Administrative Unit: Criminal Justice Administration & Human Services Department

Course Prefix and Number: CJAD 320

Course Title: Cultural Diversity in Criminal Justice

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

Catalog Description: This course examines current issues and social problems relating to the administration of justice in a culturally diverse society. Special focus of the course will be on the changing ethnicity of communities and related changes in social and institutional public policy. Also discussed is a cross-cultural communication, implementing cultural awareness training, multicultural representation in law enforcement, and criminal justice interaction with various racial and ethnic groups. Prerequisite: CJAD 101 and junior standing. Strongly recommended as prerequisite for CJAD 345, Ethics and Morality in Criminal Justice. Offered odd fall.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): CJAD 101 and junior standing.

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 appreciate cultural diversity issues facing police, courts, and corrections in the criminal justice system.
- To understand how to advocate the need for reform when necessary.
- To understand the changing ethnicity of communities and related changes to social institutional policy.
- To understand the roles and functions of police, courts, and corrections in a culturally diverse society and to heighten sensitivity to cultural diversity issues facing these agencies.
- To understand and appreciate a multicultural society.
- To become acquainted with model diversity practices utilized by criminal justice entities.
Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- To enhance critical thinking, research, and communication skills on cultural diversity issues.
- Understand cultural diversity issues facing police, courts, and corrections in the criminal justice system.
- Analyze and describe the changing ethnicity of communities and related changes to social and institutional policy.
- Identify the roles and functions of police, courts, and corrections in a culturally diverse society.
- Evaluate cultural diversity issues currently facing criminal justice agencies.
- Explain, evaluate and apply important theories and policies regarding cultural diversity issues.
- Compare and contrast the cultural diversity issues impacting employment with those impacting the relationship between agencies and offenders.
- Appraise current literature, materials and developments regarding cultural diversity issues.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- Multicultural communities: Challenges in criminal justice
- The changing law enforcement agency
- Multicultural representation in criminal justice
- Preparation and implementation of cultural awareness training
- Cross-cultural communications for criminal justice
- Criminal justice contact with Asian Americans
- Criminal justice contact with African Americans
- Criminal justice contact with Latino/Hispanic Americans
- Criminal justice contact with Arab Americans and other Middle Eastern groups
- Criminal justice contact with Indian Americans
- Hate/bias crimes
- Professionalism and peacekeeping strategies in criminal justice

In an effort to better prepare students for future educational pursuits and professionalism in their chosen fields, it is highly recommended that all courses bearing the CJAD prefix contain both a writing and speech communication component. Formal writing projects should be prepared in APA format.

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: 25
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.

Prepared by: Joseph Carrier, Ph.D.  

Name ___________________________ Signature ___________________________

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.

Office of Academic Affairs
12/04