



School of Criminal Justice & Criminology
Summer 2024, Session I
CJ 1310: Intro to Criminal Justice – CRN: 50304

Instructor: Josh Davis, M.A.
Class Time: Asynchronous
Class Location: Online via Canvas
Office Location: Hines G07 (lowest level of Hines)
Office hours: Via Zoom by Appointment. Please email the instructor to set up an appointment day/time.
Office Phone: (512) 245-2174
E-mail: jdavis@txstate.edu [preferred contact method]

How to use this syllabus: This syllabus provides students with information specific to this course, and it also provides information about important university policies. This document should be viewed as a course overview; it is not a contract and is subject to change as the semester evolves. Any changes will be communicated in class and through Canvas.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description

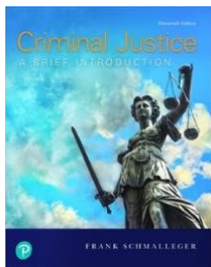
CJ 1310 Introduction to Criminal Justice (3). History and philosophy of criminal justice: ethical considerations, crime defined, overview of criminal justice system, law enforcement, court system, prosecution and defense, trial process, and corrections.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Summarize the historical, theoretical, and philosophical developments in criminal justice,
- 2) Identify and discuss the steps in the criminal justice process,
- 3) Distinguish the goals and philosophies of due process and the crime control models of criminal justice,
- 4) Identify the ethical responsibilities and the constitutional duties of the criminal justice professional,
- 5) Summarize how law enforcement, courts, and corrections operate and interact, and
- 6) Explain the importance of empirical data in criminal justice policy.

Required Texts/Readings



Textbook:

Schmalleger, F. (2019). *Criminal Justice: A Brief Introduction* (13th ed.). Pearson Education, Inc.

Other Readings:

If any other reading materials are required, the link or the directions for locating the material will be posted on Canvas. Additional assigned readings or alternative readings may be used during the semester to complement student learning.

Learning Management Platform - CANVAS

All additional readings (outside the textbook) and some PowerPoints will be posted in Canvas. All assignments must be submitted through Canvas. **Email submissions or paper copies will not be accepted.**

Other Equipment/Materials

Students are required to have complete access to a functioning computer device with internet capabilities. This device must have Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. If students do not have Microsoft Word or PowerPoint on the student's device, Texas State provides students free access to Microsoft Office 365.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Class Behavior

To allow for orderly learning and differing discourse, students are reminded to follow the rules of courtesy during classroom discussions. This is a college course, and student vocabulary and word choice should be appropriate for a college classroom. Students should stay on-topic and handle non-class-related matters outside of class. We will be covering topics that can be socially sensitive; therefore, we must remain respectful of each other's points of view during the course.

Class Protocol

This is an online class, and students are expected to participate by doing the assigned readings, watching the assigned lectures, and participating in the discussion boards.

This course has 5 modules. Modules 1-4 will run from Monday at midnight to Sunday at 11:59 p.m. Due to the University calendar, Module 5 has a shorter length and will run from Monday at midnight to the end of the course on Friday, June 28th, at 11:59 p.m. All work must be submitted to Canvas by the deadline listed in the Syllabus. No extensions will be granted.

Students should take responsibility for their learning. This also means submitting all assigned material, including but not limited to assignments, quizzes, exams, and canvas discussions, on time. Students are expected to participate in online discussions and activities. Students should seek clarification for any questions they do not understand.

Students are held responsible for all assigned materials. Examinations will be open for one week and must be taken by the due date. There will be no exceptions. Grades are not negotiable and

will be determined by the final point total. All scores are final and will not be rounded up. Every student will have the same opportunities to earn points. Students will receive the grade they earned.

Grading Scale

At the end of the semester, the student's grade will be determined by the total number of points earned, not by the percentage. Also, no grades of Incomplete will be awarded.

Points (Percentage)		Letter Grade	Grade Points
403 - 450	(90% and above)	A	4.00
358 - 402	(80 - 89.9%)	B	3.00
313 - 357	(70 - 79.9%)	C	2.00
268 - 312	(60 - 69.9%)	D	1.00
0 - 267	(0 - 59.9%)	F	0.00

Contact Policy

Although students may attempt to reach me by phone, ***email communication is always preferred***, and I have a faster response rate as I am not always in the office. Feel free to email me any questions or concerns following these guidelines:

- Always use the course number (CJ 1310) in the subject line of the email
- Students should remember to sign their names.
- Students should ***always*** email me from their Texas State email address. Emails sent from personal email servers like Gmail and Yahoo tend to end up in my spam folder, and I never see them. Students may also email me through Canvas via the Inbox.
- Students should NOT contact me for tech support.

