

CRJ 101 46: The Legal System



Summer, 2021

CRJ101 46

Credit Hours: 3

Course: Online/Canvas

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Instructor Office Hours: By Appointment

Email is the best way to contact me. Please note that I will only correspond via Cedar Crest email accounts, as per college policy. It is your responsibility to check email on a regular basis. Email is an important form of communication in this course. If there are any changes or updates, I will contact you through email.

Course Description:

The Legal System introduces the student to the concept of crime; explaining and defining the legal system from the point when a crime is committed through to the disposition, or sentencing. It examines how the individual components of the system, law enforcement, the courts, and corrections, influence society's overall response to crime. An understanding of the legal process is one of the building blocks of developing an understanding of the social causes, consequences, and responses to dysfunctional behavior.

Course Design

This course will be conducted in an online, accelerated, 6-week format. This does not mean that the amount of material covered in the course has been reduced from a traditional 14-week course; rather it means that the student will be responsible for completing individual assignments that are designed to demonstrate an understanding of the material that is covered.

This course will use the College's Canvas website to enhance and support student learning. The support and instructional material includes what I would call micro-lectures to highlight some of the important material presented in the text. These are not full classroom lectures because the student is responsible for

processing some of the material on his or her own. In addition, each chapter has a quiz that is associated with it. The quiz is designed to demonstrate that you read the chapter. There are also chapter questions that are posted, which are designed to test your comprehension of the readings. Finally, there are also two tests that are also designed to test student comprehension.

The website is broken down into learning modules that will follow the weekly format of the course. All of the material that will be covered in that week will be described in the weekly heading and will appear below the designated week. The work is time consuming so please do not underestimate the amount of time that is required to participate in this course. Reading for comprehension is not easy but the online nature of the course requires that you master this task

Course Objectives

Through this course, the intent is to assist the student to develop and use critical thinking skills to:

1. Gain a more in depth understanding of each of the individual components of the criminal justice system; law enforcement; the courts; and corrections.
2. Identify the key elements of each of the individual components of the legal system
3. Develop an understanding of the development of policing in America and its impact of the legal system.
4. Develop an understanding of the historical structure of the American court system and will be able to distinguish between the state and federal court systems.
5. Develop an understanding of the rationale for punishment and describe the impact each rationale has had on society.
6. Distinguish between probation and parole; between a jail and a prison; and identify the modern alternatives to incarceration.

Course Textbooks and Resources:

Schmallenger, F. (2021). *Criminal Justice: An Introductory Text for the 21st Century – Instant Access*. (16th ed.) Boston: Pearson. ISBN- 13: 9780135770610

NOTE: An older edition of the text is acceptable.

Technology Support Resources:

Please refer to the Information Technology Support Center website and the IT HelpDesk for Cedar Crest College computer, software, and other technology resources available to students. The IT Support Center resources are available at the following website:

<https://cedarcrest.teamdynamix.com/TDClient/Home/>.

The IT HelpDesk is located at the Bridge of the Student Success Center on the main floor of Cressman Library (610-606-4635 and helpdesk@cedarcrest.edu).

Course Student Learning Outcomes:

There are a number of learning outcomes that each student is expected to master upon completing the requirements for a criminal justice degree at Cedar Crest College. This course will assist in assessing the following Criminal Justice Learning objectives:

1. The student will be able to analyze human behavior and identify the social factors that influence it.
2. The student will be able to analyze human behavior and identify the environmental factors that influence it.
3. Students will be able to apply criminal justice theory to a larger community context.
4. Students will demonstrate effective written communication skills.

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes:

Each student is expected to do high quality work in completing the following assignments:

1. To regularly attend all class periods and read all assigned readings.
2. Complete assignments as identified in class.
3. Students will complete 11 quizzes conducted during the class room session
4. Students will complete examinations based on the assigned chapters that will occur in the 3rd and 6th weeks.

Course Assignment Descriptions:

Module 1

1. Pass a quiz that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts presented in chapters 1 and 2 of the text.

Corresponds to course objective 1

2. Thoroughly answer review questions that demonstrate an understanding of the concepts presented in chapter 1 and 2 of the text.

