

# Introduction to Criminal Justice

## Criminal Justice 101

**Instructor:** Kelli Callahan

**Office:** D200C and Online

**Dates:** 09/18/17-12/07/17

**Office Hours: M/W 12:30-3:00pm In Person and Online**

**6:00-10:00pm Daily and by Appt.**

**Class:** Online

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### Required Text:

***Introduction to Criminal Justice*** (8th edition) by Bohm & Haley (2014). ISBN: 9781259343667 McGraw Hill Publishers. You are also welcome to use the non-hardback version of the e-version of the book.

Older editions of this text are not to be used since they will have older statistics and will not contain the most current data in the dynamic field of criminal justice.

Note: It is your responsibility to secure the required textbook as soon as possible as it will be needed during the initial week of class in addition to all subsequent weeks of the class.

**Course Description:** This course serves to introduce students to the three main components of the criminal justice system: Police, Courts, and Corrections. Important background information addressing crime, classification and definitions of offenders, and victims and offenders will also be discussed. The focus of this introductory course includes: 1) Police organization, roles, functions, and responsibilities, 2) Court organization, processes, and outcomes (i.e. sentencing), and 3) Punitive sanctions including probation, parole, jail, prison, and additional community corrections.

### Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Use a working vocabulary based on the terminology used in the three components of the Criminal Justice System.
- Differentiate between the workings and responsibilities of the three major components of the American Criminal Justice System: the police, the courts and corrections.
- Describe the theories, models and concepts within the Criminal Justice System and determine their strengths and weaknesses.
- Explain how laws are made, categorized and enforced and the process of deciding how these laws are applied to case based situations.
- Identify the reasons why experts in the field think the term Criminal Justice System is a myth and a true system is non-existent.

- Examine the current major issues within the Criminal Justice System and be able to explain those issues giving case based examples of what they are.

**Schedule:** The following schedule is tentative and may be modified with notice. Students are responsible for any and all changes that are made to this schedule, even if not present when changes are discussed. The assigned readings, which should be completed as soon as possible during the academic week, and all test dates are highlighted for your convenience.

**Online Course:** Since this class does not meet face to face on campus you are expected to attend the online classroom for AT LEAST one hour five times a week. To be successful in this class, you will need to be reading the textbook, viewing the PowerPoint, forum posts, and all other guides posted on Canvas. You must also submit weekly discussion (which is similar to questions that would be asked in a classroom format). If you have never taken an online course I would recommend taking the online tutorial at: <https://bc.instructure.com/courses/411354> to familiarize yourself with Canvas.

**Software:** Microsoft Word is the only word processor supported at Bellevue College. You must use Microsoft Word or save the assignment in PDF format to submit any documents for the class. Documents submitted in any other format will not be accepted.

**Web Browser:** You must use a Web browser supported by Canvas and it must be properly “tuned.” Information about supported browsers and how to tune them is posted on the E-Learning website: <http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/elearning>

**Rhythm of this Course:** Please read this section very carefully. If you cannot adjust your schedule to the rhythm of the class, you will have difficulty succeeding in this course. Deadlines are firm and the late penalty for this course is strictly enforced regardless of the reason for the late submission in order to ensure fairness for all students. Note, quizzes and discussion forums must be completed during the current academic week only. Given the semi-synchronous nature of the online environment, there are no make-ups on discussion forums or quizzes if you miss them during the current academic week. For video Assignments, the late penalty is -10% per day. The online class environment has a very different rhythm as compared to the traditional live, on-campus course and each online course is different from other online courses. In this class, the first day of the online "week" begins on Monday mornings at 12:01am and runs through Sunday night at 11:59pm. All work must be submitted by the 11:59pm deadline in order to avoid the late penalty. There are six major components to this course: 1) Reading the assigned textbook, 2) Viewing all lecture material (PowerPoint slides which are not narrated), 3) Discussion Forums, 4) Video Assignments, 5) Quizzes, and finally, 6) A comprehensive Final Exam. Each of the aforementioned items are discussed in further detail below.

**1) Reading the assigned textbook:** It will extremely difficult to pass this course without reading the assigned textbook. It is your responsibility to purchase the required textbook for this class. It is up to your discretion to decide the best time to complete each of the assigned weekly readings however they should be completed prior to other assignments due during the same academic

week.

**2) Reviewing the PowerPoint Lectures:** For each major section of the course, there are accompanying PowerPoint slides that you can download and/or print. Additional information and resources are contained in these lectures, which are similar to those given in the on-campus version of this course. These slides are not narrated so that you can proceed at your own pace.

**3) Discussions:** There are nine (9) total discussions in this course, not including your initial introduction discussion. First, you must do an initial post (your analysis/research and scientific consideration about the discussion topic) before you post replies to your peers. Your initial post should be submitted no later than Thursday of each academic week by 11:59pm PST. Second, please be sure to read and evaluate the discussion forum contributions of your peers. Third, each student will be required to make a minimum of two (2) replies in response to other students' posts by the end of the on-line week which is Sunday at 11:59pm PST. Ideally, replies should be submitted after your initial post, and later in the week. Also, please be sure to spread your activity out over a minimum of three (3) days during the academic week in order to maximize on points. Note: Discussion forums are semi-synchronous therefore any discussion forum work submitted after the official conclusion of the academic week (11:59pm PST on Sundays) will not earn credit.

