Administrative Unit: Criminal Justice Administration & Human Services
Department

Course Prefix and Number: CJAD 495
Course Title: Integrative Seminar

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

Catalog Description: This is the capstone course for the major in criminal justice and serves as the student’s culminating experience. It is designed to integrate and synthesize all coursework in criminal justice and related areas so the student has a broad conceptual and practical understanding of the criminal justice career field. In addition, it is designed to ensure that the student has a practical understanding of all critical and current issues in the criminal justice field as they relate to the law, law enforcement agencies, criminal courts, corrections, and juvenile justice. Prerequisites: Senior standing, and have completed 90 hours of coursework. Offered Spring.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Senior standing, and have completed 90 hours of coursework.

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 understand and appreciate the complex relationship between police, courts, and corrections in the criminal justice system.
- To understand how to advocate the need for reform when necessary.
- To understand the roles and functions of police, courts, and corrections in the criminal justice system and to heighten the student’s sensitivity to the limitations placed on these agencies.
Measurable Learning Outcomes:

• To prepare for entry level careers in the criminal justice field through the integration and synthesis of criminal justice coursework.
• To understand modern criminal justice practices.

• Describe the complex nature of the criminal justice system and its limitations.
• Explain the impact of public policy decisions on the criminal justice system.
• Identify important Supreme Court decisions which apply to criminal Justice entities and explain the significance of these decisions on the current practices in criminal justice agencies.
• Construct and evaluate arguments for and against proposed reforms in the criminal justice system.
• Describe and evaluate the relationship between philosophy, theory, policy and practice in the criminal justice system.
• Explain, evaluate and apply important theories and policies regarding criminal justice issues.
• Describe the typical work environment and career path for criminal justice professionals.
• Demonstrate technological and communication skills consistent with the level of competence currently expected for entry level professionals.
• Identify career opportunities for criminal justice professionals and demonstrate knowledge of the job acquisition process for criminal justice professionals.
• Appraise current literature and developments regarding the criminal justice system.
• Collect and interpret data on relevant topics concerning the justice system.
• Formulate appropriate research questions through application of generally accepted techniques.
• Apply recognized techniques of analysis to assorted research questions.
• Integrate previous CJAD course work with generally accepted scholarly techniques and submit a written report and/or deliver an oral presentation synthesizing all of the above.

During this course the Major Field Test (MFT), which assesses achievement of the outcomes for the major in Criminal Justice, and the Academic Profile, short form, will be administered. The Academic Profile is a 40-minute standardized test measuring learning in general education courses. The results of the tests are used by faculty to improve the general education curriculum at the College.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

• Pre-test of existing knowledge
• Current issues in Juvenile Justice
• Current issues in Policing
• Current issues in Corrections
• Current issues in the Courts
• The Employment Environment in Criminal Justice
• Ethical issues in the Criminal Justice career field
• Leadership skills in the Criminal Justice work environment
• Career building strategies
• Technology in Criminal Justice agencies

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.

A primary purpose of the culminating experience is to assess learning outcomes in the discipline major. It demonstrates the following set of characteristics:

• The experience occurs after completion of appropriate foundation skills, electives, and required courses.
• Assessment instruments used in the experience measure student achievement of the stated learning objectives for the discipline.
• Departmental faculty use the information provided through assessment to improve course content, teaching, and learning in the discipline major.

During this course the Academic Profile, short form, will be administered. This 40-minute standardized test measures learning in general education courses. The results of the tests are used by faculty to improve the general education curriculum at the College.

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: 15

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 J. Carrier
Name

Date: January 25, 2005
Signature

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