CRJ 102 – INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

Instructor:   Joseph Baird

Email:       j Baird@adams.edu

Course Delivery

Online, Semester-based

Credit Hours

3 Semester Hours

Course Prerequisites

None

Course Time Limits

All Semester-based courses follow a 16 week calendar as detailed in the Course Schedule.

Course Materials

Textbooks can be purchased from the Adams State University Bookstore. To order textbooks or obtain information about book titles, you may go to exstudies.adams.edu and click on the "Undergraduate" or "Educators K-12" icon. Click on the "Bookstore" link. Click on the button that reads "Graduation, Books, Clothing & Merchandise". Click on "Books" in the green navigation bar. Select "DISTLEARN" from the department menu. (http://adams.edu/students/sub/bookstore/)

Use Section Number: 1634 to order books from Bookstore site. This should provide the correct textbook information and ordering options.

If you have questions, you can contact the Bookstore at 719-587-7981, email Loretta Martinez at lcmartin@adams.edu or send a mailed request to Adams State University Bookstore, 208 Edgemont Blvd., Suite 3140, Alamosa, CO 81101.
CRJ 102 – INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Required Textbook:


Catalog Description

This course examines the primary components of the American criminal justice system including an overview of law enforcement, courts, and corrections. The interactions and distinctions of each component will be described in the context of both historical development and contemporary application.

Curricular Relationships

This course is a requirement for the Associate of Arts degree in Criminal Justice Administration. It is also a useful elective for students emphasizing criminology, criminal justice, corrections, or law enforcement. It contributes to the achievement of the Adams State University General Studies Student Performance Outcomes.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify the sources of data measuring crime in America.
2. Describe the history and essential elements of major crime categories.
3. Outline the sources of police authority and the limits on that authority from constitutional, statutory, and social controls on police power.
4. Cite the process of a criminal prosecution, from arrest to sentencing of a criminal defendant.
5. Examine the social, cultural, political, and legal consequences of special problems in criminal justice including drug and vice control, juvenile crime, terrorism, and mental illness.

Content Outline

1. Definitions and overview of the criminal justice system
2. Statistical data and methodologies for understanding crime frequency and types
3. Basic theories of crime causation
4. Origin and development of criminal law
5. History of policing
6. Constraints on police power and demands on police services
7. The structure of the court system
8. Pretrial, trial, and sentencing
9. Probation, parole, and community corrections
CRJ 102 – INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

10. Jails and prisons
11. Juvenile justice
12. Special challenges: drugs, terrorism, technology

Course Requirements

1. **Discussions/Forum Posts**: Each student will be required to complete every forum post and adhere to the specific instructions within each forum. Every forum will require the student to respond to at least two other students' posts. 20% of the forum grade will be based on class participation and that is tallied primarily by the students’ responses to his/her classmates.

2. **Research Paper**: The student will be required to submit a 7 page research paper due the 15th week of class on Sunday, before midnight. The student will be able to choose the topic based on anything they've studied in class; HOWEVER the topic must be approved by the instructor before the end of the 11th week of class. The font used MUST be Times New Roman, 12 point, and the paper must NOT be over 10 pages long. All citations must be used according to the Blue Book Style, and ALL of the text should be cut and pasted onto the text box provided for the student within the Research Paper Assignment Tab (please ask for help if this part is confusing). Any plagiarism will result in a grade of zero.

3. **Midterm**: This test will be available your 8th week of class and due before midnight at the end of that week. The student will have three (3) hours to complete the exam and it is worth 25% of your total grade. The exam will cover all the materials studied in the previous 3 weeks. The questions will range between multiple choice, fill in the blank, and essays. This exam is open book/open notes.

4. **Final**: This test will be available your 16th week of class and due before midnight at the end of that week. The student will have three (3) hours to complete the exam and it is worth 30% of your total grade. The exam will cover all the materials studied **POST** -midterm. The questions will range between multiple choice, fill in the blank, and essays. This exam is open book/open notes.

Course Procedures/Policies

Students are required to read the entire text book and access online resources including the ASU web content, the assigned publisher content, and additional research resources.

Students will complete assigned tests, quizzes, and writing projects for the maximum grade.

Students will conform to APA style unless otherwise directed in writing projects.
CRJ 102 – INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Grade Distribution and Scale

In alignment with ASU academic policies, no D may apply to a major or minor field.

Grade Distribution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forums</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade Scale:

- 90-100%    A
- 80-89%     B
- 70-79%     C
- 60-69%     D
- 59% and below F

ADA Statement

Students who need special accommodation to complete this class should contact the instructor and the Adams State University Counseling Center at 719-587-7746.

Academic Integrity

Cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized possession or disposition of academic materials, or the falsification or fabrication of one's academic work will NOT be tolerated. Any offense may result in a zero for the exam or exercise in question and may result in failure of the course. Please refer to the ASU Student Handbook for more information: http://www.adams.edu/pubs