Master Syllabus

Administrative Unit: Criminal Justice Administration and Human Services Department

Course Prefix and Number: CJAD 101

Course Title: Introduction to Criminal Justice Administration

Number of Credit Hours: 3
Lecture Hours: 3
Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: This course describes the history and development of major components of the Criminal Justice system; police, prosecution, defense, criminal courts, institutional and community-based corrections. Offered Fall.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): None.

Text(s): Many suitable textbooks are available from various publishers and the following list is not comprehensive. Other textbooks may be judged by individual instructors to be more suitable in meeting Course Objectives. Many current textbooks have companion websites, and the instructor is encouraged to enhance the course experience for the student by utilizing available technology.


Course Objectives:

- To enhance knowledge and understanding of the American system of criminal justice from a systemic approach.
- To understand the various components of the criminal justice system and how they relate and interact with one another.
- To understand the law and how it interfaces with crime, criminal justice professionals and public expectations.
- To prepare for entry-level careers in the criminal justice system.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Describe the history, evolution and present structure of the criminal justice system.
- Explain the distinction between criminal justice and criminology.
- Understand the three components of the criminal justice system.
- Demonstrate a practical and working knowledge of the steps in the criminal justice process.
- Describe the dichotomy between protecting individual rights of citizens and protection of the public.
Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- Define criminal justice
- The crime picture
- Causes of crime
- Criminal law
- Police: History and structure
- Police Administration
- The legal environment
- The courts
- The courtroom workgroup
- Sentencing
- Probation and parole
- Prisons
- Juvenile delinquency
- Drug abuse
- The future of criminal justice

Material from this course may be tested on the Major Field Test (MFT) administered during the Culminating Experience course for the degree.

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 35

Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

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Date: September 27, 2005

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an 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. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.