

Introduction to Criminal Justice

Spring 2008

CJ 261.08

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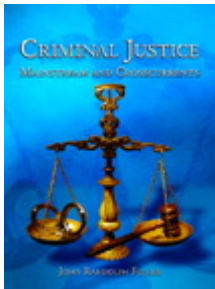
Class Hours: MWF 11-12:00 P.M.

Classroom: C110

Office Hours:

- **Monday** 12:00-3:00 P.M.
OR
- **By Appointment**

Required Text:



Fuller, John (2006). *Criminal Justice: Mainstream and Crosscurrents*. Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, NJ.

Additional Resources:

This is the companion website for the book. The website provides practice quizzes and other learning tools that coincide with each chapter in the book. It is strongly advised that you utilize this tool to help you prepare for class tests.

http://wps.prenhall.com/chet_fuller_criminalju_1

A link to this site can also be found on blackboard. When you log into your account and click the CJ 261- Intro to Criminal Justice class, there should be an option on the left side of your screen that says, TEXTBOOK COMPANION WEBSITE. Click it and you will go directly to the site.

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the criminal justice system. It will start with a brief look at theoretical ideas of why people commit crime and then move to how crime is defined and measured. From there it will walk the student through the funnel of justice, from police intake, through the court system, to a correctional output; with all of the possible exits along the way. It will examine the interaction of the system and its players and how that system balances the rights of an accused individual with the rights of the larger society to be protected.

Course Objectives:

Students who successfully master the course content will:

- Be able to list at least two examples of common measures of crime and know the difference between the two and some weaknesses of each.
- Be able to explain at least one difference between classical criminology and positivist criminology.
- Be able to articulate which constitutional amendment regulates police procedure.
- Be able to explain the difference between Problem Oriented Policing and Community Oriented Policing.
- Be able to accurately describe the structure of the federal and state court system.
- Know the individuals included in the courtroom workgroup and explain the concept.
- Be able to list and explain three possible goals of corrections.
- List and explain at least two forms of community corrections.

Grading:

Exam 1	15%	90 – 100 = A
Exam 2	15%	80 – 89 = B
Exam 3	15%	70 – 79 = C
Exam 4	15%	60 – 69 = D
Final Exam	15%	59 & Below = F
Short Paper 1	5%	
Short Paper 2	5%	
Participation	15%	
	<hr/>	
	100%	

Short Thought Papers:

I will assign a question in class. You are to write one to two, double spaced, 12pt font pages, answering the question. You need at least one reference. You may use the textbook as your reference or any other source you choose. Please remember, whatever source you choose, you **MUST CITE** your source. These papers should start with an introduction paragraph, followed by a body, and end with a conclusion paragraph. I will be happy to answer questions about this format, so feel free to ask. These are opinion papers in general, and you may take any side, but you must support your argument.

Exams:

Exams will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. Completing the chapter quizzes on the book companion website will assist students in preparing for your exams and is highly recommended. In addition, students are expected to bring a standard (882) scantron with them on the day of the scheduled exam.

Participation & Attendance:

Attendance is expected and will be taken daily. The university allows three hours of missed class time. This translates into 2 class for our purposes. I do not require any notification of why you will miss those classes; do what you will with those days. You will be responsible for what you miss. **THIS MEANS:** If you *choose* to miss a test date without a viable excuse, you will receive a zero on the test. If you *choose* to miss a date on which an assignment is due, you will be docked 5 points a day, until it is turned in. If you are sick, or have some sort of emergency or any other reasonable situation and need to miss a class, please contact me. We all have situations that come up and I will work with yours so that your grade will not suffer. Aside from excused absences, those absences in excess of the allowed freebees, will be penalized in the 15% of your grade that is allotted to participation.

Make-Up Exams:

All make-up exams will be given on one day, at the end of the semester. You must have contacted me and discussed your absence from the original exam, in order to make up an exam.

Academic Honesty:

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action.

The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

"Cheating" includes:

(1) Copying from another student's test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs. (2) Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test. (3) Collaborating, without authorization, with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work. (4) Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered test. (5) Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, to take a test. (6) Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test. (7) Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of the rough and/or final versions of an assignment by a professional typist.

"Plagiarism" means the appropriation of another's work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work or idea into one's own work offered for credit.

"Collusion" means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit.

"Abuse of resource materials" means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials.

