

## **Introduction to Criminal Justice**

Fall 2014

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**Textbook:** Introduction to Criminal Justice: by Larry J. Siegel, John L. Worrall  
Fourteenth Edition

### **Course Description:**

This course provides an overview of the criminal justice system. The class will concentrate on important legal terms and concepts. We will examine state and federal court system and we will learn about relevant US Supreme Court decisions. Major emphasis will be placed on police, courts, juvenile and adult probation, Drug Court, Intensive Supervision Probation, Corrections and Parole. Students will gain a better understanding of the current and future critical issues such as Criminal Justice and Mental Illness, Drug addiction, and the treatment of Veterans. It will review the options available and resources provided by the state. Encompassing both the foundation of American Criminal Justice and each stage after arrest including due process will fully **describe** all aspects including helping the community and preventing recidivism.

### **Course Objectives:**

The overall goal of this course is to provide the student with the expertise he or she needs to critically analyze the issues, challenges and trends as they exist in Criminal Justice today. After successful completion of the course, the student should:

- (A) be able to clearly distinguish each step of the process from arrest to sentencing, and the degree grading New Jersey gives to the crimes committed
- (B) be able to significantly appreciate the value of intermediate punishments or sanctions as correctional alternatives
- (C) have an accurate, detailed, understanding of the many facets within Criminal Justice and the United State Supreme Court cases that help shape them
- (D) appreciate and understand the value of a variety within Criminal Justice and to be able to distinguish the difference between theory and real world
- (E) understand the impact of current issues, challenges and trends have on Criminal Justice

**Final Assessment of Grades will be as follows:**

Mid-Term 50%

Final Examination 50%

**Class Participation** is weighted in this course because discussions aid in the student's ability to understand the impact of probation in our society. Also, an interactive approach aids in the student's learning and creates an environment where an exchange of ideas is valued.

Attendance is mandatory; your grade will be lowered if you miss classes.

Cheating and Plagiarism

Don't cheat. Don't plagiarize.

**Overview of Class Schedule, which is subject to change depending on the progress of the class:**

Class 1: September 3, 2014-Discussion of course syllabus; Overview of Chapter 1: Crime and Criminal Justice

Class 2: September 8, 2014--Chapter 2: The nature and extent of crime

Class 3: September 10, 2014 -Guest Speaker: New Jersey State Trooper David Sodowitz

Class 4: September 15, 2014-Chapter 3: Understanding Crime and Victimization

Class 5: September 17, 2014-Chapter 4: Criminal Law: Substance and Procedure; Guest speaker First Assistant Prosecutor James Janci, Hunterdon Prosecutors Office

Class 6: September 22, 2014- Chapter 5: Public Policing and Private Security

Class 7: September 24, 2014-- Guest Speaker: Sergeant Raquel Ortiz, New Jersey State Parole Board

Chapter 6: The Police: Organization, Role, and Function

Class 8: September 29, 2014-Chapter 7- Issues in Policing

Class 9: October 1, 2014-Supervising Probation Officer Steven Mandraccia, Juvenile and Drug Court Probation

Class 10: October 6, 2014- Guest Speaker Supervising Probation Officer Steven Mandraccia, Juvenile and Drug Court Probation

Class 11: October 8, 2014-: Guest Speaker Officer James Holovacko, Dunellen Police Department; Chapter 8- Police and the Rule of Law

Class 12: October 13, 2014- Guest Speaker- Somerset County Sheriff's Department  
David Syring

Class 13: October 15, 2014- Chapter 9- Court Structure and Personnel

Class 14: October 20, 2014

Guest Speaker: Master Probation Officer John Manzo, Sex Offender/Domestic  
Violent caseload

Class15: October 22, 2014-Detective Sergeant Greg Price at Franklin Twsp. Police  
Department/Swat Officer

Class 16: October 27, 2014-**Midterm**

Class 17: October 29, 2014-Chapter 10-PreTrial and Procedures

Class 18: November 3, 2014-Chapter 11-Punishment and Sentencing

Class19: November 5, 2014-Chapter 12-Community Sentences

Class 20: November 10, 2014- Chapter 13-Corrections

Class 21: November 12, 2014-Chapter 14-Prison Life

Class 22: November 17, 2014-Guest Speaker Thomas Cohan, Middlesex County  
Sheriff's Department, Marine Corps; Air Force reserves

Class 23: November 19, 2014-Chapter 15-Juvenile Justice

Class 24: November 19, 2014-Chapter 16-Crime and Justice

Class 25: November 24, 2014-Criminal Justice mental illness

Class 26: November 26, 2014-U.S. Supreme Court decision's

Class 27: December 1, 2014-Major Major Wayne Sanderson New Jersey State Prison

Class 28: December 3, 2014-Drug Addiction/Veterans their role in the criminal  
justice system

Class 29: December 8, 2014- Drug Court, Mental Illness within the Courts; Ethical  
dilemmas (hand out provided)

Class 30: December 10, 2014- Last Day of Class; Final Review

**Monday December 15, 2014 Final**