

Course Information Form (CIF)

Course Code: CJS 101 (IAI CRJ 901)

Course Title: Introduction to Criminal Justice

Department: Arts, Media, and Social Sciences

Effective Date: Summer 2026

PCS Code: 1.1 - Baccalaureate/Transfer

CIP Code: 43.0104

Repeatability: 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 3-0-3

Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 3

Lab: 0

Clinical: 0

Total: 3

General Course Information

Catalog Description

History, development, philosophy, and constitutional aspects of criminal justice procedures and agencies. Interrelationship of various components and processes of the criminal justice system.

General Course Objectives

Students will become familiar with the history, development, philosophy, and constitutional aspects of the criminal justice system. The function of various agencies will be studied to understand their role in society.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Placement out of ENG 098	None	None

Prerequisites

None

Methods of Evaluation

4 exams, 1 final exam, in-class writing assignments, class participation, daily preparation, and attendance.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Criminal Justice, by Larry Gaines and Roger Miller. 978-1337916394

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Global Awareness and Cultural Reasoning: Students will demonstrate their understanding of global issues, gender and sexual orientation, and multicultural perspectives.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Crime: the legal foundation of crime; statutory and procedural criminal law; the law in action and discretion; reasonableness and the law; the classification of crime; the uniform crime reports	1. Outline the development of the criminal justice system from ancient times to present-day activities.	4	0	0
The Criminal Justice System, an Overview: the processing stages in felony cases; criminal justice administration as a system and non-system; the federal role in improving state and local justice systems	1. Develop and evaluate actual programs delineating the pre-trial, trial, and post-trial stages.	3	0	0
The Police Role: law enforcement and order maintenance; the working personality of the police; the exercise of discretion; victimless crime and decriminalization	1. Describe the purpose of laws in society.	3	0	0
Global Cultural Awareness: focusing on case studies of Non-Western law and law from areas of the world other than the United States, as well as on modern policing	1. Explain the impact of cultures on modern policing.	2	0	0
The Professionalization of the Police: college education; training; ethnic minorities in police; policewomen on patrol; operating police departments more efficiently; neighborhood team policing	1. Formulate a viable philosophy of penalization for criminal behavior.	2	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
The Police and the Constitution: the Exclusionary Rule; custodial interrogation and confessions; stop and frisk; street interrogation; decisions of the Supreme Court in the seventies	1. Identify a specified number of problems affecting the administration of police, courts, and corrections, and propose reasonable solutions to each.	5	0	0
Courts and Prosecution: the state court system; the federal court system; court reform	1. Outline the path of the judicial process from the initial contact made by an officer to the final possible adjudication.	3	0	0
The Bail System: the right to bail; the administration of bail; pre-trial detention; the Bail Reform Act of 1966; bail: a current perspective	1. Define and list examples of white-collar crime. 2. List examples of organized crime activities and how the police deal with organized crime.	3	0	0
The Prosecutor and Defense Counsel: the role of the prosecutor; the management of prosecution; the right to counsel; public defenders and court-assigned counsel	1. Identify the roles and function of the adversarial system.	3	0	0
Plea Bargaining and Speedy Trial: plea bargaining; restructuring the plea bargaining process; speedy trial	1. Summarize the 6th amendment.	3	0	0
Trial: the adversary method of justice; selection of the jury; six-person juries; non-unanimous verdicts; videotaped trials; charging the jury	1. Outline the trial process.	3	0	0
Sentencing: the objectives of sentencing; the pre-sentence report; disparity in sentencing; sentencing institutions; appellate review of sentences; the Model Penal Code and the Model Sentencing Act; alternative to the indeterminate sentence; the death sentence	1. Define sentencing philosophies.	4	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Jails: the LEAA 1972 National Jail Survey; contemporary jail problems; the Manhattan House of Detention	1. Outline development in jail history.	1	0	0
Prisons: types of prisons; the overcrowded prisons; imprisonment as cruel and unusual punishment; the custodial staff; work, education, and treatment programs; the parole decision; the future of imprisonment	1. Identify issues and practices of modern prisons.	3	0	0
Prisoner's Rights: the conditions of incarceration; seeking prisoner's rights through the courts; seeking prisoner's rights by nonjudicial means	1. Recognize the constitutional issues around prisoner's rights.	3	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
45	0	0