

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CRJ)

CRJ 101 Introduction to Criminal Justice

3 Semester Hours

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of three integral parts of the criminal justice system. Students will be exposed to the historical development and contemporary status of law enforcement, the judicial system, and correctional systems. In addition, the development of critical thinking skills in relation to criminal behavior, justice, and correctional philosophies will be stressed. This course meets General Education Distribution Area III.C.

CRJ 205 Law Enforcement Systems and Practices

3 Semester Hours

The history and development of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, as well as organizational structure, goals, methods, and effectiveness of law enforcement practices, will be discussed. Current issues facing various levels of law enforcement will be examined. Students will gain a better understanding of the role law enforcement plays within society and the criminal justice system. Prerequisite: CRJ 101.

CRJ 210 Social Science Research Methods

3 Semester Hours

Presents the basic principles of qualitative and quantitative research methods, including experimental studies, focus groups, interviews, and surveys. It addresses study design, implementation, interpretation, and presentation. Prerequisite: CRJ 101, SOC 201 or PSY 101.

CRJ 215 Judicial Systems and Practices

3 Semester Hours

This course is a study of the organization, structure and processes of local, state, and federal court systems. Topics discussed will include both civil and criminal law. Students will gain an understanding of the differences between local, state, and federal court systems. This will include an understanding of legal jurisdiction and legal representation for accused persons. Prerequisite: CRJ 101.

CRJ 220 Constitutional Law

3 Semester Hours

This course provides a detailed study of the Constitution of the United States; the workings of the Federal Courts, with emphases on the Supreme Court; and the effects of court decisions on national, and through incorporation of constitutional guarantees of civil liberties, state government. Prerequisite: CRJ 101 or PLSC 210.

CRJ 225 Deviant Behavior

3 Semester Hours

Through examination of how deviant behavior is constructed and controlled within society, the course will include discussions about theories of deviance, deviant identities, deviant acts, and deviant careers. Students will critically examine behaviors, why some behaviors are considered deviant, and the process by which deviant behaviors can sometimes become criminal behaviors. Prerequisite: CRJ 101 or SOC 201.

CRJ 305 Corrections

3 Semester Hours

This course offers an examination of the philosophy, historical development and current status of correctional systems. Issues related to incarcerated populations, legal rights, and various forms of punishment and corrections are included. Students will acquire an understanding of the goals of punishment and corrections and the ability to critically evaluate the effectiveness of correctional systems. Also, a greater knowledge of how policies related to punishment and corrections impact individuals and society will be gained. Prerequisite: CRJ 101.

CRJ 310 Victimology

3 Semester Hours

Through study of crime victims and their roles within the criminal justice system, the course will focus on physical, psychological, and financial impacts victimization has on individuals and society. The legal rights of victims throughout the justice process will also be discussed. Student will learn about the overreaching impact crime has on the lives of victims and on society as a whole. Prerequisite: CRJ 101.

CRJ 315 Juvenile Justice System

3 Semester Hours

This course offers students an examination of the historical development and contemporary status of the juvenile justice system in the United States. Critical evaluations of current juvenile justice policies and programs will be explored. Prerequisite: CRJ 101.

CRJ 400 Criminology

3 Semester Hours

This course examines various theories of criminal behavior, their development, and status in contemporary thought. Students will develop an appreciation for various levels of explanation utilized to study criminal behavior. Critical evaluation skills will be stressed to assess the strengths and weaknesses of each theory and the potential for incorporation into the criminal justice system. Prerequisite: CRJ 101 and 210.

CRJ 405 Ethical Issues in Criminal Justice 3 Semester Hours

This course will examine ethical and moral philosophies and various ethical dilemmas faced by law enforcement, judicial, and correctional personnel. Critical thinking skills about various types of ethical and unethical behavior will be developed. Also, students will gain a better understanding about the impact ethical and unethical behavior has on the criminal justice system and society as a whole. Prerequisites: CRJ 101, 205, 210, 215, 305, and 400.

CRJ 469 Internship in Criminal Justice 3 Semester Hours

Students will gain exposure to the daily operations of a criminal justice agency through a faculty supervised field experience. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner, adhere to all agency rules/regulations, and fulfill all agency and faculty assignments. Prerequisites: CRJ 101, 205, 210, 215, 305, Junior/Senior status, minimum 2.0 GPA, and permission of the Major Coordinator.

CRJ 489 Independent Study 3 Semester Hours

This course provides students with an opportunity to take part in research beyond the requirements of other Criminal Justice courses through independent study. In doing so, students will become more familiar with the research process and hone their critical reading and researching skills. Prerequisites: CRJ 101, 210, Junior/Senior status, and permission of instructor.