



Criminology Program Course Syllabus

CRIM 1301 Section 001

Introduction to Criminal Justice

Spring Semester 2013 MWF 11 am – 11:50 am

Room: CN 1.102 Syllabus revision date: 11/16/2012

Professor Contact Information: Dr. O. Elmer Polk, Green Hall, Office #2.408. elmer.polk@utdallas.edu, telephone 972-883-2983. Students are encouraged to use email as the primary method of communication. Your professor checks email several times per day and you can normally expect a response within 24 hours or sooner.

Office Hours: Students may feel free to contact the professor at any time before or after each class meeting, during posted office hours, at the course email address, or at any other time mutually available to both the student and the professor. Hours posted for Spring Semester 2013 are MWF 9-10 am or by appointment.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Your teaching assistant for this class has not been assigned. You will be notified during the first week of class if one is subsequently assigned to this section.

Pre/Co-requisite: None.

Technical Support: If you experience difficulties with your UTD account you may send an email to assist@utdallas.edu or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911.

I. Course Description: Introduction to Criminal Justice (3 semester hours) An overview and analysis of the major agencies, personnel, and decision-making points which comprise the criminal justice system. Includes problems and issues confronting legislatures, police, courts, corrections, and the community, as they respond to crime in a free society. Legal precedents guiding the decisions of criminal justice agents are also discussed. (3-0) Y

II. Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of the course students will be able to

1. Differentiate the basic components of the criminal justice system and define the core terminology used to implement the duties of each component.
2. Describe the basic theories that explain the origin and continuation of criminal behaviors.
3. Research contemporary crime rates and measures available from the *Uniform Crime Report* and differentiate official, self-report and victim data.
4. List and define the differing categories and levels of crimes and apply to governmental units.
5. Describe the role of the courts, the prosecution, and the defense and differentiate types of sentencing.
6. Differentiate institutional from community corrections and adult corrections from juvenile corrections.
7. Review and prioritize constitutional rights with an emphasis upon those rights most often involving criminal justice agencies and crime victims.

III. Required Text and course materials: *CJ Realities and Challenges, 2nd ed.*; (2013) by Ruth E. Masters et al. New York: McGraw Hill Publishing. ISBN# 978-0-07-802652-2. Additionally, students are required to read appropriate, current criminal justice journal articles and internet materials as needed for the forum answers.

IV. Grades will be posted based on the following scale: A+=98-100, A=94-97, A-=90-93: B+=87-89, B=84-86, B-=80-83, C+=77-79, C=74-76, C-=70-73, D+=67-69, D=64-66, D-=60-63, F=0-59. Grades are based on the following events (due dates are in the course calendar and assignment schedule in Section VIII of this syllabus). **Please note that there is no extra credit work available in this class** and each student should strive to do his or her best work on each and every

grading event. **The mathematical rule of rounding will apply to the computation of the final grade** in the course based on the grades received in the following events.

Examination 1 (100 points). Questions from textbook, lectures and internet sites

Examination 2 (100 points). Questions from textbook, lectures and internet sites

Examination 3 Final Examination. (100 points). Questions from textbook, lectures and internet sites.

Forum 1 (100 points). Details below and on course eLearning homepage.

Forum 2 (100 points) Details below and on course eLearning homepage.

Crime Measure Assignment (100 points) See details below. Each student must define all Index 1 crimes individually and compare official UCR crime rates in Dallas to crime rates in their hometown and explain WHY there is a difference in rates using the theoretical knowledge gained in the course.

Incomplete Grade Policy: As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

Dropping the course: Please know that if you want to drop the course, you must pick up the appropriate drop form from your advisor or the registrar's office and complete it. You can't be dropped because you stop coming to class and you will receive a final course grade based on the work submitted unless you process the drop form.

Examinations: There are three examinations that will consist of 60-70 objective items each with a maximum score of 100 points on each exam. Questions are taken from your textbook, lectures, and the internet sites identified in the course outline section of this syllabus. Your score will be posted in percentage scores in your gradebook with a maximum score of 100% on each. The professor will manually curve the class scores depending upon the highest grade made on each exam. The manual adjustments will be entered into your gradebook within one week of the due date for each exam.

