JUS461 Capstone Senior Seminar in Criminal Justice
(3 credit hours)
Course Syllabus

Course Description

A capstone course that will concentrate on contemporary problems in the criminal justice system. Will include a unit on career planning in the field of criminal justice. This is a writing intensive course.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Students will demonstrate and apply critical thinking skills and in the process differentiate trial-worthy evidence from supposition and conjecture.

2. Students will demonstrate proper methods of criminal evidence evaluation and be able to construct and present a viable prosecution plan in a professional manner.

3. Students will grasp various topics germane to a criminal justice career such as presenting in a public setting, job interviewing, résumé preparation, and demeanor in a professional environment.

4. Students will justify the importance and value of teamwork in a small group consistent with that of a criminal justice workplace

Prerequisites/Corequisites

ENF293 and senior standing

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

For this course a digital copy of your textbook is included with your DragonACCESS fees. Use the DragonACCESS tool in Moodle to view your book.

Stojkovic, S., Kalinich, D. B., & Klofas, J. (2015). Criminal justice organizations: Administration and management (6th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.

Harr, J. S., & Hess, K. M. (2010). Careers in criminal justice and related fields: From internship to promotion (6th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.

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online@tiffin.edu

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the Tiffin University Library. You might consider registering for one of the library's many webinars on library research, source evaluation, copyright, and other topics, at the Library Events - Upcoming Events web page. For further assistance email a librarian, at: library@tiffin.edu.

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this class you should plan your time wisely. With our accelerated, seven-week term, you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week** to complete readings and assignments. To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).

2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.

3. Unless otherwise noted, initial forum discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Wednesdays** and response posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Saturdays.**

4. Major assignments and reflections are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Sundays.**

Key Assessment (Taskstream Submission)

This TU course features a "Key Assessment" that provides you the opportunity to demonstrate your program's core competencies. It also shows how the course fits within the broader curriculum.

Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Activity	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Discussion	15 15	15	15 15	15 15	15 15	15 15	15	**180**
Case Study	50	50	50	-	50	-	50	**250**
Assessment Essay	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	**25**
Resume	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	**25**

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Activity	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Course Project	-	-	-	-	-	150	-	**150**
Presentation	-	-	-	-	-	-	75	**75**
Total	**80**	**90**	**80**	**55**	**80**	**180**	**140**	**705**

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

Please see the Academic Bulletin for grade appeal information.

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Week 1 - The Nature of Criminal Justice Organizations

☐ Forum (Due Monday): Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 1.2: Analytical Framework - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 1.3: Ranking the Justice Environment - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers - Secondary Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 1.2: Analytical Framework - Secondary Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 1.3: Ranking the Justice Environment - Secondary Post

☐ Case Study (Due Sunday): Activity 1.4: Case Study: Climate Change

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Week 2 - Individuals in Criminal Justice Organizations

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 2.1: The Six Theories Of Motivating Personnel - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 2.1: The Six Theories Of Motivating Personnel - Secondary Post

☐ Essay (Due Sunday): Activity 2.2: Career Assessment Essay

☐ Case Study (Due Sunday): Activity 2.3: Case Study: "But How Can You Sleep Nights?"

Week 3 - Leadership in Criminal Justice Organizations

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 3.1: The Limitations Of Leadership in Criminal Justice - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 3.2: A Synopsis of a Article - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 3.1: The Limitations Of Leadership in Criminal Justice - Secondary Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 3.2: A Synopsis of a Article - Secondary Post

☐ Case Study (Due Sunday): Activity 3.3: Case Study: Mandatory Minimum Sentences and Drug Offenders

Week 4 - Power and Politics in Criminal Justice Organizations; Resume Building

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 4.1: The Role of Politics in Criminal Justice - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 4.2: Influential Community Members - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 4.1: The Role of Politics in Criminal Justice - Secondary Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 4.2: Influential Community Members - Secondary Post

☐ Resume (Due Sunday): Activity 4.3: Résumé

Week 5 - Processes in Criminal Justice Organizations

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 5.1: Think like an Administrator - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 5.2: Biases that underline Police Officer decision to Make an Arrest - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 5.1: Think like an Administrator - Secondary Post

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☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 5.2: Biases that underline Police Officer decision to Make an Arrest - Secondary Post

