



MASTER SYLLABUS
(Generic Outline)

Administrative Unit: Criminal Justice Administration and Social Work Department
Course Prefix and Number: MSCJ 525
Course Title: Comparative Criminal Justice Systems

DIGITAL DESCRIPTIONS

STUDENT DESCRIPTION:
Cr Hrs - # Lec Hrs - # Lab Hrs
3 - 3 - 0

PAY-HOUR DESCRIPTION:
Total # = Lec Hrs + Lab Hrs
3 = 3 + 0 X 2/3

Catalog Description: This course examines Criminal Justice systems worldwide and explores means of establishing cooperation toward mutual goals despite structural, historical and ideological differences. Offered Spring.

Additional Information: The purpose of this course is to provide the student with a general introduction to Criminal Justice systems in use in other countries. All aspects of selected worldwide systems will be analyzed, including police, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice.

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Graduate standing and foundational course.

Text: Fields, Charles B. and Richter H. Moore, Jr. (1996). Comparative Criminal Justice, Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press.

Terrill, Richard. (2003). World Criminal Justice Systems: A Survey. (5th edition). Cincinnati, OH: Anderson Publishing. ISBN: 1-58360-540-1.

Reichel, Philip L. (2002). Comparative Criminal Justice Systems: A Topical Approach. (3rd edition). Upper Saddle River, N.J. ISBN: 0-13-091287-5.

Course Objectives: The purpose of this course is to provide the student with a general introduction to selected worldwide Criminal Justice systems with a view towards attainment of three general objectives. First, knowledge of comparative systems leads to greater international understanding, which promotes cooperation among nations. Second, study of comparative systems helps in understanding our own system, which can assist in efforts to improve our own system. Third, comparative study contributes to the development of Criminal Justice theory and can lead to legal reform. The student will

demonstrate proficiency in the above areas through completion of assigned readings, attendance at course meetings, which include both professor and guest lecturers, participation in class discussions, and performance on written examinations and other assignments as given by the professor.

Topical Outline:

- I. Introduction - Why study Comparative Criminal Justice
- II. Crime and Criminality - A Comparative View
- III. Historical Development of Criminal Justice Systems
- IV. Law Enforcement Functions and Organizations
- V. Police and the Community
- VI. Constitutional Constraints
- VII. Criminal Procedure
- VIII. The Law, Courts and Trials
- IX. Sentencing
- X. Corrections and Punishment
- XI. Juvenile Justice Systems
- XII. Contemporary Dilemmas and Influences

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 15

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Name Signature

Date: June 4, 2003

NOTE: The intention of this master course syllabus is to provide a general outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught, or where it is taught. This generic outline is not intended to restrict the way any individual faculty member teaches the course. The master syllabus, therefore, should be general enough to allow for a diversity of individual approaches to teaching the course, while at the same time it provides guidance on what the course should cover.