Corresponds to course objective 1

Module 2

1. Pass a quiz that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts presented in chapter 4 of the text.

Corresponds to course objective 1

2. Thoroughly answer review questions that demonstrate an understanding of the concepts presented in chapter 4 of the text.

Corresponds to course objective 1

3. Pass a quiz that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts presented in chapter 5 of the text.

Corresponds to course objectives 2 and 3

4. Thoroughly answer review questions that demonstrate an understanding of the concepts presented in chapter 5 of the text.

Corresponds to course objectives 2 and 3

Module 3

1. Pass a quiz that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts presented in chapters 6 and 7 of the text.

Corresponds to course objectives 2 and 3

2. Thoroughly answer review questions that demonstrate an understanding of the concepts presented in chapters 6 and 7 of the text.

Corresponds to course objectives 2 and 3

3. Pass a comprehensive exam covering the material presented in chapters 1- 7 (excluding chapter 3)

Corresponds to course objectives 1-3

Module 4

1. Pass a quiz that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts presented in chapter 9.

Corresponds to course objectives 2 and 3

2. Thoroughly answer review questions that demonstrate an understanding of the concepts presented in chapter 9 of the text.

Corresponds to course objectives 2 and 3

3. Pass a quiz that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts presented in chapter 10 of the text.

Corresponds to course objective 4

4. Thoroughly answer review questions that demonstrate an understanding of the concepts presented in chapter 10 of the text.

Corresponds to course objective 4

Module 5

1. Pass a quiz that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts presented in chapters 11 and 12 of the text.

Corresponds to course objectives 4 and 5

2. Thoroughly answer review questions that demonstrate an understanding of the concepts presented in chapters 11 and 12 of the text.

Corresponds to course objectives 4 and 5

Module 6

1. Pass a quiz that demonstrates an understanding of the concepts presented in chapters 13 of the text.

Corresponds to course objective 6

2. Thoroughly answer a review question that demonstrate an understanding of the concepts presented in chapter 13 of the text.

Corresponds to course objectives 6

3. Pass a comprehensive exam covering the material presented in chapters 8- 13

Corresponds to course objectives 2 - 6

Course Grading Policy:

Grade	Percentage (or Point) Range
A	93 - 100%
A-	92 - 90%
B+	89 - 87%
B	86 - 83%
B-	82 - 80%
C+	79 - 77%
C	76 - 73%
C-	72 - 70%
D+	69 - 67%
D	66 - 60%
F	below 60%

Grading

Quizzes	105 points
Review questions (25 points each)	275 points
Examinations (100 points each)	<u>200 points</u>
Total	580 points

There are **NO** extra credit assignments!

There are **NO** discretionary grades in this course.

Tutoring and Academic Support Resources:

The Student Success Center, located on the main floor of Cressman Library, offers writing and tutoring resources to all Cedar Crest students with the goals of assisting students in achieving academic success and becoming effective, independent learners. Smarthinking, on-line tutoring service, is also available to all Cedar Crest students. For information about all available tutoring services and scheduling information, please refer to the Tutoring and Support Resources page on MyCedarCrest, located under the “Academic Services” page in the “Current Students” Section:
my.cedarcrest.edu/ICS/Current_Students/Academic_Services/Tutoring_Support_Resources.jnz.

The Student Success Center may also be contacted at 610-606-4628 or advising@cedarcrest.edu.

Cedar Crest College Honor Philosophy:

The Cedar Crest College Honor Philosophy states that students shall uphold community standards for academic and social behavior to preserve a learning environment dedicated to personal and academic excellence. It is based upon the principle that, as a self-

governing body, students have the ability to create an atmosphere of trust and support. Within this environment, individuals are empowered to make their own decisions, develop personal regard for the system under which they live, and achieve a sense of integrity and judgment that will guide them through life.

