



**Course Name:** Introduction to Criminal Justice

**Course Number:** CJS\*E101

**Credits:** 3

**Catalog description:**

This course examines an overview of the criminal justice system on the local, state and federal levels in a democratic society. Students will be exposed to the historical, theoretical, philosophical and practical perspectives of the system's police, court and correctional agencies. This course is required in the Criminal Justice major and is a prerequisite for all other Criminal Justice courses.

**Prerequisite, Corequisite, or Parallel:** ENG\*E043 (prerequisite)

**General Education Competencies Satisfied:**

**HCC General Education Requirement Designated Competency Attribute Code(s):**

SOPX                      **Social Phenomena Knowledge & Understanding II**  
*(not within the fields of anthropology, psychology or sociology)*

**Additional CSCU General Education Requirements for CSCU Transfer Degree Programs:**

None

**Embedded Competency(ies):**

None

**Discipline-Specific Attribute Code(s):**

SSCI                      **Social Science elective**

**Course objectives:**

**General Education Goals and Outcomes:**

**Social Phenomena Knowledge & Understanding I and II:** Students will develop an increased understanding of the influences that shape a person's, or group's attitudes, beliefs, emotions, symbols, and actions, and how these systems of influence are created, maintained, and altered by individual, familial, group, situational, or cultural means.



### **Course Specific Objectives:**

1. Describe early American practices in law enforcement and the evolution of the modern day roles, functions, issues and constitutional laws that govern police and society.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of crime and the adjudication process and consequences of the American legal system.
3. Identify the options of punishment that include sentencing, probation, intermediate sanctions, incarceration, prison life and parole.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the roles of police, courts and corrections and explain their function(s) within the criminal justice system and the community.
5. Apply principles of constitutional and criminal laws that protect the rights, and regulate the conduct, of individuals in a culturally diverse society.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of theories, principles and processes of the criminal justice system.
7. Prepare written documents and deliver oral presentations related to the criminal justice field.

### **Course Content:**

#### Criminal Justice System

- (a) Crime Problem in the United States
- (b) Crime Statistics
- (c) Causes of Crime

#### Policy

- (a) Police Work
- (b) Police Decisions
- (c) Police Issues

#### Courts

- (a) Pretrial Release or Detention
- (b) Prosecutor's Decisions
- (c) Issues in Prosecution
- (d) Trial Process
- (e) Sentencing
- (t) Capital Punishment

#### Corrections

- (a) Community Corrections
- (b) Prisons and Correctional Institutions
- (c) Release and Revocation

#### Criminal Justice Issues

- (a) Dilemmas in Criminal Justice



(b) Unresolved Issues in Crime Control

Date Course Created:

Date of Last Revision: 03/06/2017