

Bemidji State University

CRJS 1120: Criminal Justice and Society

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: *.*

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

A general introduction to the philosophies, principles, and social aspects which underlie the formulation of law and administration of justice in the United States. Provides an overview of the institutions and relationships of those agencies composing the criminal justice system. Liberal Education Goal Area 9.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/22/2016 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Main components of the criminal justice system (CJS):
 - a. police,
 - b. courts,
 - c. corrections, and
 - d. victims
2. Careers in criminal justice
3. Citizen participation in the criminal justice process
4. Constitutional rights and responsibilities
5. Critical issues and controversies
6. Ethical considerations in crime and justice
7. Philosophies and principles of crime and justice
8. The general stages and process within the criminal justice system
9. Correlates of crime
10. Major criminological theories
11. Basics of criminal law formulation and structure

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. . identify and describe the functions for each of the four main components of the criminal justice system.
2. . develop and support a viewpoint about what causes crime and what society should do about it.
3. . explain historical and current crime rates trends.
4. . describe the origins of the American criminal justice system.
5. . discuss the origins of police and correctional professions.
6. . compare and contrast the concepts of disparity and discrimination; explain how both manifest within the criminal justice system.
7. . explain the ways in which citizens participate in the criminal justice system, influence laws and legislation, and help and/or hinder crime prevention and recidivism.
8. . understand how criminal laws are formulated, enacted, and structured.
9. . explain the various ways in which jurisdiction influences the work across all the pillars of the criminal justice system and at all levels of government.
10. . sequentially map the stages and processes within the criminal justice system.
11. . list and describe the major theories of criminal offending.
12. . explain Public Law 280 and its impacts on criminal justice jurisdiction.
13. . identify and discuss the role of victims and victim services within the criminal justice system.
14. . identify and describe basic constitutional rights of critical concern for those within the criminal justice system.
15. . identify and critically discuss current controversies and issues related to criminal justice.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

1. Examine, articulate, and apply their own ethical views.
2. Understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues.
3. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.
4. Recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.
5. Identify ways to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted