
CCJ2020 Introduction to Criminal Justice
College of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Florida State University
Fall 2021

Professor: Dr. Julie Brancale

E-mail: julie.brancale@fsu.edu

Office: 201B Criminology & Criminal Justice Bldg

Office Hours: MW 11:45am-12:45pm,
or by appointment, via Zoom

Teaching Assistant: Sami Rasmussen

Email: snrasmussen@fsu.edu

Office: 211B Criminology & Criminal Justice Bldg

Office Hours: M 11:45-1:00pm, W 9:30-10:30am,
or by appointment, via Zoom

Course Meeting Information

Location: DIF 128

Days & Times: MWF 10:40am-11:30am

Course Overview and Objectives

This course is designed to provide you with an understanding of the history, trends, research, and theories of the United States' criminal justice system's response to crime in American society. The course requires that you develop an understanding of police, courts, and corrections, which make up the three core elements—or branches—of the United States criminal justice system. Emphasis will be placed on the operations and challenges faced by each of the three branches and ways in which these challenges 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 history, structure, current status, and key 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 and practices.
2. To describe different strategies for the intervention and prevention of criminal behavior.
3. To describe the primary methods of crime and criminal justice data collection.
4. To describe the history and development of the criminal justice system.
5. To describe the current structures and operations of the criminal justice system.
6. To identify the primary challenges facing criminal justice professionals and the system.
7. To evaluate the effectiveness of the criminal justice system.
8. To examine, interpret, and explain how personal, political, cultural, and social experiences and/or structures shape the past and the present criminal justice system.
9. To discuss the role of social factors in contemporary problems or personal experiences relating to the criminal justice system.
10. To analyze claims about social phenomena.

Required Course Materials

Textbook and Articles

Schmallegger, Frank. *Criminal Justice Today: An Introductory Text for the 21st Century*. Sixteenth Edition. ISBN: 9780135770580

Required articles for some topic areas will be available on Canvas.

Computer and Internet

You must have regular access to a computer for this course. Your computer must have a working and reliable camera and microphone. Some Canvas features and course materials may not work well on phones or tablets, therefore completing course assignments on a computer is critical.

You must also have consistent access to a working, reliable, secure, and stable internet connection.

Course Grading, Structure, and Policies

Grades in this course will be determined by your performance on four exams and the University-required Liberal Studies Writing Assignment. Under no circumstances will late assignments be accepted. All course assessments must be received before the assigned due date and time to receive credit; no exceptions will be made to this policy. To avoid any technology-related issues that may result in the late submission of your work, please be sure to allow enough time before each deadline to submit your assignments.

Final course grades will not be curved or rounded. I will not negotiate grades at the end of the semester. **Individual extra credit opportunities or assignments will not be given to improve course grades or replace required assignments or exams.** The total number of points earned on the exams and writing assignment will determine your final course grade, no exceptions.

Grading Scale

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
| A 94-100% | B+ 87-89% | C+ 77-79% | D+ 67-69% | F 59% and below |
| A- 90-93% | B 84-86% | C 74-76% | D 64-66% | |
| | B- 80-83% | C- 70-73% | D- 60-63% | |

Exams

Exams will be completed online using Honorlock and must be completed by the specified due date and time. It is your responsibility to login and take the exam on time. Exam times will not be extended because of poor Internet connections, computer-related issues, Canvas-related issues, Honorlock-related issues, etc. Even though exams will be taken online, they must be taken during scheduled lecture session time blocks, will be timed, and the exam must be completed in one sitting (once you begin taking the exam, it must be completed). A maximum of 100 points can be earned on each exam.

Exams may only be taken one time; re-takes are not permitted. Exams can only be taken on a different date if you have a valid and University-approved reason for missing the scheduled date. If you miss an exam, you must let your Professor or Teaching Assistant know within 24 hours of the missed exam. Make-up exams will consist of essay questions, will be administered at a date/time of the Professor's choosing, and must be completed online using Honorlock. **If you miss the scheduled make-up exam date/time, you will be given a zero.** No exceptions will be made.

Liberal Studies Writing Assignment

The Liberal Studies Writing Assignment is a standard and mandatory assignment for all students taking CCJ2020 courses. Writing assignments must be submitted on time through the submission link on Canvas. 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. A maximum of 75 points can be earned on the Liberal Studies Writing Assignment.

Attendance

To do well in this course, you must attend each lecture session and take detailed notes. If you miss a lecture, be sure to get detailed notes from one of your classmates; **under absolutely no circumstances will the Professor or Teaching Assistant's notes be given out**. Some material covered in the lectures will not be found in the assigned readings; therefore, it is imperative to attend each lecture, remain attentive, and take notes.

Course materials will be made available in the *Modules* section of your discussion section Canvas site. Exams and links to submit writing assignments will be made available in the *Assignment* section of your discussion section Canvas site. You should be proactive and review the entire course syllabus and course calendar regularly, to ensure that you are aware of all upcoming assignments.

Required Readings

The dates on the course calendar indicate the days that we will be discussing the topic/reading. It is critical for you to read the assigned material before each class so that you are prepared to discuss and ask questions. It is your responsibility to read all material as some exam questions may come solely from the assigned readings. If the readings change, an announcement will be made in class and posted on Canvas.

Classroom Environment and Etiquette

Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Please listen carefully while your Professor, Teaching Assistant, and classmates are speaking and be respectful of their thoughts and opinions. To reduce disruptions, please place all cell phones on silent or turn them off, please do not engage in telephone conversations, send text messages, browse the internet, or use social media during class time.