Forums 1 & 2: Answers to five Essay questions per forum must be submitted by the due date in this syllabus in essay format of 250 words or more per answer with 3 references and the word count (references for all five questions must be in standard APA formatting). References must be listed for each individual essay in a reference list and internal cites must be used to show where each of the three references was used in the narrative of the answer. Details may be found on the eLearning course homepage.

Attention to proper writing and correct spelling is expected in the essays and is a part of the grade received for the assignment. Use proper grammar and spelling and do not use any type of abbreviations or jargon not found in a commonly accepted, standardized English dictionary.

Crime Measure Assignment : Each student must go to the FBI website (See required internet site #1 on p.3 of this syllabus) and find *Crime in the United States*. This is the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) and you must determine whether violent and property crimes went up or down last year over the preceding year. Each student must list and define the Index 1 crimes covered in the report. Give individual definitions for each Index 1 property and violent crime in the UCR. You must then compare the crime rates in Dallas, TX to your hometown (if your hometown is not listed then choose the closest larger city that is reported by the FBI). Then use information learned in the class thus far in the semester to discuss in a couple of paragraphs why you think crime differs between Dallas and your hometown. This is not an editorial assignment so do not just give your personal opinion except to the extent it is based on the theories we have discussed in lecture. Papers are to be printed in font 11 or 12 with one inch margins. Papers must be at least two and no more than five pages in length. Papers may include Tables if student wishes but most of the paper must be narrative text, double spaced, with correct spelling and usage. Submit paper on the course assignment tool on the course eLearning homepage by clicking on the assignments tool and then on crime measure assignment and following the on screen instructions to upload and submit your paper.

V. Plagiarism: Any work, oral or written, that a student does for this course must be his/her original work or it must be properly credited to the original source. Plagiarism includes any form of cheating on examinations, tests, or quizzes, and the taking of ideas or words of another, whether published or unpublished, without properly citing the source. Details may be found in Section VII of this syllabus.

VI. Classroom Rules: Pagers and cell phones must be turned off or to silent settings. Laptops are permitted in silent mode for note taking purposes only. Comments from students should be directed to the entire class or to the professor

and all comments must show appropriate respect and/or tolerance for opposing viewpoints. No person not enrolled in the class is permitted to attend the class without prior permission and no child may be brought to class under any circumstances. No extra credit work of any type for any reason will be permitted in this class unless such credit is extended to each and every student in the section. Students are encouraged to be concerned about their course grade throughout the semester.

VII. Students wishing information on the following topics and policies should visit the website following the list. Student Conduct & Discipline, Student Grievance Procedures, Incomplete Grade Policy, Disability Services, Religious Holy Days, Academic Integrity, Copyright Notice, Email Use, Withdrawal from Class, and Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities: <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

VIII. COURSE CALENDAR AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Please note that all reading assignments made in this assignment schedule refer to readings in the required textbook, internet sites, or class handouts. The Professor reserves the option of spending more or less time on each topic than is indicated on the course outline. To stay abreast of topics, and to enable class discussion, required readings for each topic should be completed before the class session devoted to the topic. Each student is responsible for the material in the assigned readings in addition to all materials and discussions in the classroom. Remember that the material presented in lectures is not covered to the same level in the text or the internet sites. Attendance and punctuality is important to your grade. Please feel free to bring questions to class as you progress on your readings and/or essays.

Session 1 Mon. Jan. 14: Welcome to the class and professor resume. Introduction to the course. Review of the syllabus. Discuss writing assignment.

Assignment: Read preface and Chapter 1

Session 2 Wed. Jan. 16: Criminal justice and criminology. The criminal justice system. The criminal justice funnel and the wedding cake model.

Assignment: Read Chapter 1

Session 3 Fri. Jan. 18: Types of crime. Mala in se & mala prohibita. Felony and misdemeanor acts. Packer's due process and crime control models.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 1.

