

**AJ 56 Course Outline as of Fall 2008****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: AJ 56

Title: CRIM JUSTICE IN SOCIETY

Full Title: Crime and Criminal Justice in Society

Last Reviewed: 2/12/2018

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	17.5	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**

A critical examination of the nature and extent of crime in contemporary society and the social, legal and political responses to criminal and delinquent behavior.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:**

Elibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: A critical examination of the nature and extent of crime in contemporary society and the social, legal and political responses to criminal and delinquent behavior. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Elibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

**ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	D	Social and Behavioral Sciences	Spring 1994	
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	D	Social Science	Fall 1995	
	D0	Sociology and Criminology		

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
---------------	----------------------	--	------------	-----------

<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Spring 1994	Inactive:
----------------------	--------------	------------	-------------	-----------

<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2025	Inactive:
---------------------	--------------	------------	-----------	-----------

**CID:**  
CID Descriptor: SOCI 160 Introduction to Crime  
SRJC Equivalent Course(s): AJ26

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**  
Both Certificate and Major Applicable

**COURSE CONTENT**

**Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Critique the social and political responses to crime.
2. Describe the concepts of criminology, victimology, and penology and their relationship to crime and justice in society.
3. Assess selected theories of criminology and apply the methods of inquiry of the social and behavioral sciences to administration of justice.
4. Evaluate critical issues relating to crime and justice in society.
5. Categorize criminogenic factors, including biological, physical, psychological, crime as learned behavior, sociological, control theory, and environmental explanations for the occurrence of crime.
6. Evaluate key responses to crime and criminal behavior by law enforcement agencies.
7. Identify the principal criminal justice agencies within the criminal justice system.

**Topics and Scope:**

- I. Crime: Its Nature and Scope
  - A. Purpose of criminal law
  - B. Definition of a crime
  - C. Public perception of crime/visible crime
  - D. Measurement of crime (Uniform Crime Reports and National Crime Victimization Survey)
  - E. Cyclical nature of crime statistics

- F. Dark figure of crime
- G. Reasons why crime is not reported
  - 1. Fear
  - 2. Perception of justice system
  - 3. Cultural considerations
  - 4. Apathy/Victim precipitation
- H. Cultural considerations
- I. Victimology
- II. Theories of criminology
  - A. Application of the methods of inquiry of the social and behavioral sciences to administration of justice
  - B. Biological explanations
  - C. Physical explanations
  - D. Psychological explanations
  - E. Crime as learned behavior
  - F. Sociological explanations
  - G. Control theory
  - H. Environmental theory
- III. Application of Criminal justice and systems
  - A. Role of law enforcement
  - B. Due Process (ideal) vs. crime control (real) models of justice
  - C. Role of the District Attorney
  - D. Role of defense counsel
  - E. Role of Superior Court
  - F. Appellate Courts and Doctrine of Judicial Review
  - G. California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
  - H. County jails
- IV. Analysis of key concepts to crime and justice in society
  - A. Political considerations
  - B. Initiative process/law and the ballot box
  - C. Selective incapacitation
  - D. Determinate and indeterminate sentencing
  - E. Versatility effect
  - F. Crime tax
  - G. Plea bargaining/assembly-line justice
  - H. Jury nullification
  - I. Critical issues related to criminology
  - J. Recidivism
  - K. Special needs doctrine
  - L. Labeling
  - M. Drug influence studies
    - 1. Primary charge
    - 2. Precipitating offenses
  - N. Treatment gap
  - O. Incarcerated and/or probationary status frustration
  - P. Ethnic and cultural influences
  - Q. Subculture of violence
  - R. Institutionalization
  - S. Internal and external controls
  - T. Child abuse
  - U. Super predator
  - V. Penology

- V. Critical issues in crime and justice in society
  - A. Capital punishment
  - B. Domestic violence
  - C. Three Strikes
  - D. Megan's Law
  - E. Prisons - costs vs. rehabilitation
  - F. Gangs and crime
  - G. "War on Drugs"-Substance abuse and crime

**Assignment:**

1. Read 20-30 pages weekly from National Criminal Justice Reference Service crime files and related articles.
2. Internet research in preparation of written papers and field visitations.
3. Field visitations: Drug Court or 1210 Court; Domestic Violence Court; Sonoma County Jail; Workplace visitation and interview; look up on Megan's Law database.
4. Oral report in class.
5. Complete 3 examinations.

**Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written homework, Reading reports, Term papers

Writing  
15 - 25%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Homework problems, Internet research

Problem solving  
10 - 20%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, Matching items, Essay exams

Exams  
50 - 70%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Oral report; field visitations

Other Category  
5 - 10%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

National Criminal Justice Reference Service Crime Files, current edition.

Crime Profiles: The Anatomy of Dangerous Persons, Places, and Situations.

Miethe, T.D., McCorkle, R.C. and Listwan, S.J. (2006) Roxbury Press.

Why Crime Rates Fell, Conklin, J.E., (2003) Allyn & Bacon.

Crime and Society, White, R. and Habibis, D. (2005) Oxford Press.

Sense and Nonsense About Crime and Drugs, A Policy Guide (6th Ed.,)

Walker, S.(2005) Wadsworth Publishing.

Instructor prepared materials.