Course Communication and Email

You should check our course Canvas site and your FSU email daily. Updates and important information will only be sent to your FSU account and shared via announcements on Canvas. Emails must be respectful, include a subject, contain proper greetings and grammar, and include your full name. Any questions about grades **must** be asked during a scheduled appointment. Your Professor and Teaching Assistant cannot and will not discuss any specifics about your grade through email or on the phone.

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." (<http://fda.fsu.edu/academic-resources/academic-integrity-and-grievances/academic-honor-policy>)

Academic Success

Your academic success is a top priority for Florida State University. University resources to help you succeed include tutoring centers, computer labs, counseling and health services, and services for designated groups, such as veterans and students with disabilities. The following information is not exhaustive, so please check with your advisor or the Dean of Students office to learn more. Americans with Disabilities Act

Florida State University (FSU) values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. Our goal is to create learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming. FSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities in a manner that is consistent with academic standards of the course while empowering the student to meet integral requirements of the course.

To receive academic accommodations, a student:

- (1) must register with and provide documentation to the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS);
- (2) must provide a letter from OAS to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type; and,
- (3) should communicate with the instructor, as needed, to discuss recommended accommodations. A request for a meeting may be initiated by the student or the instructor.

Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from the Office of Accessibility Services 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 Office of Accessibility Services 874 Traditions Way 108 Student Services Building Florida State University Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167 (850) 644-9566 (voice) (850) 644-8504 (TDD) oas@fsu.edu <https://dsst.fsu.edu/oas>

Confidential Campus Resources

Various centers and programs are available to assist students with navigating stressors that might impact academic success. These include the following:

Victim Advocate Program

University Center A, Rm. 4100

(850) 644-7161

Available 24/7/365 | Office Hours: M-F 8-5

<https://dsst.fsu.edu/vap>

Counseling and Psychological Services

Askew Student Life Center, 2nd floor 942 Learning Way

(850) 644-8255

<https://counseling.fsu.edu/>

University Health Services Health and Wellness Center

(850) 644-6230

<https://uhs.fsu.edu/>

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.

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.

Honorlock

Honorlock Your exams will be proctored online through Honorlock. Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from the comfort of your home. You do not need to create an account, download a software application, pay a fee, or schedule an appointment in advance. All that is needed is a computer, a working webcam, a microphone, and a stable internet connection.

To get started, you may need to install Google Chrome and then download the Honorlock Chrome Extension. You should also review the information provided in FSU's Honorlock Resources for Students guide. It's very important to check your system compatibility and internet connection speed in advance as explained in the guide.

When you are ready to take your test, you should log into Canvas, go to your course, and click on your exam. Click "Launch Proctoring" to begin the Honorlock authentication process where you will take a picture of yourself, show your ID with a clear photo, and perform a complete scan of your room. Be sure to carefully follow all instructions provided.

The new student toolbar provides easy access to exam aids and Honorlock support. This new toolbar accessible at the bottom of the exam window will allow you access to a calculator (if allowed by your instructor), exam guidelines, allowed websites and, Honorlock's chat support, among other tools. You can find additional information in the Honorlock student toolbar overview article.

Honorlock records your computer screen and webcam and intelligently flags any suspicious activity for my review. If my review confirms that the flagged activity is a violation of FSU's Academic Honor Policy or Student Conduct Code, it may be escalated to Academic and/or Student Affairs for further action.

The Honorlock Chrome Extension may be uninstalled after taking any of your exams, but please note that it will remain inactive when an Honorlock-enabled exam is not in use. For more information or for other security or privacy concerns, please visit FSU's Honorlock Security and Privacy FAQ page. Honorlock Support is available 24/7. If you encounter any issues, I urge you to contact them by chat within the Honorlock session. If you encounter issues with Canvas, visit ODL Technical Support or email canvas@fsu.edu.

Need a testing accommodation due to a disability? Please be sure to inform me well in advance of your need for accommodation. Please read Testing Accommodations for Students with Disabilities for further guidance.

If you are unable to use Honorlock to complete your exams, please contact me within the first 2 weeks of the semester.

COVID safety protocols

FSU expects everyone to wear a face covering or mask at all times when inside any FSU facility, even if you are vaccinated. This includes all our students, faculty, staff, vendors, and visitors. Recent studies and guidance from the CDC state that both unvaccinated and vaccinated individuals can transmit the current COVID-19 variant to unvaccinated persons. We expect you to help mitigate the spread by wearing a mask.

We expect everyone to be vaccinated against COVID-19, even if you've had COVID-19 in the past. Please visit vaccine.fsu.edu for walk-in clinic dates and hours at the Tucker Center in Tallahassee or vaccines.gov to locate a COVID-19 vaccine provider near you.

We expect you to stay home when sick, self-quarantine and get tested for COVID-19 no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms begin. You can test for no cost at the Tucker Center. Schedule your test at uhs.fsu.edu/coronavirus/testing.

We expect you to practice good hygiene habits such as washing your hands frequently.

Recording Class Lectures

Students are permitted to make recordings of class lectures for a class in which the student is enrolled for personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as an educational presentation

delivered by the instructor as part of a university course intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to lab or recitation sessions; student presentations (whether individually or part of a group); class discussions (except when incidental to the lecture); clinical practica and presentations involving patient histories and other protected health information; academic exercises involving student participation; test or examination administrations; field trips; and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty member is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance and recordings may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of FSU's Student Code of Conduct and will possibly have legal consequences. Students who record class lectures are asked to do so in ways that do not make others feel reluctant to ask questions, explore new ideas, or otherwise participate in class. Students must monitor their recording so that they do not include participation by other students without permission. Students with disabilities will continue to have appropriate accommodations for recordings as established by the Office of Accessibility Services.