

Course Syllabus

Course Information

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	CRIM 1301
<i>Course Title</i>	Introduction to Criminal Justice
<i>Term</i>	Fall 2019
<i>Days & Times</i>	Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1 pm – 2:15 pm
<i>Class Location</i>	CB3 1.306

Professor Contact Information

<i>Professor</i>	Mr. Richard Hernandez
<i>Email Address</i>	Richard.Hernandez@utdallas.edu
<i>Office Location</i>	GR 2.510
<i>Office Hours</i>	Mondays, 1-3:30 PM or by appointment

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

None

Course Description

Introduction to Criminal Justice (CRIM 1301) will provide an overview and analysis of the major agencies, personnel, and decision-making points that 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.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Students will identify and describe the structure and function of the various components of the criminal justice system.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Know the foundations of the American criminal justice system, including the philosophical tenets inherent within the criminal justice system;
 2. Recognize the historical significance of the foundations of the American criminal justice system and identify the way that this history has helped shaped the current incarnation;
 3. Understand and differentiate the main components of the criminal justice system, both individually and within the context of the relationship between them;
 4. Critically assess the state of the American criminal justice system
-

Required Textbooks and Materials

Essentials of Criminal Justice, 11 Edition, by Larry J. Siegel and John L. Worrall

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Week	Dates	Class Readings/Assignments
Week 1	8/20 & 8/22	Course Introduction & Overview
Week 2	8/27 & 8/29	Chapter 1: CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Week 3	9/3 & 9/5	Chapter 2: THE NATURE OF CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION
Week 4	9/10 & 9/12	Chapter 4: Police In Society: History And Organization Chapter 5: The Police: Role and Function
Week 5	9/17 & 9/19	Chapter 5: The Police: Role and Function Chapter 6: Issues in Policing: Professional, Social and Legal.
Week 6	9/24 & 9/26	Chapter 6: Issues in Policing: Professional, Social, and Legal. Exam #1 – Covering Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, 6
Week 7	10/1 & 10/3	Chapter 7: Courts, Prosecutions, and the Defense
Week 8	10/8 & 10/10	Chapter 8: Pretrial and Trial Procedures Group Presentations: Groups 1-3
Week 9	10/15 & 10/17	Chapter 9: Punishment and Sentencing Group Presentations: Groups 4-6
Week 10	10/22 & 10/24	Chapter 10: Community Sentences: Probation, Intermediate Sanctions, and Restorative Justice Group Presentations: Groups 7-10
Week 11	10/29 & 10/31	Guest Speaker 10/29 Exam #2 – Covering Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10
Week 12	11/5 & 11/7	Chapter 11: Corrections: History, Institutions, and Populations Chapter 12: Prison Life: Living in and out of Prison
Week 13	11/12 & 11/14	American Society of Criminology Conference – No Class
Week 14	11/19 & 11/21	Chapter 14: Crime and Justice in the New Millennium
Week 15	11/26 & 11/28	FALL BREAK
Week 16	12/3 & 12/5	12/3 OR 12/5 Exam 3: Chapters 11, 12, 14

Grading Scale

93 and above A	90 to 92.99 A-	
87 to 89.99 B+	83 to 86.99 B	80 to 82.99 B-
77 to 79.99 C+	73 to 76.99 C	70 to 72.99 C-
67 to 69.99 D+	63 to 66.99 D	60 to 62.99 D-
< 59.99 = F		

Grading Policy

Assignment	% of Grade
First Exam (20 points)	20%
Second Exam (20 points)	20%
Third Exam (20 points)	20%
Group Presentation (25 points)	25%
Class Participation & Attendance	15%
Total	100%

Description of Evaluation Components:

Group Presentation: 25 points

Students will be grouped randomly and expected to prepare a brief (15 minute) presentation on a selected topic from a list provided by the professor. Please note that this presentation comprises 25% of your overall grade, take this **seriously**. A handout of topics will be provided and groups will be determined the first week of class.

Class Participation & Attendance: 15 points

Throughout the semester potentially controversial topics will be discussed and we will be analyzing the criminal justice system both in a systematic manner but also through critical lens. Students are expected to engage both their peers and the professor in respectful dialogue surrounding these topics. Attendance in the class is vital to your success in the course, arrive on time and prepared by having read the material for the week. Students are mandatorily expected to attend classes in which fellow students or guest speakers are presenting, unexcused absences during these days will significantly impact your participation grade.

Exams

Exams will take place in class. Each exam will make up 20% of your grade in the course. Exams will not be cumulative, and questions may consist of multiple choice, matching, or short essay questions.

Course & Instructor Policies

(make-up exams, extra credit, late work, special assignments, class attendance, classroom citizenship, etc.)

eLearning: eLearning is used in this class for announcements and to check your progress in the class. Additional information about how to use eLearning is available at school web-site. You will need a UTD net-id to access this site. eLearning is also how I will communicate with you. You are responsible for announcements made through eLearning.

Extra Credit: Will be discussed Week 1 of class.

Late Writing Assignment: Late work will be accepted at any time after the deadline but with a maximum half credit.

Special Assignments: None

Class Attendance: Class attendance is expected. Please show respect to the professor and your fellow students by **being on time!** If you are not in class, you will not be able to participate or prepare well for your exams.

Students who do not sign in on the attendance sheet will be counted absent for that day – **NO EXCEPTIONS**. Another classmate may **NOT** sign in for you – this will be considered an act of academic dishonesty and will immediately be referred to Judicial Affairs. In the case of an absence, the student is responsible for missed materials.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.