

CJ 261.03
Introduction to Criminal Justice
Fall 2007

Professor: Mark Pullin
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Class Hours: Wednesday 6:00pm - 8:50pm
Classroom: CJC A201
Office Hours: Tuesday 9am – 12pm, By Appointment

Required Reading:

Schmallegger, F. **Criminal Justice, A Brief Introduction**, (7th ED). Pearson Prentice Hall Publishing (2007).

Course Description:

An introduction to criminal justice designed to expose students to the diverse and complex criminal justice system. Students will acquire a thorough and comprehensive understanding of crime and justice in the United States.

Course Objectives:

1. Introduce the laws, procedures, and policies involved in procession an offender through the criminal justice system.
2. Allow students to develop an understanding of roles and responsibilities of various officials involved in the court system.
3. Examine the police role, the judicial system function, and correctional techniques used in dealing with offenders.
4. Familiarize the students with the history of the public's attitudes toward the offender and the resulting changes in laws, systems policies, and legal practice.
5. Analyze and evaluate the future of the CJ System.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance will be recorded pursuant to University policy. Role will be taken each class session. **More than five (5) absences will result in failure of the course.** This rule applies to all absences for whatever reason. No distinction will be made for excused or unexcused absences.

Classroom Conduct and Participation:

Students are encouraged to participate in scholarly debate of the issues pertinent of this course. It is expected that alternative opinions may arise between members of the class including the instructor. All students are expected to treat others with respect to their opinions. **Blatant disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated in the classroom. Violations of this policy will result in immediate dismissal from the classroom.**

Exams and Criminal Process Report:

All exams will consist of multiple choice, essays, and identification of criminal investigation techniques depending on where the class is at exam time.

A final report will be written using the Burns books at the end of the semester after we have gone through the process of briefly learning how the criminal justice system operates. You will compare and contrast how the CJ system on the Burns book handled the case and how things may differ when criminal cases you have read about or seen on television evolve. This will be a three to five page report using the Burns book and three other sources to complete the project. Sources may be television, newspapers, or magazines. Report will be double spaced, #12 font, and one inch margins. All references must be included at the end of the report and cited when used in paper.

Grading Policy:

Exam 1	100 Points	A 440-500
Exam 2	100 Points	B 380-439
Final Exam	100 Points	C 320-379
Criminal Process Report	100 Points	D 260-319
Attendance/Participation	<u>100 Points</u>	F Below 260
Total	500 Points	

Make-up Exams:

No make-up exams will be given unless arrangements have been made prior to the examination date.

Make-up exams must be taken within one (1) week of the original test date.

Crime Scene projects must be turned in on December 3rd and will not be accepted after the end of class.

Academic Dishonesty:

Please see the following website:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

Disabled Student Policy:

Please see the following website:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html

Services for Disabled Students:

Please see the following website:

<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

Student Absences on Religious Holiday Policy:

Please see the following website:

<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html#holyday>

Writing Assistance:

The Sam Houston Writing Center is available to all students who need writing assistance. The center is located in the Farrington Building, Room 111, and is open every day of the week. More information about the center and its services may be found at the following website:

<http://www.shsu.edu/~wctr>

Course Outline:

The following is a tentative schedule and is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. All materials are expected to be read before each class time so quality class participation can occur.

- August 22 Class Introduction and Orientation
 Chapter 1: What is Criminal Justice?
- August 29 Chapter 2: The Crime Picture
- September 5 **Labor Day – No Class**
- September 12 Chapter 3: Criminal Law
- September 19 Chapter 4: Policing: Purpose and Organization
 Chapter 5: Policing: Legal Aspects
- September 26 Chapter 6: Policing: Issues and Challenges
 Review for Exam I
- October 3 **Exam I**
- October 10 Chapter 7: The Courts
- October 17 Chapter 8: The Courtroom Work Group and the Criminal Trial
- October 24 Chapter 9: Sentencing
 Review for Exam II
- October 31 **Exam II**
- November 7 Chapter 10: Probation, Parole, and Community
- November 14 Chapter 11: Prisons and Jails
- November 21 **Thanksgiving – No Class**
- November 28 Chapter 12: Prison Life

December 5 Chapter 13: Juvenile Justice
Turn In Crime Process Report
Review for Final Exam

December 12 **Final Exam**