



INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY (3 UNITS)
March 11, 2024 to May 17, 2024
Lecture Tuesday & Thursday
6:00 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.
CC1 Room #204

COURSE SYLLABUS
for
Introduction to Criminology

Text: "Essentials of Criminal Justice" 11th edition. By Larry Siegel and John Worrall (2018)

Instructor: Jose L. Garza, Chief of Police (Reedley, CA)

Contact: E-mail - jose.garza@reedleycollege.edu

Office Hours: Posted in Canvas

Advisories:

Eligibility for English 1A or 1AH. (A, CSU, UC) (C-ID AJ110)

Course Description:

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

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

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

Learning Objectives:

At the end of the course, the student will:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the history, development, structure, and function of the American police, courts, and corrections systems.
- Explain the methods, theories, and concepts associated with the sources of crime data, the emerging patterns of criminal activity, and the costs of crime.
- Demonstrate an understanding of criminological theories used to explain crime and criminality.
- Demonstrate the ability to follow appropriate writing styles and practices within the social sciences arena while gathering and organizing the material required for a case brief or other selected written project.
- Show an understanding of corrections, including the roles of probation, parole, and community corrections and the functions of prisons and jails.
- Convey an understanding of the process of adjudication.
- Identify and describe special issues in the criminal justice system involving juvenile delinquency.

Methods of instruction:

- Lecture
- Reading assignments/handouts
- Video presentations
- Class discussions
- Guest Speakers
- Scheduled ride-along with local police agencies (field experience).

Required Text and Materials:

Assignments are embedded in the required textbook. Students are encouraged to purchase or familiarize themselves with the campus resources available early on. Acquisition of the required materials will increase the likelihood of completing the course. While I understand the cost of textbooks can be significant, the text selected for this course will afford you a greater opportunity to develop a proper understanding of the course learning objectives and strengthen your learning and retention of the material.

- "Essentials of Criminal Justice," 11th edition, Author – Siegel, Cengage publishing, ISBN 9781337557771 (available at campus bookstore).

Americans with Disability Act (ADA):

Reedley College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you would like to request an accommodation for this course, please contact the Coordinator of Disabilities at (559) 494-3032 (**DSP&S:** <https://www.reedleycollege.edu/student-services/disabled-student-programs-and-services/index.html>). A copy of the appropriate form, Notification of Authorized

Services, must be submitted to the Instructor – preferably within the first two weeks of the semester. All information will remain confidential.

Civility Policy:

Cellular phones will be silenced upon entering the classroom. Students who expect to be contacted in case of anticipated emergencies should notify the Instructor of this prior to class. The use of cell phones and other electronic devices in the classroom will be at the Instructor's discretion. Appropriate breaks will be provided as this is a two (2) hour class to allow for the use of phones to either return or make phone calls.

If you arrive after class starts (and it will begin on time), enter the room as quietly as possible so that you can join the class in session with as little disruption as possible.

Participation in class as a class is encouraged. Be prepared to share with others and not talk during any videos, as others may miss test materials due to your disruption. Private discussions that disrupt others are not acceptable behavior.

As the Instructor, I have primary responsibility for control over classroom behavior and maintenance of academic integrity.

I, as 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 is not acceptable and will not be allowed.

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 educational 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 may demonstrate important learning points to students. These examples are not meant to demean or insult any group or individual but to give students an understanding of the reality in this profession and prepare them to deal with different types of people and situations professionally.

My Pledge to You:

If you are having trouble in this class due to a change in life circumstances or something you do not understand, please see the Instructor immediately. There are several services available to assist you at Reedley 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, it would be best to 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 but will discuss these changes and their implications before they are implemented. Please review this course in Canvas and check your e-mail daily, as I regularly use these methods to communicate information to students.

Course Requirements:

All assignments are expected to be submitted on the day they are due. If absent on the day completed/collected, the assignment and quiz will need to be submitted online via **Canvas** by the time class starts for the date the item is due (see weekly task list for chapter DUE dates). Your grade will be based on successful completion of the following:

- Quizzes:
 - Worth 20 points each, 80 total points
 - Quizzes will be given regularly to assess how well you learn the material.

- Participation:
 - 80 total points
 - Student participation in discussions is critical to the assimilation of the material covered. All the students in the class are asked questions regularly to understand the topics discussed. If called upon by me to answer a question or offer a thought on the subject at hand, you are expected to give a coherent response. Simply shrugging your shoulders is not acceptable. Additionally, if you are not present, you are unable to participate. When called upon, you must be present and participate to earn participation points for each class session.

- Extra Credit Points:
 - 50 total points available
 - Details will be explained during the semester.