Response Times

To Email and Canvas Inbox:

Please include the CJ 1310 and topic in the email subject line, as this helps me prioritize a response to students. I will respond to students within 48 hours, generally within 24 hours. Weekends and official University breaks may delay this period. Students are always welcome to schedule a meeting via Zoom.

Feedback on Assignments:

Feedback on Assignments and Exams will occur within one week; however, based on the requirements of the courses I am taking, it may happen sooner or be slightly delayed. Students worried about feedback should email the instructor to set up a meeting.

In-Person/Zoom Meetings:

While I am not always in my office in Hines, I will happily meet with students outside of class via Zoom or in person. To request an In-Person Meeting, please notify me via email with some dates and times the student is available. Please put "CJ 1310- In-Person Meeting or Zoom

Request" in the subject line. I will respond within 24 hours to these requests, excluding weekends and official University breaks.

WHAT IS MY GRADE BASED ON?

Assignments

Syllabus Quiz	20 points
Introduction Post	10 points
4 Discussion Boards	100 points
2 Exams	200 points
Final Project	120 points
Total Points	450 Points

Syllabus Quiz

Students will be required to take and pass a ten-question quiz on the course syllabus. Students will be allowed to retake the quiz until they receive a passing score. Students should aim to complete this as soon as possible, as the rest of the course will not open until a passing score is reached. **This will be worth a total of 20 points.**

Introduction Post

Since this is an online class and a portion of our learning will happen in online discussion boards, we should know with whom we are discussing topics. Students will write a paragraph introducing themselves. They only need to introduce themselves in one post and do not need to reply to other students, but they are welcome to do so. **This will be worth 10 points.**

Discussion Boards

There will be 4 Discussion Boards throughout the semester designed for students to give their thoughts on a topic. They should be completed in academic writing, including source documentation, but first person is allowed. **Students will make an initial post on the topic and must respond to at least one other student.** The initial post should be between 200 and 300 words, and the students will receive up to 15 points for the post. A reply post should be between 150 to 250 words, and students will receive up to 10 points for the required reply post. Replies should add content to the discussion and avoid simple agreement or disagreement with the original author. **Each Discussion Board will be worth 25 points each for a total of 100 points.**

Exams

Exams will be given via Canvas, consisting of multiple-choice, matching, true/false, and short-answer questions. There will be two exams. Each exam is timed, and students have 80 minutes to complete it. Students are allowed to consult their notes and the textbook during the exam but should not consult with other students. Each exam will consist of 50 questions and be worth 100

points, for a total of 200 points.

Criminal Justice Career Presentation

Students will create a presentation on a Criminal Justice career of their interest. The presentation requirement will be posted in Canvas. The presentation is due to Canvas no later than one week before the end of the course **by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, June 21st**. It is worth a total of 120 points.

Extra Credit

Each exam will also include an extra credit section. No other extra credit opportunities will be given.

Late Assignments and Missed Exams

Due to the fast-moving nature of this course and its limited content, late assignments and missed exams will not be accepted.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

Students should not use Artificial Intelligence (AI) in this course. All work should be the student's own product. Using AI will be viewed as an act of Academic Dishonesty.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic Honesty Policy

Students at Texas State University are expected to uphold high academic standards. Texas State will not tolerate a lack of academic integrity. Submission of any work for a grade for which unauthorized help has been received is termed academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a failing grade in the course. "Unauthorized" is a term used here to designate stealing, copying (with or without permission), or collaboration with other individuals. Furthermore, acts of cheating, collaboration and collusion, plagiarism, fabrication, and facilitating academic dishonesty as defined in UPPS No. 07.10.01 are also strictly prohibited (<https://policies.txst.edu/university-policies/07-10-01.html>). Students are strongly encouraged to refer to the Texas State student handbook for policies related to academic dishonesty.

Engaging in Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated! Students must work independently unless specified by the instructor. The first violation will result in an "F" for the assignment or exam. The second violation will result in an "F" in the class.

Honor Code

As members of a community dedicated to learning, inquiry, and creation, the students, faculty, and administration of our university live by the principles in this Honor Code. These principles require all members of this community to be conscientious, respectful, and honest.

