

Montgomery County Community College
CJS 260
Special Studies in Criminal Justice
3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will explore topics and areas within the American criminal justice system. Subject matter and topics will vary from each semester and reflect an in-depth study of the specific issues being examined. A seminar approach will be employed.

REQUISITES:*Previous Course Requirements*

- CJS 100 Introduction to Criminal Justice

Concurrent Course Requirements

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Analyze a complex social issue or controversy, taking into consideration all major points of view, and demonstrating a knowledge and appreciation of their respective merits, limitations, and ambiguities.	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. Formulate a proposal for remedial public policy, based upon empirical findings of fact relating to the defined problem or issue.	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. Formulate a working hypothesis regarding a research problem in criminal justice, and devise a research model aimed at testing the hypothesis and drawing a conclusion.	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. Demonstrate the ability to research and write a technical paper on a criminal justice issue in a form suitable for publication.	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 (RANGE) OF TOPICS:

1. Crime & the Media
2. Sexual Deviancy and the Law
3. Race & Gender Issues in the American Criminal Justice System
4. Capital Punishment in the U.S. and Globally
5. Incarceration in America
6. Police 'Use of Force' & 'Use of Deadly Force' – Limitations & Consequences
7. Police Corruption
8. Victimless Crime & Law Enforcement
9. Gun Control
10. Decriminalization and Legalization of Drugs

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Textbooks are selected each semester at the discretion of the division.

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: Donald A. Nypower Date: 5/12/1995

Revised by: Angela M. Ambers-Henderson Date: 10/1998

Revised by: Benn Prybutok Date: 1/30/2009

Revised by: Benn Prybutok Date: 2/22/2013

VPAA/Provost or designee 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.