

Montgomery County Community College
CJS 100
Introduction to Criminal Justice
3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course introduces the student to the American system of criminal justice. Its growth and development will be examined with emphasis placed on the various subsystems of the criminal justice system (substantive and procedural criminal law; police, prosecution, defense, courts, institutional and community corrections; and the juvenile justice system). Additionally, contemporary issues that challenge the functional efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system will be addressed. Students will learn the terminology of the field and have the opportunity to evaluate personal attitudes and values regarding crime and responses to crime.

REQUISITES:

Previous Course Requirements

None

Concurrent Course Requirements

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Describe the principal causes of crime, employing major criminological theories.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study
2. Explain the importance and the challenges of racial, ethnic, and gender diversity, both within the criminal justice services sector, and among client groups in the broader society employing empirical and statistical data in analyzing trends and correlations.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
3. Enumerate each of the major due process guarantees set forth in the U.S. Constitution, and explain the dynamic balance that exists between individual rights and public order.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study
4. Describe the history of policing and professional police operations, and explain the major concepts and theories employed in contemporary police operations including community policing concepts and the use of targeted policing through the use of modern data management systems such as ComStat.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study
5. Discuss the philosophical underpinnings, origins, and structure of our system of substantive criminal law.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
6. Discuss the philosophical underpinnings, origins, and structure of our system of procedural criminal law and the concept of due process as basic standards of fairness and decency necessary to the maintenance of a free society.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study
7. Define the leading ethical challenges confronting our criminal justice system today, both systemically and at the personal level, and employ learned ethical theory and debate in the process.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study
8. Explain the five major penological rationales, and outline the structure and evolution of the American corrections system.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
9. Exhibit proficiency in research skills and written and oral communication within the conceptual framework of understanding the interaction of the various components of the American criminal justice system.	Assigned Readings Lectures Discussions Case Study Analysis AV/Multimedia Materials Internet Field Trips Field Trips Essay Assignments Directed Research Quizzes and Exams Technology Utilization (Computer and Internet)	Multiple-Choice Exam Graded Essay Graded Essay Exam Assignments Graded Research Project Individual or Group Presentation Graded Class Discussion Graded Case Study

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. Crime in America
 - a. What is criminal justice?
 - b. The crime picture
 - c. The search for the cause of crime
 - d. Criminal law
2. Policing
 - a. Policing history and structure
 - b. Police management
 - c. Policing: legal aspects
3. Adjudication
 - a. The courts
 - b. The criminal trial
 - c. Sentencing
4. Corrections
 - a. Probation, parole and community corrections
 - b. Prisons and jails
 - c. Prison life
5. Special Issues in Criminal Justice
 - a. Juvenile delinquency
 - b. Drugs and crime
 - c. Women and the criminal justice system
 - d. Minorities and the criminal justice system
 - e. The future of criminal justice

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Introduction to Criminal Justice 16th edition by Larry J. Siegel and John L. Worrall+
MindLink for MindTap Printed Access Card

Textbooks are retained or changed at the discretion of the division. The decision to retain or change a textbook will be effective with the Fall term. When a textbook is retained, its latest edition will be adopted as of the Fall term.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Angela M. Ambers-Henderson	Date: 1/12/1999
Revised by: Benn Prybutok	Date: 5/28/2008
VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification: Dr. John C. Flynn, Jr.	Date: 9/11/2009
Revised by: Benn Prybutok	Date: 11/12/2010
Interim VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 1/19/2011
Revised by: Benn Prybutok	Date: 2/23/2013
Interim VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 2/25/2013
Revised by: Jayden Sampson	Date: 12/16/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:	Date: 12/18/2017



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.