**4) Video Assignments:** There are a total of four (4) video assignments in this course. You will watch each of these videos during our time in class that address various issues in our contemporary criminal justice system. You will then address five to ten essay questions per video. Average length submission is between two to four pages long however just remember that the more substantive and detailed all work, the more credit it will receive. Video assignments may be submitted late with a late penalty of -10% per day late assessed.

**5) Quizzes:** There are a total of four (4) quizzes in this course. Each quiz opens on a Saturday morning at 12:01 AM and closes on a Sunday night at 11:59 PM. The quizzes are comprised of multiple choice and short answer questions. 30 minutes is provided to complete each quiz. No late quizzes are accepted for any reason. All quizzes must be completed during the current academic week only in order to earn credit. In order to submit the quiz on time, it needs to be started at least 50 minutes before the due date/time.

**6) Final Comprehensive Exam:** The final exam is comprehensive and covers all course materials. It will consist of multiple choice questions. It will be due no later than the second official day of final exams (12/05/17) by 11:59 pm. A total of 90 minutes is allotted to complete the final exam. No late final exams are accepted for any reason so please plan accordingly.

### **Course Outline:**

#### **Week 1:** 09/18/17-09/24/17

Introduction to Class and Expectations (syllabus and getting started module)

Read: Chapter 1 - Crime and Justice in the United States

Participate: Introductory Discussion Forum and Posting a Photo

Participate: Discussion Forum #1

**Week 2:** 09/25/17-10/01/17

Read: Chapter 2 - Crime and Its Consequences

Participate: Discussion Forum #2

Video Assignment: Complete Video Assignment #1

**Week 3:** 10/02/17-10/08/17

Read: Chapter 3 - Explaining Crime

Participate: Discussion Forum #3

**Week 4:** 10/09/17-10/15/17

Read: Chapter 4 - The Rule of Law

Participate: Discussion Forum #4

Complete Quiz #1 covering Chapters 1-4

**Week 5:** 10/16/17-10/22/17

Read: Chapter 5 - History and Structure of American Law Enforcement

Participate: Discussion Forum #5

Video Assignment: Complete Video Assignment #2

**Week 6:** 10/23/17- 10/29/17

Read: Chapter 6 - Policing: Roles, Styles, and Functions

Read: Chapter 7 - Policing America: Issues and Ethics

Participate: Discussion Forum #6

**Week 7:** 10/30/17- 11/05/17

Read: Chapter 8 - The Administration of Justice

Participate: Discussion Forum #7

Complete Quiz #2 covering Chapters 5-8

**Week 8:** 11/06/17- 11/12/17

Read: Chapter 9 - Sentencing, Appeals, and the Death Penalty

Participate: Discussion Forum #8

Video Assignment: Complete Video Assignment #3

**Week 9:** 11/13/17- 11/19/17

Read: Chapter 10 - Institutional Corrections

Read: Chapter 11 - Prison Life, Inmate Rights, Release, and Recidivism

Participate: Discussion Forum #9

Complete Quiz #3 covering Chapters 9-11

**Week 10:** 11/20/17- 11/26/17

Read: Chapter 12 - Community Corrections

Read: Chapter 13: Juvenile Justice

Participate: Content Forum #10

Complete Quiz #4 covering Chapter 12-13

**Week 11:** 11/27/17- 12/03/17

Participate (Optional): Final Open Forum

Video Assignment: Complete Video Assignment #4

**Finals Week:** 12/04/17- 12/07/17

12/05/17 - Final Exam covering all Chapters (comprehensive).

**Grading:**

| Activities | Points Description | Total Points |
|------------|--------------------|--------------|
|------------|--------------------|--------------|

|                           |   |            |
|---------------------------|---|------------|
| Introduction + Post Photo | First week only (one time)                  | 10         |
| Discussion Forums         | 9 weeks total @ 10 points each              | 90         |
| Quizzes                   | 4 quizzes @ 25 points each                  | 100        |
| Final Exam                | 1 final exam @ 50 points                    | 50         |
| <u>Assignments</u>        | <u>4 video assignments @ 25 points each</u> | <u>100</u> |
| Total Points:             |   | 350 points |

### Grading Scale:

|           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| A 94-100% | A- 90-93% | B+ 87-89% |
| B 84-86%  | B- 80-83% | C+ 77-79% |
| C 74-76%  | C- 70-73% | D+ 67-69% |
| D 60-66%  | F 0-59%   |           |

**Netiquette:** What is Netiquette? Netiquette is the conduct or behavior that is expected when you are working on the internet or in cyberspace. Netiquette is a set of rules for appropriate behavior. Respect for opinions voice in the online class is essential, and I expect all students to treat each other courteously. Any type of disruptive or discourteous behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Netiquette guidelines are posted in the sidebar [pages] and in the getting started module for everyone to review in week one.

