
CCJ2020-02 Introduction to Criminal Justice

College of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Florida State University

Summer 2020

Professor: Dr. Julie Brancale

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Office Hours: By appointment, via Zoom

Course Overview and Objectives

This course is designed to provide you with an understanding of the history, trends, research, and theories of the criminal justice system's response to crime in American society. This requires that you develop an understanding of police, courts, and corrections, which make up the core elements of the American criminal justice system. Emphasis will be placed on the operations and problems of the criminal justice system and ways in which these problems can be overcome. The course includes an examination of past and current criminal justice policies and practices. By the end of this course, you will be able to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the main issues facing criminal justice policy, practice, theory, and research.

The main objectives of this course are:

1. To describe the prominent theories of crime causation, as related to criminal justice policies.
2. To describe the history and development of the American criminal justice system.
3. To describe the current structures and operations of the American criminal justice system.
4. To describe different strategies for the intervention and prevention of criminal behavior.
5. To identify the primary challenges facing criminal justice professionals.
6. To evaluate the effectiveness of the American criminal justice system.
7. To examine, interpret, and explain how personal, political, cultural, and social experiences and/or structures shape the past and the present.
8. To discuss the role of social factors in contemporary problems or personal experiences.
9. To analyze claims about social phenomena.

Required Materials

Textbook and Articles

Schmallegger, Frank. *Criminal Justice Today: An Introductory Text for the 21st Century*. Fifteenth Edition. ISBN: 978-0134749754

Articles for some topic areas will be available in the Modules section of the course's Canvas site.

Computer

You must have regular access to either a desktop or laptop computer for this course. Some Canvas features may not work well on phones and tablets, therefore completing course assignments on a computer is critical.

Internet

You must have regular access to a reliable and secure Internet connection for this course.

Course Grading, Policies, and Structure

Grades in this course will be determined by your performance on five quizzes and the University-required Liberal Studies writing assignment. Under no circumstances will late assignments be accepted. All course assessments (attendance declaration, quizzes, paper, and extra credit) must be received before the assigned due date and time to receive credit, no exceptions will be made to this policy.

To calculate your final course grade, add the total number of points you earned and divide that number by the total number of possible points (240). Final course grades will not be curved or rounded. I will not negotiate your grade(s) at the end of the semester. Individual extra credit opportunities or assignments will not be given to improve course grades or replace required assignments/quizzes. The total number of points earned on the quizzes and writing assignment will determine your final grade in the class, no exceptions.

Assignment	Points	Due Date
First Day Attendance Declaration	-	Monday, May 11 by 5:00pm
Required Course Pre-Test	Extra Credit	Friday, May 15 by 5:00pm
Quiz 1	40	Friday, May 22 by 5:00pm
Liberal Studies Writing Assignment	40	Tuesday, May 26 by 5:00pm
Quiz 2	40	Friday, May 29 by 5:00pm
Quiz 3	40	Friday, June 5 by 5:00pm
Quiz 4	40	Friday, June 12 by 5:00pm
Quiz 5	40	Friday, June 19 by 5:00pm
Required Post-Test	Extra Credit	Friday, June 19 by 5:00pm

Grading Scale

A: 93-100%	B+: 87-89%	C+: 77-79%	D+: 67-69%	F: 59%-below
A-: 90-92%	B: 83-86%	C: 73-76%	D: 63-66%	
	B-: 80-82%	C-: 70-72%	D-: 60-63%	

Quizzes

Quizzes must be completed on Canvas before the specified due date. It is your responsibility to login and take the quiz on time. Quiz times will not be extended because of poor Internet connections, computer-related issues, Canvas-related issues, etc. Quizzes will be timed and once you begin the quiz, it must be completed in one sitting. If you are unable to take the quizzes by the due date/time, you will be given a zero, no exceptions.

Quizzes may only be taken one time; re-takes are not permitted. Quizzes can only be taken on a different date if you have a valid, documented, University-approved reason for missing the scheduled date. If you miss a quiz, you must let me know within 24 hours of the missed quiz. Make-up quizzes will consist of essay questions and will be administered at a date/time of the Professor's choosing. If you miss the scheduled make-up quiz date/time, you will be given a zero. No exceptions will be made.

Writing Assignment

Writing assignments must be submitted through the submission link on Canvas and are **due by 5:00pm on Tuesday, May 26**. Writing assignments submitted after the due date or those submitted via email/hardcopy/fax will not be accepted (you will receive a zero on the assignment if it is submitted after the deadline or via a means other than the appropriate and designated Canvas submission link). Re-writing the assignment after submission is not permitted. Turning in a paper that was submitted in a prior semester is a violation of the FSU Honor Code, will result in a zero for the assignment, and will be reported to the University. No exceptions will be made to these policies regarding the writing assignment.

First Day Attendance Declaration

FSU's mandatory first day attendance policy will apply to remote learning courses during the COVID-19 pandemic. This means that students must make contact with their instructor on the first day of classes. You **MUST** complete the first day attendance declaration on Canvas on Monday, May 11th before 5:00pm. Any student who has not completed the declaration before 5:00pm on the first day will be dropped from the class.