☐ Case Study (Due Sunday): Activity 5.3: Case Study: Community Perspective on Effective Enforcement

Week 6 - Research in Criminal Justice Organizations; Employment Process

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 6.1: Major Sources of Crime - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 6.2: Criminal Justice Employer - Introductory Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 6.1: Major Sources of Crime - Secondary Post

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 6.2: Criminal Justice Employer - Secondary Post

☐ Activity 6.3: Capstone Research Paper

Week 7 - Capstone Criminal Justice Curriculum Integration and Criminal Justice Careers

☐ Forum (Due Wednesday): Activity 7.1: Mission Statement and Goals

☐ Forum (Due Saturday): Activity 7.1: Mission Statement and Goals

☐ Case Study (Due Thursday): Activity 7.3: Case Study: Research in Criminal Justice Organizations

☐ Presentation (Due Thursday): Activity 7.3: Presentation

Tips for Success

Online learning requires self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery. Your course is a place for you to grow as you benefit from the expertise, experience, and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge and understanding.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

Your Instructor Will Expect You to:

● Thoroughly review orientation materials (Start Here) within the first 48 hours of the term.

● Monitor your TU email account **daily** for important updates and announcements.

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- Take ownership of your learning experience and act in a proactive, self-directed manner. That means:

  o Fully participate in all learning activities.

  o Complete assignments as described in rubrics or other instructions.

  o Submit all work on time and in the specified format (e.g. APA format for citations).

  o Utilize and incorporate instructor provided feedback to improve your work.

  o Ask questions so you can better understand course material or assignments.

  o Use the highest standards of intellectual honesty and integrity. For details, see the TU Library guide: [Digital Literacy: Netiquette and Internet Safety](#).

  o Treat others respectfully and demonstrate "netiquette" (online politeness and respectfulness) at all times. TU celebrates cultural uniqueness and expects all students to be considerate and thoughtful throughout their learning experiences.

You Should Expect Your Instructors to:

- Post an introductory announcement/email at the beginning of each week to provide updates and help you prepare for the week's activities.

- Maintain an active and engaged presence in all course activities and throughout the course.

- Respond to your emailed questions within 48 hours, if not sooner.

- Clearly communicate any absences or expected non-participation due to extenuating circumstances. For example, "I will be traveling to attend a funeral this week and may not be able to respond to questions or participate in forums for a couple of days."

- When grading your work:

  o clearly indicate their grading approach (what they like to see in submitted work as well as what types of errors they tend to penalize more harshly),

  o thoroughly review and evaluate your submissions in a timely manner (in less than 5 days for most assignments), and

  o provide constructive feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of your work with suggestions on how you can improve your performance on future assignments.

- Advocate for your success as a learner and help guide you toward successful completion of the course activities and most importantly, attainment of the course learning outcomes.

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Accommodations (Disability Services)

The Office of Disability Services supports the institutional commitment to diversity by providing educational opportunities for qualified individuals with disabilities through accessible programs and services in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. If you need reasonable accommodations due to a documented disability, contact the Office for Equity, Access, & Opportunity via email at disabilityservices@tiffin.edu or by calling 419-448-3021.

Technical Support

For Moodle support, either email moodlesupport@tiffin.edu or call the 24/7 Technical Support Call Center at 855-664-1200 (3430, Option 2, from on-campus). For non-Moodle support, contact the Tiffin University ITS helpdesk at the number above or submit a support ticket.

Veterans

The Veteran and Military Resource Center assists veterans, active Military, and spouses of current service members in utilizing their education benefits. VMRC provides information regarding benefit processes and procedures, as well as support in navigating the transition from military to academic life by facilitating connections with the appropriate support services on campus. More information can be found on the Veteran and Military Resource Center website, at http://www.tiffin.edu/va.

Additional Support

If you need to consult an academic advisor refer to TU's Meet the Team page. For information about TU's peer tutoring program see the Murphy Center's Tutoring Policies and Procedures page.

Comments or Concerns

TU's online programs are designed to be student *driven*: to empower you with a voice and stake in your learning. Our courses feature multiple and varied ways that you can share feedback, and we invite you to become an active voice and help drive our improvement efforts. In addition to providing in-course feedback, we encourage you to submit questions or comments directly to the online team at online@tiffin.edu.

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