**Discussion Threads:** Participation in the discussion forums maximizes your learning experiences and that of your classmates. You are required to participate in discussion threads online and in classroom activities and discussions. As part of an online and in class group you will have the opportunity to interact with others for deeper understanding of the materials offered. Most importantly, you have the opportunity to understand differing points of view and how they are arrived at by your classmates. You may not agree with those points of view, and others may not agree with yours. The focus of the discussion thread and classroom activities is to use resources from your book and the internet to best support your conclusions and more effectively understand the other person's point of view. Please be accurate and in your responses. Remember, grammar, syntax, and spelling count.

### Discussion Rubric:

|                         | Excellent     | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| <b>10 Points Weekly</b> | (8-10 points) | (5-7 points) | (1-4 points)   |

**Quantity and timeliness**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creates an initial post &amp; responds to another post within the weekly time frame</li><li>• Few grammatical and spelling errors (0-1)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creates an initial post &amp; responds to another post within the weekly time frame</li><li>• Few grammatical and spelling errors (2-3)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Does not Create an initial post and doesn't respond to another post within the weekly time frame</li><li>• Several grammatical and spelling errors (4 or more)</li></ul> |
|---|---|--|

**Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of course content**

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Post demonstrates clear Evidence of knowledge and understanding of course material & content | Post demonstrates some evidence of knowledge & understanding of course material & content | Post does not demonstrate evidence of knowledge & understanding of course materials |
|--|---|---|

**Posts generate learning within the community**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Post response and comment demonstrates clear understanding of another point of view and how course content applies to it.</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Response elicits some response and reflection from others</li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Response seldom elicits responses and reflection for others</li></ul>           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Response elicits responses and reflection for others</li><li>• Response provides resources to aid in deeper critical thinking.</li><li>• Post response and comment demonstrates understanding of another point of view and how course content applies to it.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Response provides some resources to aid in deeper critical thinking</li><li>• Post response does not demonstrate understanding of another point of view and how course content applies to it.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Response seldom provides resources to aid in deeper critical thinking</li></ul> |

**Total Points=100**

Rubric was retrieved from a [pbs.org](https://www.pbs.org) website and was copyrighted in 2010.

**Affirmation of Inclusion:** Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect. <http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

**Religious Holidays:** Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

**College Anti-Discrimination Statement:** Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates.

**Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting:** As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share with the Title IX Coordinator any and all information regarding sexual assault and other forms of sexual misconduct (e.g. dating violence, domestic violence, stalking) that may have occurred on campus or that impacts someone on campus. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the BC Counseling Center at (425) 564-2212. The Title IX Office can be contacted at 425-564-2441 and more information can be found at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/) For further information and contacts, please consult [College Anti-Discrimination Statements](#).

**Bellevue College E-mail:** All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to: <https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam>

**Email:** All e-mail communication from you should come to me from your BC account (not your g-mail, hotmail, yahoo, etc.). Please e-mail me through CANVAS for the quickest reply. I will respond to you within 24-48 hours (except on weekends). BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Computing Services website](#).



**Attendance:** All students are expected to attend the online classroom five times a week for an average of 1-2 hours at a time. You do not need to be online at a certain time, but you must complete the work within the given time frame. Obviously, if students do not attend the online classroom regularly, the opportunity to perform well in this course is greatly diminished.

**Course Requirements:** All students are expected to read the required chapters of the textbook as outlined online and in the schedule section of this syllabus. Students are also expected to read the required chapters to attend the online classroom regularly, finish online requirements, take notes, ask questions, and participate in online discussions.

**Make-up Policy:** Any make-up assignments or quizzes are allowed only at the discretion of the instructor and immediate, proactive communication and notification from the student is imperative. Excused absences: death of immediate family member (death notification needed), medical emergency (ER discharge papers required) or other emergency with documentation. Any excused absence (with documentation) will be allowed to take the make-up the assignment and/or quiz without point penalty. Any unexcused or undocumented missing video assignment and/or quiz will NOT be allowed to make-up. The late penalty in this course is strictly enforced to ensure fairness to all students. Since this is an online course you have plenty of time to work on the coursework around any emergencies, work obligations, family obligations, vacations, etc.

**Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing:** Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

**Incomplete:** If a student fails to complete all the required work for course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("F"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an ("F").

**F Grade:** Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

**Final Examination Schedule:** The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC schedule ([Finals](#)). Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstances beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designed by the instructor.

**Withdrawal from Class:** College policy states students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

**Hardship Withdrawal:** Instructors may assign the grade of “HW” (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

**Distribution of Grades:** Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades online through Canvas.

**Return of Papers and Tests:** Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if students supply the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**Public Safety:** The Bellevue College (BC) Public Safety Department’s well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements and critical information in the event of an emergency. Public Safety is located in D-171 and on the web at: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>

**Disability Resource Center (DRC):** The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible. If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter. The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc)