



CRJ300: INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Credit Hours: 3

Contact Hours: This is a three-credit course, offered in accelerated format. This means that 16 weeks of material is covered in eight weeks. The exact number of hours per week that you can expect to spend on each course will vary based upon the weekly coursework, as well as your study style and preferences. You should plan to spend 14-20 hours per week in each course reading material, interacting on the discussion boards, writing papers, completing projects, and doing research.

Faculty Information: Faculty contact information and office hours can be found on the faculty profile page.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTCOMES

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, students will be introduced to the study of philosophy and history of criminal justice globally. Topics include an examination of criminal justice agencies such as police and security agencies, courts, and corrections, operating as an interacting system. Students will gain foundational knowledge about criminal justice that will prepare them for future studies in discipline and also explore exciting contemporary topics such as white-collar crime, cybercrime and criminology.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This course introduces the study and history of criminal justice in America, including an examination of criminal justice agencies and other main components of the criminal justice system. These agencies include police and security agencies, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice operating as an interacting system and responding to crime, criminals and victims. Throughout the course, students are encouraged to examine critically the particular aspect of the criminal justice system being examined and to apply ethical principles to the administration of justice.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Describe the main components of the American criminal justice systems.
2. Apply ethical principles to the administration of justice.
3. Discuss how research methods are used to explore issues in criminal justice.
4. Discuss societal diversity in our justice system.
5. Compare the major sources of crime statistics and note their strengths and weaknesses.
6. Describe career options in criminal justice, including the pursuit of graduate studies.
7. Determine the current global trends in criminal justice.

PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE

Prompt and consistent attendance in your online courses is essential for your success at CSU-Global Campus. Failure to verify your attendance within the first seven days of this course may result in your withdrawal. If for some reason you would like to drop a course, please contact your advisor.

Online classes have deadlines, assignments, and participation requirements just like on-campus classes. Budget your time carefully and keep an open line of communication with your instructor. If you are having technical

problems, problems with your assignments, or other problems that are impeding your progress, let your instructor know as soon as possible.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required:

Peak, K. & Madensen, T. (2018). *Introduction to criminal justice: Practice and process* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. 9781506391847

Suggested:

NOTE: All non-textbook required readings and materials necessary to complete assignments, discussions, and/or supplemental or required exercises are provided within the course itself. Please read through each course module carefully.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Due Dates

The Academic Week at CSU-Global begins on Monday and ends the following Sunday.

- **Discussion Boards:** The original post must be completed by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. MT and peer responses posted by Sunday 11:59 p.m. MT. Late posts may not be awarded points.
- **Opening Exercises:** Take the Opening Exercise before reading each week's content to see which areas you will need to focus on. You may take these exercises as many times as you need. The Opening Exercises will not affect your final grade.
- **Mastery Exercises:** Students may access and retake Mastery Exercises through the last day of class until they achieve the scores they desire.
- **Critical Thinking:** Assignments are due Sunday at 11:59 p.m. MT.

WEEKLY READING AND ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

MODULE 1

Readings

- Chapters 1 & 2 in *Introduction to Criminal Justice*
- McConkie, D.S. (2017). Structuring pre-plea criminal discovery. *Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology*, 107(1), 1-64.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Portfolio Milestone (25 points)

Option #1: Criminal Justice Policymaker

Read the two options for the Portfolio Project. Select one of the options and submit a brief (one-page) paper addressing the following:

1. Which option you have selected
2. Why you chose that option
3. How this information will be helpful for the intended audience.

Be sure to review the Portfolio Project and Portfolio Project Rubric in the Module 8 folder for details.

Option #2: Criminal Justice Professor

Read the two options for the Portfolio Project. Select one of the options and submit a brief (one-page) paper addressing the following:

1. Which option you have selected
2. Why you chose that option
3. How this information will be helpful for the intended audience.

Be sure to review the Portfolio Project and Portfolio Project Rubric in the Module 8 folder for details.

MODULE 2

Readings

- Chapters 3 and 4 in *Introduction to Criminal Justice*
- Byrne, J., & Hummer, D. (2016). An examination of the impact of criminological theory on community corrections practice. *Federal Probation*, 80(3), 15-25.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Portfolio Milestone (25 points)

Option #1: Criminal Justice Policymaker

As you begin work on your presentation, one of the first steps is to identify scholarly resources that will inform and support your work. As indicated in the Portfolio Project Directions, use five scholarly resources (one should be your text).

For this milestone, submit an annotated bibliography. An annotated bibliography is a list of your resources. With each resource, you should include a 100-150-word summary of why you chose this resource and some of the parts of the presentation for which you will be using the resource. Scholarly resources include textbooks, peer-reviewed journal articles, and government publications. Resources should be no older than five years. In addition to your text, the CSU-Global Library is a great place to locate resources.

Be sure to review the Portfolio Project and Portfolio Project Rubric in the Module 8 folder for details.

Option #2: Criminal Justice Professor

As you begin work on your presentation, one of the first steps is to identify scholarly resources that will inform and support your presentation. As indicated in the Portfolio Project Directions, use five scholarly resources (one should be your text).

For this milestone, submit an annotated bibliography. An annotated bibliography is a list of your resources. With each resource, you should include a 100-150-word summary of why you chose this resource and some of the parts of the presentation for which you will be using the resource. Scholarly resources include textbooks, peer-reviewed journal articles, and government publications. Resources should be no older than five years. In addition to your text, the CSU-Global Library is a great place to locate resources.

Be sure to review the Portfolio Project and Portfolio Project Rubric in the Module 8 folder for details.

MODULE 3

Readings

- Chapters 5, 6, 7, and 8 in *Introduction to Criminal Justice*
- Martin, R. (2015). Implementing community policing in Chicago: A case study of the city-wide change initiative. *Law Enforcement Executive Forum*, 15(4), 1-12.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Critical Thinking (120 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: Improving Police-Community Relations

This is a scenario-based assignment. In this scenario, you are the newly-appointed police chief in a medium size city of 100,000 residents. Your police department has 100 sworn officers. You were appointed as the new chief of police and tasked with improving relations between the police and the community.

In this paper, you should specifically identify three initiatives that will improve police-community relations. Be sure to explain how these initiatives will improve relations.

Your paper should be two to three pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages, and conform to *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA*. Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings. Include at least three scholarly references in addition to the course textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.

Review the Module 3 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

Option #2: Improving Policing with Technology

This is a scenario-based assignment. In this scenario, you are a police officer with a large metropolitan police department. You have been tasked by your supervisor with identifying three current technologies that will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of policing.

In this paper, you should specifically identify three current technologies that would improve the effectiveness and efficiency of policing. With each technology, specifically explain how it will be an improvement.

Your paper should be two to three pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages, and conform to *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA*. Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings. Include at least three scholarly references in addition to the course textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.

Review the Module 3 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

MODULE 4

Readings

- Chapters 9, 10, & 11 in *Introduction to Criminal Justice*

- Ho, H. (2016). The criminal trial, the rule of law and the exclusion of unlawfully obtained evidence. *Criminal Law & Philosophy*, 10(1), 109-131. doi:10.1007/s11572-014-9304-7

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Portfolio Milestone (25 points)

Option #1: Criminal Justice Policymaker

Now that you have identified which option (1 or 2), as well as five of the scholarly resources you will be using, the next step is to complete a two-page outline of your presentation. Your outline should follow the order of topics in the directions for the Portfolio Project.

Be sure to review the Portfolio Project and Portfolio Project Rubric in the Module 8 folder for details.

Option #2: Criminal Justice Professor

Now that you have identified which option (1 or 2), as well as five of the scholarly resources you will be using, the next step is to complete a two-page outline of your presentation. Your outline should follow the order of topics in the directions for the Portfolio Project.

Be sure to review the Portfolio Project and Portfolio Project Rubric in the Module 8 folder for details.

MODULE 5

Readings

- Chapters 12, 13, & 14 in *Introduction to Criminal Justice*
- Seigafo, S. (2017). Inmate's right to rehabilitation during incarceration: A critical analysis of the United States correctional system. *International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences*, 12(2), 183-195. doi:10.5281/zenodo.1034656

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Scenario Assignment: Intermediate Sanctions or Incarceration? (10 points)

Critical Thinking: Intermediate Sanctions (110 points)

To prepare for this assignment, complete the scenario activity, Intermediate Sanctions or Incarceration? You will receive 10 points toward your total assignment points.