- Examinations:
 - Worth 50 points each, 200 total points
 - Four examinations will be given during the semester.
 - Examinations will be done on a scantron (you provide your own), so a #2 pencil is needed.

- Final Examination:
 - Worth 100 points.
 - Final examinations will be done on a scantron (you provide your own), so a #2 pencil is needed.

Tests will not be made up unless prior arrangements have been made with the Instructor. Suppose a student fails to show for a scheduled quiz or examination without notifying the Instructor in advance. In that case, the student will be allowed to take the quiz or examination within seven calendar days of the date of the quiz or exam. However, in this situation, the student can only earn up to a maximum of 50% of the original score. Failure to make up the quiz or examination within seven calendar days will result in a grade of zero for that item.

Grading Criteria/Scale:

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Participation | 80 points | POINTS | PERCENTAGE | GRADE |
| Quizzes | 80 points | 460 - 404 | 90% - 100% | A |
| Examinations | 200 points | 403 - 348 | 80% - 89% | B |
| Final Examination | 100 points | 347 - 292 | 70% - 79% | C |
| Total Possible Points | 460 points | 291 - 236 | 60% - 69% | D |
| Total Bouns Points | 50 points | 235 - 000 | 00% - 59% | F |

Standards of Student Conduct:

Student conduct in all of the State Center Community College District (SCCCD) must conform to district and college rules and regulations set forth by the District's Board rules, policies, and regulations. Students are also encouraged to reference the student code of conduct related to academic dishonesty.

Violations of academic integrity include but are not limited to the following actions.

- Cheating is the attempt to take an examination or perform an assigned, evaluated task fraudulently or deceptively. Cheating may include but is not limited to, copying from another work, supplying one's work to another, and giving or receiving copies of an examination without the Instructor's permission.
- Plagiarism is a form of cheating. Any student who uses another person's published or unpublished writing, ideas, and words without crediting the author will receive a FAIL for that specific assignment. If a student allows another student to copy his/her work, this is also plagiarism. In this case, both students will be subject to the same consequences and be given zero credit for that assignment.
- Working together on an assignment paper or project when the Instructor has expressly stated students should not do so.
- Submitting the same term paper to one or more Instructor
- Allow another individual to assume one's identity to enhance one's grade.

Smoking and or the use of illicit drugs or prescription narcotics not prescribed to you will not be tolerated in the classroom or on campus, as Reedley College is a non-smoking and drug-free campus. Violations of any local, state, or federal laws will be reported to the SCCCD Police for resolution.

Attendance Policy:

Regular attendance and participation contribute to academic success. I take attendance every day and expect students to attend regularly. You may be marked absent if you are not in class when class begins. If you arrive late, it is your responsibility to inform me when the lecture is over at a prescribed break so that I will not show you as being absent.

Students who miss the first class of the semester will be dropped. If you choose to drop this class, it is ultimately your responsibility to drop this class officially. Be mindful of the drop dates listed in the catalog and the final drop date.

Active participation is critical in this class and will enhance your learning and success in this class and your self-confidence. Do not worry; if you do not actively participate, I will call on you, so be prepared to answer.

Electronic Mail (E-mail - jose.garza@reedleycollege.edu):

I check my e-mail during the entire day, and e-mail is the best way to communicate with me. I will make every effort to respond to e-mails within 24 hours. E-mails should be appropriately addressed using Professor, Instructor, Chief, or Mr. as a prefix. Proper salutations should be used, such as Hello, Dear, etc. Briefly introduce yourself, stating which class you are in (Crim1 TTh 6p-8p) and what your e-mail is about, i.e., "My name is Joe Garza, and I am in your Crim1 TTh 6p-8p class. I am e-mailing you about, etc." write your e-mails correctly. Do not use slang, emojis, shorthand, abbreviations, acronyms, etc. Use real words. Please keep your e-mails as brief as possible and end with a signature such as Sincerely, Best regards, etc., and your name.

If you are unhappy about something, do not send an angry e-mail. Take time to gather your thoughts before sending an e-mail if that is the case. Remember, your e-mails are a reflection of you. Unless it is an emergency, plan ahead.

Keys to successful course completion:

This class is designed to provide the students with a positive learning experience and give them valuable knowledge that will benefit them in a career in criminal justice.

To be successful in my class, each student should:

- Attend class regularly and be on time.
- Ask questions when you are unsure of the material.
- Carefully read all assigned chapters.
- Take good notes during class and discussions.
- Participate actively and thoughtfully in class sessions.

- Get assignments done on time.
- Study and prepare for quizzes and exams.
- Take advantage of any extra credit opportunities given to the class.
- Seek my assistance when you are struggling with learning a topic for added assistance.