Cedar Crest College Diversity Statement:

Founded under the mission to expand women's access to higher-education, Cedar Crest College values difference in a diverse, inclusive, and equitable learning environment. The College is committed to educational excellence, leadership, and civic engagement in a pluralistic society. We thus embrace an inclusive community that brings together students, faculty, and staff of different racial and multi-racial, ethnic and multi-ethnic, gender and sexually diverse, religious and nonreligious, economic, and national identities and ages. Our educational mission includes students who have been historically underrepresented in higher education, such as students of color, first-generation college students, international students, students of varying ability or disability, and other identities.

Classroom Protocol:

Cedar Crest College maintains a classroom and learning environment dedicated to scholarly, artistic, and professional inquiry. The College's community of learning is founded upon the intellectual freedom of students and faculty in pursuit of knowledge and understanding. Such an environment depends upon the insights of the liberal-arts disciplines, as well as a respect for the global diversity of viewpoints and cultural backgrounds.

The college expects students to conduct themselves in a manner that best realizes their own and other students' education, as consistent with the Cedar Crest College Honor Code. Appropriate classroom behavior includes, but is not limited to, the expectations for students: to attend and be prepared for all classes, to arrive and leave on time, to treat the faculty members and other students with respect, to refrain from any activities within the classroom that do not directly pertain to the business of the class, to use language that is respectful and non-abusive, and to otherwise refrain from any behavior that disrupts or jeopardizes the learning environment as determined by the instructor and departmental guidelines, as appropriate to the educational goals of the learning environment.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity and ethical behavior provide the foundations of the Cedar Crest scholarly community and the basis for our learning environment. Cedar Crest College expects students to set a high standard for themselves to be personally and intellectually

honest and to ensure that other students do the same. This standard applies to all academic work (oral, written or visual) completed as part of a Cedar Crest education.

Cedar Crest College reserves the right to define, in its sole discretion, what constitutes academic misconduct. Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsification, sabotage, and impersonation. This list is not exhaustive, and other acts in violation of the Cedar Crest Honor Code or academic standards of integrity may be deemed academic misconduct by an instructor or by the college.

Students who violate these standards are subject to sanctions imposed by the course instructor, department chair, the Provost's office, or the Board of Trustees. In this course, instances of academic conduct will result in procedural processes and consequences consistent with those outlined in the faculty handbook and student handbook.

When an instructor determines that a student has engaged in academic misconduct, the instructor is obligated to report the incident to the Provost's office. Reports are recorded in the Provost's office, which will notify the student of their receipt and the College's policies regarding academic misconduct. For more information, please refer to the Student Handbook, Section IV: Community Standards for Academic Conduct.

VeriCite Citation Verification/Plagiarism Detection:

Cedar Crest College uses a citation verification service (VeriCite, www.vericite.com) to help teach proper citation techniques and to ensure the integrity of written academic work. By enrolling in this course, students agree to the submission of their written assignments to such a citation verification service, the use of which is subject to the Terms of Use posted on the provider's website. Written work submitted to a citation verification service will become part of its database for the purposes of future citation verification.

Attendance:

There is no formal attendance policy or participation grade in this course. Having said that, however, please keep in mind that participation is measured in the online criminal justice courses on the completion of the module assignments. In online courses it is our school's policy to involuntarily withdraw students who do not participate in the first two weeks of class. Please pay attention to this.

All students are required to keep pace with the learning modules. Once the learning module ends you will not be permitted to submit the material that was required. The learning assignments are not optional. In addition, assignments are mandatory and are not optional and failure to submit one of the assignments will result in a failing grade for the course.

I am sensitive to the personal situations of students that inevitably cause difficulties at some point in the semester. **All assignments turned in late will not be accepted unless the student made prior arrangements with the instructor. Extensions must be requested at least twenty-four hours before the due date and may be denied. The instructor reserves the right to lower the grade even if an extension was given.**

Class Cancellation Policy:

For notification of the College closing, for inclement weather or other emergencies, refer to Cedar Crest's e2Campus system, the Inclement Weather Hotline at 610-606-4629, or the College's MyCedarCrest website for notification.

