

CRIMINOLOGY-1-53732
Introduction to Criminology (3 units)
SPRING 2024
01/08/2024 - 05/17/2024
Online
Instructor – Skye Leibee
Phone: (559) 217-9045
Email: skye.leibee@reedleycollege.edu
Office Hours: TBD (Virtual)

Course Description: This course introduces students to the history and philosophy of the United States criminal justice system. It also analyzes theories of crime and crime causation in conjunction with how the law is developed. Additionally, the course examines sentencing, the incarceration processes, and community supervision.

ADVISORIES: Eligibility for English 125 & 126. (A, CSU) Course Credits/Class Hours: 3

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the semester, it is expected the student will:

1. Recognize the major components of the criminal justice system.
2. Describe the differences between Federal and State courts.
3. Identify the major theories which attempt to explain crime causation.
4. Explain the processes by which a criminal case progresses from investigation to appeal.
5. Recognize which Amendments to the United States Constitution have the greatest impact on the criminal justice system.

Learning Objectives:

In the process of completing this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the history, development, structure, and function of the American police, courts, and corrections systems.
2. Explain the methods, theories, and concepts associated with the sources of crime data, the emerging patterns of criminal activity, and the costs of crime.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of criminological theories used to explain crime and criminality.
4. Demonstrate the ability to follow appropriate writing styles practiced within the social sciences arena while gathering and organizing the material required for a case brief or other selected written project.
5. Show an understanding of corrections including the roles of probation, parole, and community corrections, as well as the functions of prisons and jails.
6. Convey an understanding of the process of adjudication.

7. Identify and describe special issues in the criminal justice system involving juvenile delinquency.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

Reedley/Clovis Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you would like to request any accommodation for this course, please contact the Coordinator of Disabilities (DSP&S). A copy of the appropriate form, Notification of Authorized Services, needs to be submitted to the instructor – preferably within the first two weeks of the semester.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY FOR DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT IN THE CLASSROOM:

- The instructor has primary responsibility for control over classroom behavior and maintenance of academic integrity, this includes the online platform.
- The instructor can order temporary removal or exclusion from the classroom of any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct that violates the general rules and regulations of the College.
- Disruptive behavior in the classroom that obstructs or disrupts the learning environment. This includes cell phone use during class.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT:

- Students guilty of academic dishonesty, either directly or indirectly through participation or assistance, are responsible to the instructor of the class. Academic dishonesty is defined as, but not limited to, plagiarism and cheating.
- At the discretion of the instructor, students who cheat or steal work from another source will be subject to significant consequences.
- Cheating - is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task fraudulently or deceptively. Cheating may include but is not limited to copying from another's work, supplying one's work to another, and giving or receiving copies of examinations without the instructor's permission.
- Plagiarism - is a specific form of cheating: the use of another's words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved.
- See the Reedley College Catalog for further information regarding cheating and plagiarism.
- Additional disciplinary sanctions may be imposed through regular institutional procedures because of academic misconduct.

Sexual Harassment:

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when this conduct explicitly or implicitly affects an individual's employment or education, unreasonably interferes with an individual's work performance or education, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or education environment.

Disclaimer:

Due to the nature and reality of work in the criminal justice system, real-life examples, verbal and non-verbal expression, and role-playing by the instructor or used in videos may be used to demonstrate to students important learning points. These examples are not meant to demean or insult any group or individual, but simply to give students an understanding of the reality that exists in this profession and prepare them to deal with different types of people and situations professionally.

Help:

If you are having trouble in this class due to a change in life circumstances or something, you do not understand please see/contact the instructor immediately. There are several services available to assist you at Clovis Community College. Your success in this class is very important to me and I will work with you to assist you in succeeding in this course. ***However, you must remember that success in this course cannot happen without you doing everything you need to do to succeed.*** (See keys to successful course completion.)

Course changes:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus and *may* attempt to discuss or notify students of these changes and their implications to students before they are implemented. Please review this course in Canvas and check your e-mail/inbox daily as I regularly use these methods to communicate information to students.

Required Text and Materials:

Important Note: **Assignments are embedded in the required textbook or e-course material (MindTap).** Students are encouraged to purchase or familiarize themselves with the campus resources available to them early on. Acquisition of the required materials will increase the likelihood of successfully completing the course. While your instructor understands the cost of textbooks or access to e-course material can be significant, the text selected for this course will afford you a greater opportunity to develop an appropriate understanding of the course learning objectives and therefore strengthen your learning and retention of the material.

- **“Introduction to Criminal Justice”, 17th edition**, Author – Siegel/Worrall, Cengage Publishing, ISBN: 978-0-357-63092-1 (available online). ******Hard-Copy Textbook NOT REQUIRED******
- This course will utilize “MindTap” from Cengage. ***Purchasing access to the e-book and associated material is required to complete the course. There are various pricing options through Cengage/MindTap, which is where all the learning material is embedded.***

Course Requirements:

All assignments are expected to be submitted on the day due. Assignments not submitted when due will be penalized 10 % or (1) full grade per day for a maximum of (3) calendar days.

Example: An assignment submitted (1) day late will receive a 10% or (1) full grade deduction from the final grade/points earned for that assignment. If the assignment had been graded with an “A”, the grade will be a “B” because of the late submission.

If the assignment has not been submitted by the end of the third day after the due date, the assignment will no longer be accepted, and you will receive no credit for that assignment.

Course exams/tests are expected to be taken/submitted on the date identified.

