.
4. The student may come to the instructor's office any time during office hours for help with any problems they may have with the course subject or with any other topic.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students are required to attend class sessions regularly. *Absences of more than three classes may affect the student's semester grade. More than 6 absences will result in the student being dropped from the class.* Each student is required to complete the current events notebook, quizzes, the in-class exams, and the final examination. Participation in class discussion is considered when final grades are calculated. In-class writing assignments and pop quizzes may be given.

Absolutely NO electronics to be used in class. The student will be asked to leave if they are found to be using phones, camera phones, ipods, blackberries, iphones, or any other electronic device. If the student is found to be using **any** electronics during an exam, the exam will be taken away, the student will leave the room, and an F grade will be given for that exam.

The student is responsible for keeping track of his/her grades which will be posted and updated every week in the classroom.

ASSESSMENT OF OUTCOMES:

Cognitive: Knowledge and understanding of all areas of material covered will be assessed through tests and quizzes.

Metacognitive/Performance and Skills: These will be evaluated in

classroom debates/discussion, abstract writing assignments, and homework as well as the students' analysis of the various theoretical approaches to justice.

Affective: Attendance, attitude and classroom participation will be evaluated.

**COURSE
OUTLINE:**

Units

1. Crime: Problems, Measurement, Theories, and Law
Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4
2. Enforcing The Law
Chapters 5, 6, 7
3. Role of the Courts
Chapters 8, 9, 10
4. From Penology to Corrections and Back
Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14

**DISCUSSION
QUESTIONS:**

Students will be required to complete take-home quizzes after each chapter. These are due the following class day after the lecture for that chapter. These will be worth 15 points each when handed in the next class day. If the quizzes are handed in late, there will be half credit given. Unless arrangements are made with the instructor for an emergency case, there will be no quizzes accepted a week after the due date.

GRADING POLICY:

Each test: 50 points
The final examination: 100 points
Current events notebook: 10 points each entry
Participation and attendance: 50 points
Quizzes: 15 points each.

The following grading scale will be used as a general guide to the course grade:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
below 60%	F

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance in class is expected. More than 3 absences will affect your grade. The door may be locked at the class time, so there will be no tardies allowed unless prearranged with the instructor. If the student misses **more than six (6) unexcused** days, he/she may be dropped from the class. Only in exceptional cases that are cleared with the instructor will the student be allowed to stay in the class with more than six unexcused absences.

When the student will be missing a quiz or exam for school-related activities, the instructor **MUST** be notified three days **BEFORE** the scheduled test date so that arrangements may be made to take the test prior to the scheduled test date. If there are assignments due when the student will be absent, **the student is responsible** for turning those assignments in **BEFORE** he/she leaves for their activity. All work should be turned in by the due date for full credit. **DO NOT** depend on the coach or activity sponsor to notify the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor.

Read the College's Student Handbook section about the official attendance policy.

STUDENT PLAGIARISM:

Students should learn in an environment of integrity, free from the intrusion of any kind of dishonest conduct. When an academic exercise is designed to result in a grade, any of the following activities constitutes violations of academic honesty (unless expressly authorized in advance by the instructor).

- X Cheating includes the intentional giving, receiving, or use (or attempts thereof) of any assistance, including notes, copying, or prior knowledge of examination materials.
- X Plagiarism includes intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas or images of another as one's own in any academic exercise.
- X Fabrication includes the intentional falsification or invention of any information.
- X Collusion includes any secret agreement among students who participate in any academically dishonest activity.

A minimum penalty for all forms of academic dishonesty is to receive a zero for the paper, assignment, or test on which the violation occurred. The maximum penalty will be a review by the Dean of Academic Services with possible expulsion from this institution.

COMPETENCIES: The student will:

Gain a working knowledge of the machinery of justice as they gain an understanding of the Criminal Justice System and its agents of Social Control

1. Describe and explain the politics of criminal justice. (Comprehension)
2. List the variety of careers available in criminal justice. (Knowledge)
3. Explain the science and profession of criminal justice. (Comprehension)
4. Show how crime is counted, the amount of crime and number of arrests. (Knowledge)
5. Describe types of crime; know the difference between index crimes and non-index crimes. (Knowledge)
6. Understanding and explaining criminal behavior. (Comprehension)
7. Compare the models of the criminal justice system and explain the stages of its processes. (Analysis)
8. List the seven basic principles of criminal law. (Knowledge)
9. Applying these principles of defenses: excuses and justification. (Application)

Develop skills for critical analysis as they examine various theoretical approaches to police, courts, and corrections throughout history in the U.S. and abroad.

1. Explain the history and organization of the police. (Comprehension)
2. List the differences between the Federal, State and Local systems of policing. (Knowledge)
3. Describe management styles in managing police. (Knowledge)
4. List the types of policing strategies and techniques. (Comprehension)
5. Explain the function of law enforcement. (Comprehension)
6. Analyze the culture and subcultures of the police structure. (Analysis)
7. Show how at least four factors contribute to the stress of policing. (Application)
8. Examine the Bill of Rights and criminal justice under the Constitution. (Comprehension)
9. Define the Fourth Amendment on unreasonable searches and seizures, the Fifth Amendment on self-incrimination, and the Exclusionary Rule. (Knowledge)
10. Recite the *Miranda* warning. (Knowledge)
11. Evaluate the use and abuse of force within law enforcement. (Evaluation)

Begin to explore the relationship between ideology, power and criminal justice.

1. Explain the role and origin of courts in America. (Knowledge)
2. Know the difference between Federal, State, District, and Local courts. (Knowledge)
3. Describe the role of the prosecution, the defense counsel and the judges. (Comprehension)
4. Understand and list the processes of No Trial, Pretrial, Trial, and Posttrial. (Knowledge)
5. Describe the purpose and goals of criminal sanction. (Application)
6. Diagnose the arguments for and against capital punishment. (Analysis)

Enhance their research and writing skills.

1. Identify the various movements in the history of institutional corrections. (Knowledge)
2. Discuss the major developments in American corrections. (Knowledge)
3. Explain the size and cost of the correction system. (Knowledge and Analysis)
4. Understand the role of the institutional correction facilities. (Comprehension)
5. Give three approaches to dealing with prisoners within these facilities. (Knowledge)
6. Discuss the effects of overcrowding on the prison population. (Analysis and Application)
7. Describe the benefits of alternative corrections, Community Corrections. (Application and Knowledge)
8. Evaluate the effectiveness of probation, parole and intermediate sanctions. (Evaluation)

Be prepared for further courses within the discipline.

1. Identify the various changes in the Juvenile Justice system over the history of law enforcement. (Knowledge)
2. Understand the differences between adult and juvenile systems. (Comprehension)
3. Give three special problems of the juvenile system. (Knowledge)
4. Explain the Drug, Sex, Gambling abuses in the U.S. (Knowledge and Analysis)
5. Discuss Terrorism and how the U.S. is fighting against it. (Analysis and Knowledge)
6. Evaluate the effectiveness of Homeland Security. (Evaluation)
7. Discuss and evaluate the war on drugs. (Analysis, Evaluation, Knowledge)

This syllabus may be revised as deemed necessary by the instructor. Students will be notified of any changes.

Revised January 10, 2011