

Criminal Justice 1301

Introduction to Criminal Justice

Spring 2024 (2nd 8-weeks) 8/19/24 – 10/9/24

Instructor Information: Danny Steffenauer, dsteffenauer@com.edu. Cell (281) 914-1831.

Student hours and location: (Student hours are Monday & Wednesday 8 am – 11 am) Room 206 Career Building.

Required Textbook: Criminal Justice, A Brief Introduction (13th edition) by Frank Schmalleger; Publisher: Pearson (ISBN-13: E-text 9780135186268)

You may also use the 12th edition (ISBN-0-13-454862-0). Supplementary materials will be posted!!

Course Description: This course provides a historical and philosophical overview of the American criminal justice system, including the nature, extent, and impact of crime; criminal law; and justice agencies and processes.

Course requirements: This is an 8-week course 8/19/24 – 10/09/24. You are required to read the chapters as listed on the course outline and any related lecture notes or outlines located in the modules. Viewing the respective power point presentations will reinforce your reading. I will post supplemental material in the chapter resources section of each module that is considered course material. Notes should be taken when guest are invited into the classroom. Their material will be used on exams!

Exams: You will be required to take 3 major exams (100 pts. Each), submit 3 assignments (25 pts. Each) in class. Post 5 discussions (10 pts. Each). **Exam Week :** (Week 2 – Exam 1) (Week 4- Exam 2) (Weeks 7& 8).

Discussion Board: Our discussion board takes place in the classroom discussion and as such, you may be exposed to many different concepts and beliefs concerning various criminal justice issues. Be respectful of your classmates when posting or responding to a discussion. Your comments and thoughts are part of the learning process. Please use correct grammar, spelling capitalization, and punctuation.

Written Assignments: All written assignments must be typed and submitted in either Microsoft Word file format or in a PDF format using a font no smaller than 10 points and no larger than 12 points. Please take advantage of the COM Tutoring Center if you need assistance with your assignment. After you submit your written assignment, I will attempt to grade and return assignments within 4 days of the due date.

Power point project: Requires that you prepare a minimum 20-slide presentation on an issue related to the criminal justice system. Do not wait until the last week to start your power point project. Many electronic resources are available to you through the COM Library.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

1st exam: 100 points

2nd exam: 100 points

3rd exam: 100 points

Assignments: 3 at 25 pts. Each: 75 points.

Power point project: .50 points

Discussions (5 at 50: points

A = 475- 390 B=389 – 304 C=303 – 284 D=289

*I do not accept late work, or make-up work unless you have a

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student

handbook [https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student Handbook 2024-2025 v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.pdf). *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.*

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw from the 1st 8-week session is October 2. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 15. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is November 26.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.