This is a scenario-based assignment. In this scenario, you have been hired as a consultant by your home state's Department of Corrections. You are tasked with identifying intermediate sanctions for offenders, due to current prison overcrowding. You should provide an overview of what intermediate sanctions are. Next, provide three examples of intermediate sanctions. Finally, discuss what types of offenders would be suitable for the intermediate sanctions you identified.

Requirements:

- Your written paper should be 2-3 pages in length not counting the title and reference pages, which you must include.
- Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings.
- You need to cite at least three sources for this assignment, outside of the textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a great place to find resources.

- Your paper must be formatted according to CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA.
- If you need assistance with your writing style, start with the links under the Research Help and Writing Help tabs on the CSU-Global Library homepage.

Review the Module 5 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

MODULE 6

Readings

- Chapter 15 in *Introduction to Criminal Justice*
- Sammons, B. (2015). Do the crime, do the time: Juvenile criminals and adult justice in the American court system. *Journal of Youth & Adolescence*, 44(3), 769-772. doi:10.1007/s10964-014-0241-5

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Critical Thinking (130 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete this week. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: Addressing Juvenile Gang Related Crime

This is a scenario-based assignment. In this scenario, you are a consultant and have been hired by a city that is experiencing high rates of juvenile gang-related crime. You have been tasked with identifying three initiatives/programs to address the juvenile gang-related crime. You should provide an overview of each initiative/program and discuss why it will be effective.

Your paper should be two to three pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages, and conform to *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA*. Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings. Include at least three scholarly references in addition to the course textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.

Review the Module 6 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

Option #2: Juvenile Offenders in Adult Court

This is a scenario-based assignment. In this scenario, you are a consultant that has been hired by your home county's district attorney's office. The district attorney is new, having just been elected into office. The district attorney would like a report from you on the pros and cons of charging juvenile offenders in adult court. Your report should also provide a recommendation on whether you support the practice of charging juveniles as adults or refute it.

Your paper should be two to three pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages, and conform to *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA*. Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings. Include at least three scholarly references in addition to the course textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.

Review the Module 6 Critical Thinking Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

MODULE 7

Readings

- Chapter 16 in *Introduction to Criminal Justice*
- Normore, A. H., Ellis, B., & Bone, D. H. (2016). The defragmentation of mental health services, police, and the homeless. *Policing: A Journal of Policy & Practice*, 10(2), 134-142. doi:10.1093/police/pav035

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Survey (5 points)

MODULE 8

Readings

- Tripp, T., & Cobkit, S. (2013). Unexpected pathways: Criminal justice career options in the private sector. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, 24(4), 478-494. doi:10.1080/10511253.2013.794468
- Kigerl, A. (2016). Cyber-crime nation typologies: K-means clustering of countries based on cyber-crime rates. *International Journal of Cyber Criminology*, 10(2), 147-169. doi:10.5281/zenodo.163399
- Batts, A. W., Smoot, S. M., & Scrivner, E. (2014). Police leadership challenges in a changing world. *Journal of Current Issues in Crime, Law & Law Enforcement*, 7(2), 139-156.

Opening Exercise (0 points)

Discussion (25 points)

Mastery Exercise (10 points)

Portfolio Project (275 points)

Choose one of the following two assignments to complete. Do not do both assignments. Identify your assignment choice in the title of your submission.

Option #1: Criminal Justice Policymaker – Best Practices in the U.S. Criminal Justice System

This is a scenario-based assignment. In this scenario, you are a criminal justice policymaker. You have been invited to give a PowerPoint presentation at an International Conference to mainly developing countries that are experiencing high crime rates. The purpose of the presentation is to teach them about the U.S. Criminal Justice System and educate them on best practices in various areas of the criminal justice system. Your presentation should address the following points:

Section	Topic	Length
1	Introduction. An introduction to the U.S. Criminal Justice System	2 slides
2	Crime Theories and Policy. Overview of some of the major crime theories and how they are used to inform policy	3 slides
3	Ethics. Overview of ethical issues in the criminal justice system and how to prevent unethical behavior	3 slides
4	Police. Three best practices by police that could be adopted by these countries	3 slides
5	Courts. Three best practices by the courts that could be adopted by these countries	3 slides
6	Corrections. Three best practices by the courts that could be adopted by these countries	3 slides

7	Juvenile Justice. Three best practices in the juvenile justice system that could be adopted by these countries	3 slides
8	Globalization of Crime. The impact of the globalization of crime	2 slides
9	Role of Private Sector. The role of private sector positions as part of the criminal justice system's mission of ensuring safety	2 slides

Your presentation should contain 24 slides (not including title slide and references slide), be supported by five scholarly resources, and conform to *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA*. Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings. Include at least three scholarly references in addition to the course textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.