Session 4 Mon. Jan. 21: **Holiday – no class.**

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 1

Session 5 Wed. Jan. 23 Crimes against persons, property, & public order. Political and organized crime. Index crimes.

Assignment: Read Chapter 2

Required internet site #1: Go to www.fbi.gov. Click on Stats and Services at the top of the page, then on Reports and Publications in the pop-up menu. Scroll down the page to On Statistics and then click on *Crime in the United States* (this is the Uniform Crime Report or UCR). Then click on 2011 crime statistics. Then click on Go to Offense Tables in the block entitled Offenses Known to Law Enforcement. In the column under data tables on the right side of page, click on and read carefully Tables 1, 2, and 3. Look over the crime patterns in each table. According to Table 2, which violent crime was the most common in 2011? Which property crime was most common in 2011? According to Table 3, which geographic region of the U.S. had the highest violent crime rate in 2011? According to Table 1, did violent crime go up or down in 2011? Did the pattern of violent crime go up or down between 1992 and 2011?

Assignment: Read Chapter 2

Session 6 Fri. Jan. 25: Measuring crime. Official data and the UCR.

Assignment: Read Chapter 2

Session 7 Mon. Jan. 28: Victim and self-report data. Strengths and weaknesses of each.

Assignment: Read Chapter 3

Session 8 Wed. Jan. 30: Causes of crime. Classical School. Bentham and Beccaria. Free will and rational choice.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 3

Required Internet site #2: Go to www.constitution.org/cb/crim_pun.htm. Read Chapter 1. What is the name of Beccaria's publication? When was it published? What is the name of the chapter you read?

Session 9 Fri. Feb. 1: Biological and psychological schools of thought.
Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 3

Session 10 Mon. Feb. 4: Sociological schools of thought, social structure theories.
Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 3

Session 11 Wed. Feb. 6: Social process theories.
Assignment: Read Chapter 4

Session 12 Fri. Feb. 8: Criminal law and defenses. Sources of law. The Penal Code and Family Code.
Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 4

Session 13 Mon. Feb. 11: Criminal and civil law. Elements of a crime.
Assignment: Study for Exam 1

Session 14 Wed. Feb. 13: **EXAMINATION 1 ON CHAPTERS 1-4, AND THE ACCOMPANYING CHAPTER OUTLINES, POWERPOINTS, AND INTERNET SITES**
Assignment: Read Chapter 5

Session 15 Fri. Feb. 15: Pass back and discuss exam 2. Lecture on history of policing.
Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 5

Session 16 Mon. Feb. 18: Structure of the law enforcement system. Recruitment, selection, and training.
Assignment: Read Chapter 6

CRIME MEASURE ASSIGNMENT DUE NO LATER THAN MIDNIGHT TODAY. LATE PAPERS WILL BE REDUCED IN GRADE BY 10% PER DAY. YOU MAY SUBMIT THE PAPER EARLY TO AVOID ANY LAST MINUTE PROBLEMS.

Session 17 Wed. Feb. 20: Policing roles and strategies. Deployment of police resources. Report writing.
Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 6

Optional Internet site #3: Go to www.officer.com. Click on Careers on menu at top of page. Then look at the jobs listed on the homepage. What can you say about the educational requirements for police officers? (this site requires you to register your name and address to get detailed job listings so it is NOT required for this course. Those students interested in employment in law enforcement may find this to be a helpful site).

Session 18 Fri. Feb. 22: Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments and relationship to policing.
Assignment: Read Chapter 7

Session 19 Mon. Feb. 25: Use of force.
Assignment: Read Chapter 8

Session 20 Wed. Feb. 27: Court structure and jurisdiction. State and federal.
Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 8

Required Internet site #4: Go to www.courts.state.tx.us. Examine the diagram of court structure on the page. What is the highest court in Texas? (please note that this is a bit of a trick questions – please look at the diagram closely). What is the difference between the District Courts and the Courts of Appeals?

