

Intro to Criminal Justice - 1010-01

Instructor: Don C. Reid

Tues. / Thurs. - 10:30 to 11:45

McDonald Bldg. - Room 102

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Motivation:

“Success is less a matter of personal charisma, high I.Q., and ‘natural talent,... than it is a matter of *commitment, hard work, and personal motivation.* Give me a hard working ‘average’ Joe with loyalty, commitment, and dedication over a lazy genius any day”. (Author unknown)

Personal Creed

“Will it matter that I was”?

(Author unknown)

BASIC COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is for students interested in a career in law enforcement, adult probation and parole, corrections, juvenile justice, law, the judiciary, politics, education, etc.; or those simply interested in the human endeavor and the role that society, law, and government plays in our lives. The academic discipline of criminal justice is a culmination of the study of psychology, sociology, anthropology, history, criminology, law, political science and human behavior in general. It takes from each of these studies and uses as it's most recent resource of information, the daily lives of each of us.

While this particular course emphasizes the importance of free society and the need and purpose for law in our lives, it will also introduce the student to such specific topics as crime and it's causes; the history, purposes, challenges, and evolution of **policing**; structure, operation, and limitations of the adjudication process; the purpose, utility, and challenges of corrections; and such special and unique issues as juvenile justice, drugs and crime, and terrorism. This course will also address such counterproductive social issues as gangs, domestic violence, child abuse, pornography, racism, alcoholism, the homeless, etc. . We will take a critical view of the role of government and will refer often to the U.S. Constitution in comparison to other countries. At the end of this course every student should understand what makes the American governmental experiment so unique.

TEXT: This course will use as its main source of information: “Introduction To Criminal Justice - Fourteenth Edition”, by Larry J. Siegel and John L. Worrall. *(Though the instructor will use lecture material from three additional collegiate criminal justice texts, testing will come primarily from this text).*

Intro to Criminal Justice 1010 provides a basic foundation for students intending to continue their education in criminal justice or pursue a career in law, policing, or corrections. This course will integrate the use of lectures, videos, guest speakers, assigned texts, and practical demonstration to make essential points.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: (Keeping in mind that this is a “Humanities” school of thought; at the conclusion of this course the student should be able to carry on a fairly intelligent conversation of the following topics):

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| 1- Human nature and “man” as a social animal;
benefits of a free and progressive society.
for governmental leadership, law and order, enforcement, and corrections.
substantive vs. procedural / Criminal vs. civil / (Crime control vs. due process).
Accusatory vs. inquisitory adjudication, and the American interpretation of the “scales of justice”. | 2- The
3- The need
4- Law:
5- |
|---|--|

EXPECTATIONS:

1- Attendance. This class is built upon a chronological sequence of lectures that make regular classroom attendance important. For example, “how does one understand the Founding Father’s obsession with a Bill of Rights if one misses the lecture on the historical importance of the Magna Carta of 1215 England”.

2- Reading. Chapters should be read ahead of the corresponding lecture. **The lecture is meant to clarify and expound upon the basics of the text.** If the student has not at least read the text he/she may not understand the clarification or the purpose for expounding beyond what is written in the basic text.

Guest speakers may be used during the semester, as time and circumstances allow, so class discussions may not always cover all of the text material. Yet, the student may be held responsible for all assigned reading for testing purposes, regardless of whether such material was discussed in class.

3- Outside projects may be assigned as extra credit on an “as need basis” only basis, such as for makeup work.

4- Quizzes on the reading material may be given periodically and said grade will be included in the participation portion of your overall grade.

5- Note-taking is highly recommended due to the fact that a great deal of “case-in-point” examples, as well as material from several additional texts, will be used by the instructor in order to emphasize points and topics discussed in the main text.

6- Respect. Respect to discussion leader and/or students asking questions. This will be very strictly enforced.

Expectations (continued, on a personal note): This instructor fully understands that each person's life is uniquely complicated and "life comes at you fast", and I will do all I can to accommodate personal schedules, emergencies, etc. I will do all I can to work with you in that regard but **there must be limitations** and I will expect you to **regulate your own circumstances** as much as possible. The human endeavor and criminal justice is all about accountability, negotiation, cooperation, and responsibility. If you do all you can and consider my responsibilities as well, I will bend over backwards to accommodate you in this class. (Your responsibilities usually include doing all you can to handle your own little emergencies and giving me the consideration of planning ahead. **Failure to give me advanced notice on your part does not constitute an emergency on my part**).

In return for all this, you may expect of me, that I will never waste your time. I will commit to you that I will continue to study, research, and plan meaningful information for you every day of the semester. I will do all in my power to make this class as interesting as possible and I will work with you to the extent that I am able, (ethically and legally), in achieving the grade and information you need. I will especially be attentive to your needs in cases of family emergency within the limitations set by college policy and if you should come down with a particularly contagious cold or flu I will reward you for sparing the rest of us the same misery by working with you through email as much as time will allow.

CLASS RULES: (#1): Respect for those responsible by law for the conduct and substance of this course, (the instructor). Though class participation is appreciated and encouraged, the instructor is ultimately responsible for covering a certain amount of academic material and will therefore control all class activity. Unnecessary disruption of class is legal grounds for dismissal. Respect for the course curriculum; meaning that if you still have questions about a particular topic that may have only been briefly addressed in the classroom, or have disagreement with the discussion, take it up with the instructor in out-of-class time. Interruptions during class may result in your being asked to leave the class and/or your participation grade being lowered. Cellular telephone calls and text messaging during class is strictly PROHIBITED. Respect for fellow classmates; there will be no tolerance for open disrespect of one's opinions, beliefs, nationality, race, religion, gender, politics, etc. This will be closely monitored and controlled by the instructor.

