

INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CJ 1010-50

Thursdays 5:15 to 7:45 p.m.
McDonald Bldg 105
Instructor: Matt Miller
Phone: 656-9230
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SYLLABUS FALL 2009

Course Description

This course is for students interested in a career in law, law enforcement, corrections, criminology, private or industrial security, social work, or teaching. It examines the nature of crime, law, the police and law enforcement, the court system in the United States, corrections, and the various issues and theories associated with criminal justice.

Course Objectives

The goal of this course is to help students gain a comprehensive understanding of the Criminal Justice System. To accomplish this goal, we will study:

- The history and nature of crime, including the various theories used to explain crime.
- The history, structure and issues associated with law enforcement and the effort to combat crime.
- The history and structure of the judicial system in the United States.
- The future of criminal justice.

Text

Introduction to Criminal Justice 11th Ed., by Larry J. Seigel and Joseph J. Senna, Thompson Wadsworth, 2008.

Expectations

Preparation: Class lectures and discussions will, for the most part, follow the reading schedule provided. Students are expected to complete each week's reading assignment **prior** to class. Although class discussions will not always cover all the material in the

assigned reading, students are expected to know the material in each chapter for quiz and testing purposes.

Class discussion is highly encouraged. At the instructor's discretion, extra credit may be given for substantial participation in weekly class discussions. Current events will be discussed as they arise. Students are expected to keep up to date on local, regional, and national events associated with topics pertinent to this course.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend class each week. Attendance may be excused for special or exceptional circumstances, but only with prior approval from the instructor. Students are also expected to arrive on time. Unexcused absences and/or excessive tardiness may affect your grade.

Academic Integrity: Members of law enforcement, those practicing law, and who are otherwise associated with the criminal justice system, are expected to display the highest levels of integrity. As students in the criminal justice program, you are expected to act with the same. Cheating will not be tolerated. Any assignment completed with cheating or dishonesty will receive a failing grade.

Exams: There will be a mid-term and final exam. Exams will consist of short answer, multiple choice, and true/false questions. Questions will be drawn from the assigned reading, lectures, class discussions, and films. The mid-term exam will be worth 100 points and the final 200 points. Make-up exams have the same limitations and requirements as the attendance policy stated above.

Quizzes: There will be a short quiz for each of the reading assignments. Each quiz will be worth 10 points

Grading:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Midterm Exam | 100 points |
| Final Exam | 200 points |
| Quizzes | |

Students with 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 instructor 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 Center is located in the Student Services Center room 201, or you may call for an appointment and further information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) at 652-7516.

Dmail: Important class and college information will be sent to you Dmail email account. This information includes your DSC bill, financial aid/scholarship notices, notification of dropped classes, reminders of important dates and events, and other information critical to your success in this class and at DSC. All DSC students are automatically assigned a

Dmail account. If you do not know your user name and password, go to www.dixie.edu and select "Dmail" for complete instructions. You will be held responsible for information sent to your Dmail account, so please check it.

Disclaimer: Information contained in this Syllabus may be subject to change with advance notice as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Class Schedule and Reading Assignments:

| | Reading | Topics |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| August: 8/27/09 | | Introduction/film |
| September: 9/3/09 | Chapters 1 & 2 | Crime and CJ; Nature and Extent of Crime |
| 9/10/09 | Chapter 3 | Understanding Crime |
| 9/17/09 | Chapters 4 & 5 | Criminal Law; Police in Society |
| 9/24/09 | Chapters 6 & 7 | The Police; Issues in Policing |
| October: 10/1/09 | | Mid-term Review; film |
| 10/8/09 | | Mid-term Exam |
| 10/15/09 | | Semester Break |
| 10/22/09 | Chapter 8 | Police and the Rule of Law; Exam Review |
| 10/29/09 | Chapters 9 & 10 | The Courts; Prosecution and Defense |
| November: 11/5/09 | Chapters 11 & 12 | Pre-trial Procedures; The Criminal Trial |
| 11/12/09 | Chapters 13 & 14 | Punishment & Sentencing; Community Sentencing |
| 11/19/09 | Chapter 15 | Corrections |
| 11/26/09 | | Thanksgiving Break & Mr. Miller's B-day |
| December: 12/3/09 | Chapter 16 | Prison Life |
| 12/10/09 | | Final Exam Review; Course wrap-up |
| 12/17/09 | | Final Exam |
| Important dates: 9/18/09 | Last day to add classes | |
| 10/19/09 | Last day to drop/audit classes | |
| 11/13/09 | Last day for complete withdrawal | |
| 11/17/09 | Career Day | |