Review the Portfolio Project Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

Option #2: Criminal Justice Professor – An Overview of the U.S. Criminal Justice System

This is a scenario-based assignment. In this scenario, you are a criminal justice professor who has been invited to give a presentation to high school seniors who have expressed interest in a career in the criminal justice system. The purpose of the presentation is to teach them about the criminal justice system and help them gain a better understanding of key aspects of the field, and ultimately help them determine if they want to pursue a career in this field. Your presentation should address the following points:

Section	Topic	Length
1	Introduction. Historical summary of the criminal justice system and identification of key legal terms	2 slides
2	Crime Theories. Identification of three crime theories and how they are used by practitioners	3 slides
3	Ethics. Ethical issues that are inherent to the criminal justice system and ways that unethical conduct can be avoided	3 slides
4	Police. Overview of the different types of police agencies, and a description of the functions of the police	3 slides
5	Courts. Overview of court system and the functions of the courts	3 slides
6	Corrections. Overview of the correctional system and a description of the functions of corrections	3 slides
7	Juvenile Justice. Overview of the juvenile justice system and how it is different from the adult system	3 slides
8	Globalization of Crime. Description of the globalization of crime and impact it has had on the United States	2 slides
9	Private Sector. Description of two private sector criminal justice positions and the functions and requirements of the positions	2 slides

Your presentation should contain 24 slides (not including title slide and references slide), be supported by five scholarly resources, and conform to *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA*. Use terms, evidence, and concepts from class readings. Include at least three scholarly references in addition to the course textbook. The CSU-Global Library is a good place to find these references.

Review the Portfolio Project Rubric for full details on how you will be graded on this assignment.

COURSE POLICIES

Course Grading

20% Discussion Participation
0% Opening Exercises
8% Mastery Exercises
37% Critical Thinking Assignments
35% Final Portfolio Project

Grading Scale	
A	95.0 – 100
A-	90.0 – 94.9
B+	86.7 – 89.9
B	83.3 – 86.6
B-	80.0 – 83.2
C+	75.0 – 79.9
C	70.0 – 74.9
D	60.0 – 69.9
F	59.9 or below

IN-CLASSROOM POLICIES

For information on late work and incomplete grade policies, please refer to our [In-Classroom Student Policies and Guidelines](#) or the Academic Catalog for comprehensive documentation of CSU-Global institutional policies.

Academic Integrity

Students must assume responsibility for maintaining honesty in all work submitted for credit and in any other work designated by the instructor of the course. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, reusing /repurposing your own work (see *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements* for percentage of repurposed work that can be used in an assignment), unauthorized possession of academic materials, and unauthorized collaboration. The CSU-Global Library provides information on how students can avoid plagiarism by understanding what it is and how to use the Library and Internet resources.

Citing Sources with APA Style

All students are expected to follow the *CSU-Global Guide to Writing and APA Requirements* when citing in APA (based on the APA Style Manual, 6th edition) for all assignments. For details on CSU-Global APA style, please review the APA resources within the CSU-Global Library under the “APA Guide & Resources” link. A link to this document should also be provided within most assignment descriptions in your course.

Disability Services Statement

CSU-Global is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability requesting academic accommodations should contact the Disability Resource Coordinator at 720-279-0650 and/or email ada@CSUGlobal.edu for additional information to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Netiquette

Respect the diversity of opinions among the instructor and classmates and engage with them in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner. All posts and classroom communication must be conducted in accordance with the student code of conduct. Think before you push the Send button. Did you say just what you meant? How will the person on the other end read the words?

Maintain an environment free of harassment, stalking, threats, abuse, insults, or humiliation toward the instructor and classmates. This includes, but is not limited to, demeaning written or oral comments of an ethnic, religious, age, disability, sexist (or sexual orientation), or racist nature; and the unwanted sexual advances or intimidations by email, or on discussion boards and other postings within or connected to the online classroom. If you have concerns about something that has been said, please let your instructor know.