Session 21 Fri. Mar. 1: The courtroom workgroup. Discussion of the role of the victim in court.
Assignment: Read Chapter 9

Session 22 Mon. Mar. 4: Pretrial and Trial Process. Due process and burden of proof.
Assignment: Read Chapter 10

Session 23 Wed. Mar. 6: Sentencing: types of models. Presentence investigations.

Assignment: Study for Exam 2

Session 24 Fri. Mar. 8: **EXAMINATION 2 ON CHAPTERS 5-10 AND RELATED INTERNET SITES.**

Session 25 Mon. Mar. 11: Spring Break – no class.

Session 26 Wed. Mar. 13: Spring Break – no class.

Session 27 Fri. Mar. 15: Spring Break – no class.

Assignment: Read Chapter 11

Session 28 Mon. Mar. 18: Return and discuss Exam 2. Defining corrections. Origins of corrections: workhouses, hulks, and transportation.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 11

Session 29 Wed. Mar. 20: History of corrections in the U.S. Corporal Punishments and death.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 11

Session 30 Fri. Mar. 22: Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Assignment: Read Chapter 12

Session 31 Mon. Mar. 25: The structure of corrections. Jails and prisons. Types of prisons and prison classification.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 12

Session 32 Wed. Mar. 27: Prisoner rights.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 12

Session 33 Fri. Mar. 29: Gender issues in prison, inmate labor programs

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 12

Session 34 Mon. Apr. 1: Treatment programs, special needs populations.

Assignment: Read Chapter 13

FORUM 1 DISCUSSION QUESTION ANSWERS MUST BE POSTED ON THE ELEARNING DISCUSSION BOARD NO LATER THAN MIDNIGHT. A late penalty of 10 percent per day will apply to all answers posted after midnight

Session 35 Wed. Apr. 3: Defining community corrections, purpose and goals of probation, roles and tasks of the officer.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 13

Required Internet site #5: Go to <http://www.dallascounty.org/department/HR/employment.html>. Click on the jobs tab on the menu at left. Then click first on the job category of Law Enforcement, Probation, Security, and Public Safety and secondly on Juvenile. What is the minimum pay for a Community Supervision Officer (Adult Probation)? Juvenile Detention Officer 1?

Session 36 Fri. Apr. 5: Probation – the investigation component.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 13

Session 37 Mon. Apr. 8: Conditions of probation - traditional and special conditions.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 13

Session 38 Wed. Apr. 10: Purpose and goals of parole. Maconochie and Crofton.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 13

Session 39 Fri. Apr. 12: *Morrissey* and *Gagnon*. Roles and tasks of parole officers, success of parole.

Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 13

Session 40 Mon. Apr. 15: Intermediate sanctions: mediation, ISP, house arrest, EM, and half-way houses.

Assignment: Read Chapter 14

Session 41 Wed. Apr. 17: Victims and victimization – restitution and compensation.
Assignment: Read Chapter 15

Session 42 Fri. Apr. 19: Juvenile system: history and development & philosophy.
Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 15

Session 43 Mon. Apr. 22: The family code, referral process, and juvenile detention.
Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 15

FORUM 2 DISCUSSION QUESTION ANSWERS MUST BE POSTED ON THE ELEARNING DISCUSSION BOARD NO LATER THAN MIDNIGHT. A late penalty of 10 percent per day will apply to all answers posted after midnight.

Session 44 Wed. Apr. 24: Detention hearings, informal adjustment, diversion and petition.
Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 15

Session 45 Fri. Apr. 26: Juvenile court process, trial, and dispositions.
Assignment: Continue to read Chapter 15

Session 46 Mon. Apr. 29: TJJD, CPS, sealing and expunging records.
Assignment: Read Chapter 16

Session 47 Wed. May 1: Contemporary challenges: cybercrime, terrorism, and hate crimes.
Assignment: Study for Exam 3

Session 48 Fri. May 3: Last day of class. **EXAMINATION 3 IN THE REGULAR CLASSROOM AT REGULAR TIME. CHAPTERS 11-16 PLUS QUESTIONS FROM PREVIOUS EXAMS, ASSIGNED STUDIES, AND CLASS NOTES.**