DISCLAIMER: (1): Information contained in this syllabus, other than the grading, makeup work, and attendance policies, may be subject to change with only minimal advance notice as deemed appropriate by the instructor. **The reading and lecture schedule will remain flexible in order to facilitate guest speakers, demonstrations, outside resource opportunities, and a learning pace at which the majority of the class is able.** (2): This is a criminal justice course. This course will study the nature of mankind and human's interaction, specifically man's tendency to violate social norms from time to time and our attempt at controlling that behavior. We therefore will also be addressing the more serious crimes against persons and society, including the many ways in which the worst of us prey upon the weak among us.

The kinds of things man is able to do to his fellow man should be offensive to the average individual. We will be exploring some of these cases and in doing so we may evaluate incidents that include offensive language, behavior, and actions. It will not be my intent to offend any student under a pretense of "academic freedom". I therefore must rely upon input from you. If certain language and types of video or audio reproduction may offend you please let me know in advance so I can avoid that discussion to the degree possible in a criminal justice class. *(For example; I would avoid an in-depth discussion on the crime of rape if I have prior knowledge that one among you is still recovering from such a crime).*

“One-Stop Shop: The pages at the end of this syllabus gives you detailed information and guidance necessary to access the library, computer labs, Disability Resource Center, IT help desk, Testing Center, Tutoring Center, Writing Center, Academic integrity policy, Disruptive behavior policy, Absences related to college functions, Dmail, etc.,

Administrative Withdrawals

It is the policy at DSC that students who fail to attend the first scheduled class meeting or to contact the instructor regarding absence prior to the first scheduled class meeting may be withdrawn by the instructor to allow enrollment by the other students. If a student fails to attend class at all during the first week or two an administrative withdrawal card will be filled out and the student will be officially removed from the class rolls before the end of the third week of the term. Therefore, class rolls are important

<u>GRADING:</u>	Attendance - 10%	Participation - 10%	Test #1 - 20%
	Test # 2 - 20%	Test # 3 - 20%	Test #4 - 20%

Final grades will be determined on a percentage basis:

A = 91-93%, A- = 88-90%, B+ = 84-87%, B = 81-83%, B- =78-80%,

C+ = 74-77%, C = 71-73%, C- = 69- 70, D = 67- 68, F = 67% and below.

All testing will take place in the classroom.

DISABILITIES: “Proper documentation of a disability is required in order to receive services or accommodations. Any student eligible for and requesting reasonable academic accommodations due to a disability must provide a letter of accommodation to their professor from the Disability Resource Center within the first two weeks of the beginning of classes. Please contact the Center on the main campus to follow through with the documentation process. The Disability Resource Center is located in the Student Services Center, or you may call for an appointment and further information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) at 652-7516.

Class Reading and Attendance Schedule - 2013

Introduction to Criminal Justice

- Day 1: Aug. 20** - **Introduction** and welcome / Course intro / Text / Syllabus / (Pre-test)
Day 2: Aug. 22 - **The nature of “man”**; (social animal) / Society and government; (law and order)
Day 3: Aug. 27 Criminal Justice; (“What to do with Charlie”)
Day 4: Aug. 29 - **Chpt. 1:** **Crime and Criminal Justice:** The need for law in our lives
Day 5: Sept. 3 The criminal justice system (police, court, and corrections)
Day 6: Sept. 5 - **Chpt. 2** **The Nature and Extent of Crime:** (Media / Politicians) / Trends
Day 7: Sept. 10 - **Chpt. 3** **Crime and Victimization:** Cause and Effect
Day 8: Sept. 12 - **Chpt. 4** **Criminal Law: Substantive law / Procedural law**
Day 9: Sept. 17 Criminal law / Civil Law / Classification and defense
Day 10: Sept. 19 *Course review - Test #1*
Day 11: Sept. 24 - **Chpt. 5** **Policing Society:**
Day 12: Sept. 26 History / Organization / Challenges
Day 13: Oct. 1 - **Chpt. 6** **The Police:** Organization, role, and function
Day 14: Oct. 3 - **Chpt. 7** **Issues in Policing - Training / Expectations / Women / Minorities**
Day 15: Oct. 8 Deadly force and officer discretion

Semester Break

- Day 16: Oct. 15** - **Chpt. 8** **Police and the rule of law - Controlling the police**
Day 17: Oct. 17 The U.S. Constitution / The Bill of Rights
Day 18: Oct. 22 *Course review - Test #2*
Day 19: Oct. 24 - **Instructor’s Choice**
Day 20: Oct. 29 - **Chpt. 9** **Court Structure and Personnel - Criminal court process: State / Fed**
Day 21: Oct. 31 - **Chpt. 10** **Pretrial / Trial: Prosecution and Defense; an adversarial system**
Day 22: Nov. 5 - **Chpt. 11** **Punishment and Sentencing**
Day 23: Nov. 7 - **Chpt. 12** **Community Sentences:**

Career Day

- Day 24: Nov. 14** *Course review - Test #3*
Day 25: Nov. 19 - **Chpt. 13** **Corrections: History, Institutions, and Populations**
Day 26: Nov. 21 - **Chpt. 14** **Prison Life in America**
Day 27: Nov. 26 - **Chpt. 15** **Juvenile Justice**

Thanksgiving Break

- Day 28: Dec. 3** - **Chpt. 16** **Crime and Justice in the New Millennium**
Day 29: Dec. 5 - **Instructor’s Choice**

Day 30: TBA **Final**