Email Policy

Be sure to regularly check your FSU email account, as updates and important information will only be sent to your FSU account. Emails sent to the Professor should be respectful and contain proper greetings and grammar. Due to FERPA law, I cannot and will not discuss any specifics about your grade through email (or on the phone). Any questions about grades must be asked during a scheduled Zoom virtual appointment.

Course Structure

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this course will be administered entirely remotely (online, through Canvas). To do well in this course, it is critical for you read all assigned material, watch all assigned videos, and review all notes and PowerPoint presentations. Course materials will be made available in the Modules section of our Canvas site. Assessments will be made available in the Assignment section of our Canvas site. You should be proactive and review the entire course syllabus and course calendar regularly so you are aware of any and all upcoming assignments.

University Attendance Policy

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

Academic Honor Policy

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and...[to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at <http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy>). While you are encouraged to support one another and work collaboratively when appropriate, plagiarism or other academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Incidents of cheating or plagiarism of any type will be rigorously pursued. Any form of academic dishonesty will result in a "zero" for the assignment.

Americans With Disabilities Act

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:

- (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and
- (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type.

Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation to a student until appropriate verification from the Student Disability Resource Center has been provided.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center (<http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu/>)

874 Traditions Way (850) 644-9566 (voice)

108 Student Services Building (850) 644-8504 (TDD)

Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167 sdrc@admin.fsu.edu

Syllabus Change Policy

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice. Any changes to the syllabus or course schedule will be announced in class and sent out via e-mail.

Free Tutoring from FSU

On-campus tutoring and writing assistance is available for many courses at Florida State University. For more information, visit the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) Tutoring Services' comprehensive list of on-campus tutoring options - see <http://ace.fsu.edu/tutoring> or contact tutor@fsu.edu. High-quality tutoring is available by appointment and on a walk-in basis. These services are offered by tutors trained to encourage the highest level of individual academic success while upholding personal academic integrity.

Liberal Studies for the 21st Century

The *Liberal Studies for the 21st Century Program* at Florida State University builds an educational foundation that will enable FSU graduates to thrive both intellectually and materially and to support themselves, their families, and their communities through a broad and critical engagement with the world in which they live and work. Liberal Studies thus offers a transformative experience. This course has been approved as meeting the requirements for the E- Series and thus is designed to help you become an interdisciplinary and flexible thinker; a lifelong learner; and a team builder. In addition, this course has been approved for the Liberal Studies disciplinary requirement and thus is designed to help you become a:

- Critical analyzer of quantitative and logical claims
- Clear, creative, and convincing communicator; and critical reader
- Thoughtful patron of and participant in cultural practices
- Critical appraiser of theories and the facts that support them
- Flexible and productive members of society; independent learners

Course Schedule

Topic		Reading*	Assignment
Week 1 May 11-15	Crime and Criminal Justice in America	Schmalleger Chapter 2	Attendance Declaration (Due 5/11 by 5:00pm)
	Criminological Theories	Schmalleger Chapter 3	
	Criminal Law	Schmalleger Chapter 4	Course Pre-Test (Due 5/15 by 5:00pm)
Week 2 May 18-22	History of Policing	Schmalleger Chapter 5	Quiz 1 (Due 5/22 by 5:00pm)
	Purpose of Policing	Schmalleger Chapter 6	
	Policing and the Law	Schmalleger Chapter 7	
	Challenges and Issues in Policing	Schmalleger Chapter 8	
Week 3 May 25-29	Court Structure and Participants	Schmalleger Chapter 9	Liberal Studies Writing Assignment (Due 5/26 by 5:00pm)
	Pretrial Activities	Schmalleger Chapter 10	
	Criminal Trial	Schmalleger Chapter 10	Quiz 2 (Due 5/29 by 5:00pm)
	Sentencing	Schmalleger Chapter 11	
Week 4 June 1-5	History and Purpose of Corrections	Schmalleger Chapter 12	Quiz 3 (Due 6/5 by 5:00pm)
	Community Corrections	Schmalleger Chapter 12	
	Jails	Articles on Canvas	
	Prisons	Schmalleger Chapter 13	
Week 5 June 8-12	Incarceration Trends	Articles on Canvas	Quiz 4 (Due 6/12 by 5:00pm)
	Prison Life and Inmates' Rights	Schmalleger Chapter 14	
	Special Inmate Populations	Schmalleger Chapter 14	
	Reentry	Articles on Canvas	
Week 6 June 15-19	Solitary Confinement	Articles on Canvas	Quiz 5 (Due 6/19 by 5:00pm)
	Capital Punishment	Articles on Canvas	
	Juvenile Justice	Schmalleger Chapter 15	Course Post-Test (Due 6/19 by 5:00pm)

* In addition to the assigned textbook chapters and articles listed here, you are also responsible for reading the material in the posted PDF notes and PowerPoint presentations for each topic area. You will also be responsible for listening to audio-recorded lectures and watching videos for some topic areas (specific instructions for locating the recordings and videos will be posted on Canvas).