WE ARE CONSCIENTIOUS. We complete our work on time and make every effort to do it right. We come to class and meetings prepared and are willing to demonstrate it. We hold ourselves to doing what is required, embrace rigor, and shun mediocrity, special requests, and excuses.

WE ARE RESPECTFUL. We act civilly toward one another, and we cooperate with each other. We will strive to create an environment in which people respect and listen to one another, speaking when appropriate, and permitting other people to participate and express their views.

WE ARE HONEST. We do our own work and are honest with one another in all matters. We understand how various acts of dishonesty, like plagiarizing, falsifying data, and giving or receiving assistance to which one is not entitled, conflict as much with academic achievement as with the values of honesty and integrity.

THE PLEDGE FOR STUDENTS. Students at our university recognize that, to ensure honest conduct, more is needed than an expectation of academic honesty, and we therefore adopt the practice of affixing the following pledge of honesty to the work we submit for evaluation:

I pledge to uphold the principles of honesty and responsibility at our university.

THE PLEDGE FOR FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION. Faculty at our university recognize that the students have rights when accused of academic dishonesty and will inform the accused of their rights of appeal laid out in the student handbook and inform them of the process that will take place:

I recognize students' rights and pledge to uphold the principles of honesty and responsibility at our university.

ADDRESSING ACTS OF DISHONESTY. Students accused of dishonest conduct may have their cases heard by the faculty member. The student may also appeal the faculty member's decision to the Honor Code Council. Students and faculty will have the option of having an advocate present to insure their rights. Possible actions that may be taken range from exoneration to expulsion.

See (www.txstate.edu/effective/upps/upps-07-10-01.html) for more information.

Students with Disabilities

A student with a disability may require an accommodation(s) to participate in the course. They must contact the instructor within the first two weeks of the semester. They will be asked to provide documentation from the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at that time. Failure to contact the instructor in a timely manner will delay any accommodations they may be seeking. Ongoing care by a physician does not automatically qualify students as an ODS special needs student. Students are required to file paperwork for accommodations with ODS each semester. Accommodations granted one semester do not automatically carry forward to the next.

Tentative Schedule (Subject to Change)

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</u>
1	May 28 th to June 2 nd	 <u>Week 1: Course Overview</u> <u>Read:</u> *Syllabus <u>Assignments:</u> *Syllabus Quiz – Due by Sunday, June 2nd by 11:59pm *Introduction Post – Due by Sunday, June 2nd by 11:59pm
2	June 3 rd to June 9 th	 <u>Week 2: Overview of the Criminal Justice System</u> <u>Read:</u> *Textbook Chapters 1, 2 & 3 *Posted PowerPoint Slides <u>Watch:</u> *Lecture Video #1 – Intro to Criminal Justice *Lecture Video #2 – The Picture of Crime <u>Assignments:</u> *Discussion Board #1 – Due by Sunday, June 9th by 11:59pm
3	June 10 th to June 16 th	Exam I Open on Sunday, June 9th at Midnight  <u>Week 3: Policing</u> <u>Read:</u> *Textbook Chapters 4, 5 & 6 *Posted PowerPoint Slides <u>Watch:</u> *Lecture Video #3 – Policing: An Overview *Lecture Video #4 – Search Warrants <u>Assignments:</u> *Exam I (Over Weeks 2 & 3) – Due by Sunday, June 16th by 11:59pm *Discussion Board #2 – Due by Sunday, June 16th by 11:59pm

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</u>
4	June 17 th to June 23 rd	 <u>Week 4: The Courts</u> <u>Read:</u> *Textbook Chapters 7, 8 & 9 *Posted PowerPoint Slides <u>Watch:</u> *Lecture Video #5 – The Courts *Lecture Video #6 – The Courtroom & Sentencing <u>Assignments:</u> *Criminal Justice Career Presentation – Due by <u>Friday, June 21st</u> by 11:59pm *Discussion Board #3 – Due by <u>Sunday, June 23rd</u> by 11:59pm
5	June 24 th to June 28 th	Exam II Open on Sunday, June 23rd at Midnight  <u>Week 5: Corrections</u> <u>Read:</u> *Textbook Chapters 10, 11 & 12 <u>Watch:</u> *Lecture Video #7 – Probation, Parole & Reentry *Lecture Video #8 – Prison Life <u>Assignments:</u> *Discussion Board #4 – Due by <u>Friday, June 28th</u> by 11:59pm *Exam II (Over Weeks 4 & 5) – Due by <u>Friday, June 28th</u> by 11:59pm