

Indiana State University

CRIM 150 Section 301

Introduction To The Criminal Justice System

Catalog Course Description

A study of the agencies and processes involved in the criminal justice system----the courts, the police, the prosecutor, the public defender, and corrections. Foundational Studies Credit: [FS 2020: Social and Behavioral Sciences]

Faculty Information

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Department: School Of Criminology & Security Studies

Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00-2:00 p.m. & Thursday 3:15-5:00 p.m. or by appointment

Course Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Describe the history and philosophy of law enforcement, criminal courts, and corrections.
- Describe the organizational structures of police agencies, courts, and correctional facilities.
- Discuss the potential implications of corruption or misconduct throughout the criminal justice system.
- Describe the issues of discretion, decision-making, ethics, and morality faced by criminal justice professionals.
- Examine and assess patterns of interaction between the criminal justice system and diverse populations in American society.
- Compare and contrast traditional criminal justice models versus emerging concepts and philosophies.
- Identify prevalent methods that have been employed to better combat crime and recidivism.
- Describe working in a multicultural society and the challenges facing criminal justice professionals in such environments.
- Capably navigate the complexities of the criminal justice system, whether professionally, personally, or both, throughout one's life.
- Describe how individual factors, cultures, and/or social institutions affect human behavior or decision-making.

- Utilize discipline-specific content and/or methodology to explain or predict individual or social outcomes.
- Examine the impact of privilege and oppression based on structural inequalities, including race, on themselves and others.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Frank Schmalleger, Criminal Justice Today, 16th Edition (2021), Pearson

ISBN 13 : 9780135770580

Graded Elements of the Course

3 Tests & 1 Final Exam, 8 Discussion Board posts, 4 Reading Quizzes, 1 Court Observation Paper, regular class participation