Absent *verifiable* emergencies and/or prior arrangements with the instructor, there will be no make-up exams/tests Your grade will be based on the successful completion of the following (in whole or in part):

Quizzes*: Quizzes *may* be given to assess how well you are learning the material (Points worth varies).

Participation: This is your class as well as mine. Student participation in discussion and/or engagement in the course material consistently is critical to the assimilation of the material covered. All students in the course might be asked questions regularly on discussion boards to enable them to display an understanding of topics covered, read, watched, or discussed. You must be engaged in the course material and processes. (Point worth varies).

Exams*: Exams may be given during the semester. (Point worth varies).

Final: The final is worth 100 points.

Discussion Boards/Homework Assignment(s): Homework assignment(s) focusing on aspects associated with the criminal justice system will be part of this course. The details of this will be explained later by the instructor. Worth 10-20 points(each). Discussion

boards *might* be used intermittently/frequently and will vary dependent on the topic.
Discussion boards will be worth 10-20 points as well.

Grading Criteria/Scale: (*Example Only*)

Participation	100 points
Quizzes	100 points
Exams	200 points
Disc. Boards / HW	200 points
Final Exam	100 points

TOTAL 700 points (*Example only*; Point assimilation varies)

Attendance and Tardiness Policies:

Attendance / Drop Policy:

Students are expected to sign in or log in to the course no later than the first Friday of the semester. During the first week of the course, there will be assignment(s) that need to be completed before moving on to the following module(s). Students who do not sign in or log in and complete the assignments by the end of the first week of the semester will be dropped unless the instructor is notified in advance and agrees to hold the student's position in the class. ***Ultimately, it is the student's responsibility to officially drop a class in which he/she no longer wishes to be enrolled.*** Be mindful of the drop dates listed in the catalog.

Course Communication Policy:

Canvas mail or email (refer to the top of the syllabus) is the preferred method of communication for private messages between students and the instructor in this course. Please remember, however, that while the internet is available 24 hours a day, I and other students are not. You can expect I will respond to messages in Canvas within 24/48 hours or earlier, depending on the urgency of the communication.

For non-urgent or general questions regarding the course, assignments, or specialized instructions, please use the "*Briefing Room*" forum. If I am unavailable to answer your question(s), one of your classmates may have the information you are inquiring about.

Urgent issues should be addressed via Canvas mail, phone call, or text message as soon as you become aware of potential conflicts with attendance or completion of assignments. ***Please refrain from calling unless necessary.***

In the event you need more personalized communication, we may schedule a one-on-one conference via Zoom.

Keys to successful course completion:

This class is designed to provide students with a positive learning experience and to give them valuable knowledge that will benefit them in a career in criminal justice. I see every student as exceptionally valuable and encourage them to do their best to succeed. I will be there for you to help you achieve this success.

1. **Be engaged in the course.**
2. Ask questions when you are unsure of the material.
3. Carefully read all assigned chapters.
4. Take good notes during lectures, discussions, or readings.
5. Participate actively and thoughtfully in discussion boards or other interactive assignments.
6. Complete assignments on time and follow the directions given.
7. Study and prepare for quizzes and exams.

Semester Outline: (COR = Course Outline of Record)

Week #1 (Jan. 8-14)

Review Syllabus and Class Introductions

Week #2 (Jan. 15-21)

TBD

Week #3 (Jan. 22-28)

TBD

Week #4 (Jan. 29-Feb. 4)

TBD

Week #5 (Feb. 5-11)

TBD

Week #6 (Feb. 12-18)

TBD

Week #7 (Feb. 19-25)

TBD

Week #8 (Feb. 26 – Mar. 3)

TBD

Week #9 (Mar. 4-10)

TBD

Week #10 (Mar. 11-17)

TBD

Week #11 (Mar. 18-24)

TBD

Week #12 (Mar. 25-31)

Spring Break – No Class Work Due

Week#13 (Apr. 1-7)

TBD

Week#14 (Apr. 8-14)

TBD

Week#15 (Apr. 15-21)

TBD

Week#16 (Apr. 22-28)

TBD

Week#17 (Apr. 29- May 5)

TBD

Week#18 (May 6-12)

TBD

Week#19 (May 13-17)

TBD

Important Campus Dates:

January 8	(M)	Start of Spring 2024 semester
January 8 - March 8	(M-F)	Short-term Spring 2024 classes, first nine weeks
January 15	(M)	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observed (no classes held, campus closed)
January 19	(F)	Last day to drop a Spring 2024 full-term class for full refund
January 26	(F)	Last day to register for a Spring 2024 full-term class in person with add authorization
January 26	(F)	Last day to drop a Spring 2024 full-term class to avoid a "W" in person
January 28	(Su)	Last day to drop a Spring 2024 full-term class to avoid a "W" on Self-Service
January 28	(Su)	Last day to add a Spring 2024 full-term class with add authorization on Self-Service
February 16	(F)	Lincoln Day observance (no classes held, campus closed)
February 19	(M)	Washington Day observance (no classes held, campus closed)
March 1	(F)	Deadline to apply for graduation for Spring 2024 completion
March 8	(F)	Last Day to drop a Spring 2024 full-term class (letter grades assigned after this date)
March 11 - May 17	(M-F)	Short-term Spring 2024 classes, second nine weeks
March 25 - March 29	(M-F)	Spring recess (no classes held, campus open Mar 25-28)
March 29	(F)	Good Friday observance (no classes held, campus closed) (classes reconvene Apr 1)
May 13-17	(M-F)	Spring 2024 final exams week