Cell Phones, Pagers, Palm Pilots, Etc.:

All communication style or general noise making devices should be off or on silent during class. If you have an emergency situation or if you are on call from a professional position, please let me know before class begins. Some exceptions will, of course, be allowed in these cases. If you decide that, for any reason, you must send or receive a call, please leave the classroom to do so. This rule is in place to show respect for each student in the class, who may want to hear the lecture or discussion.

Disabled Student Policy:

Please meet with me if you have need for accommodations based on a disability. I will be happy to work with you to make any necessary arrangements. Please feel free to speak to me about it, even if you have only a minor request. For a full version of the disabled student policy, go to:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/811006.pdf

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student who is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

Class Schedule:

Please note that this schedule is tentative as we may need to spend more time on some topics than others.

Date	Topic	Required Chapters
Jan 16	-Introduction -Syllabus	None
Jan 18	-Different types of crimes, overview of the current system, and the funnel of criminal justice	Ch 1
Jan 21	- HOLIDAY	None
Jan 23	- Different types of crimes, overview of the current system, and the funnel of criminal justice	Ch 1
Jan 25	-The way crime is categorized and measured	Ch 2
Jan 28	-Why do some people commit crime?	Ch 3
Jan 30	-Why do some people commit crime?	Ch 3
Feb 1	-Purpose, origin, and the elements of law	Ch 4
Feb 4	-Purpose, origin, and the elements of law	Ch 4
Feb 6	-Test Review	Ch 1-4
Feb 8	<u>TEST 1</u>	None
Feb 11	-Ancient and early English and American policing	Ch 5
Feb 13	-Ancient and early English and American policing	Ch 5

Feb 15	-Organization, expectations, styles of, and legal limitations of current policing	Ch 6
Feb 18	-Organization, expectations, styles of, and legal limitations of current policing	Ch 6
Feb 20	-Use of force, gender and race, non-traditional policing, and officer stress and burnout -Discuss and distribute Short thought Paper 1	Ch 7
Feb 22	- Test Review	Ch 5-7
Feb 25	<u>TEST 2</u>	None
Feb 27	-Pre-court system, colonial American Courts, and current court organization	Ch 8
Feb 29	-Pre-court system, colonial American Courts, and current court organization <u>SHORT THOUGHT PAPER DUE!</u>	Ch 8
Mar 3	-My Cousin Vinny & discussion of courtroom Workgroup	Video
Mar 5	-My Cousin Vinny & discussion of courtroom Workgroup	Video
Mar 7	-How regular opponents in the courtroom actually work together	Ch 9
Mar 17	-How regular opponents in the courtroom actually work together	Ch 9
Mar 19	- Options for what could happen after arrest, and before sentencing	Ch 10
Mar 21	- Holliday	
Mar 24	- Options for what could happen after arrest, and before sentencing	Ch 10
Mar 26	-Test Review	Ch 8-10
Mar 28	<u>TEST 3</u>	None
Mar 31	-Early pre-prison systems of corrections -Early American penal systems, and individuals who implemented big changes	Ch 11
Apr 2	-Prison video	Ch 11

Apr 4	-What the inside of American prisons are like today - Discuss and distribute Short Thought Paper 2	Ch 12
Apr 7	-Options we have to punish people but still keep them out of prison	Ch 13
Apr 9	-Options we have to punish people but still keep them out of prison - <u>Short Thought Paper 2 Due</u>	Ch 13
Apr 11	-Test Review	Ch 11-13
Apr 14	<u>TEST 4</u>	None
Apr 16	-Early concept of "juvenile", the juvenile today, and the current juvenile justice system	Ch 14
Apr 18	-Early concept of "juvenile", the juvenile today, and the current juvenile justice system	Ch 14
Apr 21	--Black Tar Heroin: The dark end of the street -Video discussion	Video
Apr 23	--Black Tar Heroin: The dark end of the street -Video discussion	Video
Apr 25	-Drugs, Gambling, and Sex Work	Ch 15
Apr 28	-Drugs, Gambling, and Sex Work	Ch 15
Apr 30	-The war on drugs -The war on terrorism -Peacemaking and restorative justice	Ch 16
May 2	-The war on drugs -The war on terrorism -Peacemaking and restorative justice	Ch 16
May 5	-Test Review	Ch 14-16
May 7	-Make-Up Exam Day	None
TBA	<u>FINAL EXAM</u>	TBA