

CJ 101 INTORDUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Winter Quarter 2010

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Office Hours: By appointment

Required Text: Robert Bohm and Keith Haley, **Introduction to Criminal Justice**, 6th Edition, 2008, McGraw Hill Publishing

Additional required readings for the course will be posted on MyBC in the Course Assignments Section. In addition, I will post suggested readings on various related subjects that are not required you are encouraged to read these as well.

COURSE SUMMARY AND OBJECTIVE

This course deals extensively with the historical development and content of the criminal law in this country and the state of Washington. It will introduce the student to criminal law in general; the purpose, scope and sources of criminal law; essential elements of a crime; criminal liability; criminal responsibility and the capacity to commit a crime; defenses that seek to justify the use of force; other criminal defenses; criminal punishment; criminal jurisdiction; decision making by the Supreme Court, and the limits of free speech. Crimes against the person, crimes against property sex crimes, and other common offenses within the Revised Code of Washington will also be discussed, with special regard to the appropriate elements of the criminal law pertaining to such crimes. In addition, the course will explore the Criminal Law from the standpoint of average citizen to whom the law is commonly being applied. It will answer such questions as; When can a police officer make an arrest? Is it a good idea to talk to the police if you are a criminal suspect? When can an officer search your person or vehicle or both? When is a police officer liable for his or her behavior?

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of this course students are expected to be able to:

1. Identify the components (law enforcement, courts and corrections) of the criminal justice system.
2. Explain the process of creating law in the United States.
3. Identify the past, present, and future operation of criminal justice in the United States.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the unique vocabulary of criminal justice.
5. Demonstrate a critical understanding of criminal justice in the United States.
6. Identify employment opportunities in criminal justice.
7. Define the differences between criminal and civil justice.
8. Explain the concept of punish, retribution, and corrections.

9. Identify local, state, and national offices and components of the criminal justice system.
10. Classify crime, criminal response, and related issues.

COURSE GRADING CRITERIA

Your grade will be based upon attendance, participation in class and two exams. To receive a passing grade in this course, students must complete all of the assignments and exams. Students must submit the assignments on the due dates. The instructor will grade each student individually on a possible total score of 300 points, which is structured as follows:

1. **Exams (200 points):** The exams are based on all of the assigned reading material regardless of whether or not we discuss the material in class. There will be two examinations - a midterm and a final exam. Each exam will consist of short answer questions and essay questions. Each exam will cover all the course work up to the date of the exam, both readings and in class discussion and performance. Tests may also cover handouts, material presented in class including but not limited to, lectures, videos, and guest lecturers. A portion of each exam will be drawn from material presented only in class. ***There will be no make up exams without advance approval from me.*** Such approval will be granted only for true family or medical emergencies. You are encouraged to take notes in class and to make outlines of the readings - *there will be no formal exam review in class, although I will set aside time during the class before each exam to address any issues that may need clarification or review.*

- a. Midterm (100 points)
- b. Final Exam (100 points)

2. **Research Paper (100 points):** The paper should be approximately five (5) pages, typewritten and double spaced. I will provide the topic and submission instructions and grading criteria to the students in separate documents.

3. **Class Attendance and Participation:** is required and expected. Since this course will focus on both mastering the relevant facts and developing the analytic and advocacy skills needed to use what you know, one cannot fulfill the course requirements without attending and participating in the class discussions and presentations. In addition to the above-referenced grading criteria, I do take into account the degree and quality of your class participation when determining the final grades. Thus, class participation can only help your grade and it is highly recommended. Also, the course exams will test both familiarity with the assigned readings and topics covered exclusively in class I will take attendance at every class. If you cannot attend class due to an emergent situation, e-mail or call me ***in advance.***

COURSE RULES

1. Class lectures are kept informal to facilitate discussion. Students should conduct their side conversations very quietly, they should keep those conversations to a minimum, and they should be related to the topic being discussed in class.
2. Students are expected to do their own work. Cheating of any type is prohibited and students who fail to comply with this requirement may be denied credit for the course. If appropriate, the college may also impose other sanctions. Those wishing further clarification may seek advice from the instructor or consult their Student Handbook.
3. The instructor will not accept any late work and he will not give any make-up work or make-up exams. Attendance is strongly encouraged, though neither required nor recorded. Students are encouraged to study all assigned readings before class because performance on class assignments and on exams are directly related to the student's knowledge of the text reading materials.
4. Students are encouraged to discuss concerns or class problems, if any, with the instructor. The instructor is available throughout the Quarter to discuss the student's current approximate grade and ways to improve the grade.
5. Students with special needs should contact Disabled Student Services (DSS) and notify the instructor during the first week of the course. DSS will evaluate your specific needs and issue an Accommodation Memorandum as needed. If the student does not do the above, it is assumed that the student does not have a disability requiring some form of an accommodation.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS¹

Week 1 (1/5)

Chapter 1. Crime and Justice in the US

Week 2 (1/12)

Chapter 2. Crime and Its Consequences

¹ All test and assignment dates shown in this syllabus are tentative and subject to change upon notice given during class. The instructor may give additional assignments in class throughout the quarter. It is the student's responsibility to keep informed as to any announced assignments or schedule changes. If a student cannot attend a class, be sure to get any missed information from a classmate or contact the instructor.

Week 3 (1/19)

Chapter 3. Explaining Crime

Week 4 (1/26)

Chapter 4. The Rule of Law

Week 5 (2/2)

No Class on 2/2

Chapter 5. History and Structure of the American Law Enforcement

Week 6. (2/9)

Chapter 6. Policing: Roles, Styles, and Functions

Chapter 7. Policing: America Issues and Ethics

Week 7 (2/16)

Midterm on 2/16

Chapters 8. The Administration of Justice

Week 8 (2/23)

Chapter 9. Sentencing, Appeals, and the Death Penalty

Week 9 (3/2)

Chapter 10. Institutional Corrections

Week 10 (3/9)

Chapter 11. Prison Life, Inmate Rights, Release, and Recidivism

Week 11 (3/16)

Chapter 12. Community Corrections

Week 12 (3/23)

Final Exam on Tuesday, 3/23 5:30 pm to 7:20 pm