Resources for Students with Disabilities:

Cedar Crest College is committed to ensuring students with disabilities are welcomed as a part of our diverse community and that they have equal access to participate in all programs and services offered by the College, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the National Rehabilitation Act. If you have a disability and require accommodations to access any portion of the design, instruction, or experiences that comprise this course or any other campus activity, please contact Disability Resources (610-606-4628; advising@cedarcrest.edu; Student Success Center in Cressman Library) to set up an appointment to discuss your need for accommodations. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and may require advance notice to implement. Please refer to the Disability Resources page on MyCedarCrest for more information (https://www.cedarcrest.edu/ada_file.shtm).

Accommodations will not be provided unless the instructor receives an official Cedar Crest College Accommodations Letter. If you are already receiving accommodations, please remember to have a confidential conversation (in person, via email, or phone call) with your instructor to discuss the approved accommodations you intend to use for this course and how they may be implemented.

Audio Recording:

Students with disabilities may be approved to audio record lectures in this course in order to be provided meaningful access to the lecture material and to the educational experience. Students who are approved for this accommodation may only use this material for personal academic use and may not share the recording with anyone else. Dissemination of class recordings is only permitted with the speaker's explicit written consent. Note: audio recording may be prohibited, at the instructor's sole discretion, during portions of the lecture or discussion that may involve personal, self-disclosure by

other students. Please see your instructor if you have any questions or concerns about this policy.

Credit Hour Equivalency:

As a 3-credit online class, CRJ-101 00 satisfies the required hours of classroom instruction through the below course activities and assignments. These hours do not include preparatory or assessed assignments that would be completed outside of an in-person class meeting.

Teaching Format:

The course is an online course. An outline of the material to be studied will be provided through Canvas. Students should read the assigned material and be active participants in the learning process.

Course Activities or Assignments	Equivalent Classroom Instructional Hours
Learning Activities: Audio-Lectures, Recorded Online Lectures, PPTs, Readings and videos (11 modules) @ (2.5 hours per chapter - 11 Chapters)	27.5
Quizzes for 8 Modules (20 minutes per quiz)	2.6
Module Review Questions (11 chapters @ 1 hour per)	11
Two (2) Cumulative Exams	3
Total:	47.3

Week 1

Week 1

Review of the course syllabus
Review of the course checklist
Review Canvas website
Watch Introduction to Course Video

Chapter 1 What is criminal justice?
Read chapter 1
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 1
Take chapter 1 quiz
Answer chapter 1 review questions

Chapter 2 The crime picture

Read chapter 2
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 2
Take chapter 2 quiz
Answer chapter 2 review questions

Week 2

Chapter 4 Criminal law
Read chapter 4
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 4
Take chapter 4 quiz
Answer chapter 4 review questions

Chapter 5 Policing: History and structure
Read chapter 5
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 5
Take chapter 5 quiz
Answer chapter 5 review questions

Week 3

Chapter 6 Policing: Purpose and organization
Read chapter 6
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 6
Take chapter 6 quiz
Answer chapter 6 review questions

Chapter 7 Policing: legal aspects
Read chapter 7
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 7
Take chapter 7 quiz
Answer chapter 7 review questions

Take comprehensive exam #1

Week 4

Chapter 9 The courts: Structure and participants
Read chapter 9
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 9
Take chapter 9 quiz
Answer chapter 9 review questions

Chapter 10 pretrial activities and the criminal trial
Read chapter 10
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 10

Take chapter 10 quiz
Answer chapter 10 review questions

Week 5

Chapter 11 Sentencing

Read chapter 11
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 11
Take chapter 11 quiz
Answer chapter 11 review questions

Chapter 12 Probation, parole, and intermediate sanctions

Read chapter 12
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 12
Take chapter 12 quiz
Answer chapter 12 review questions

Week 6

Chapter 13 prisons and jails

Read chapter 13
Watch Micro-lecture on chapter 13
Take chapter 13 quiz
Answer chapter 13 review questions

Take comprehensive exam #2