



Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Fall

Year: 2025

Course Prefix: CJ

Course and Section #:1010-002

Course Title: Introduction to Criminal Justice

Credits: 3

Course Description

Presents the processes, institution, and administration of criminal justice in the United States. Examines the crime problem and criminal law. Discusses criminal law, law enforcement, criminal prosecution, criminal defense, bail, the jury system, and sentencing. Explores the correctional system, namely, probation, prisons, inmates' rights, and parole.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

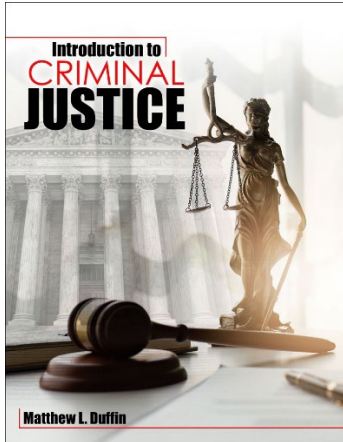
Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Mike Pientka

Student Learning Outcomes

- Explain how the United States manages crime, articulating what is considered justice.
 - Outline crime statistics in the United States with particular emphasis on how crime data is collected.
 - Describe the role, mission, legal aspects, and challenges of policing in the United States.
 - Describe the United States Criminal Court System, including the process and participants.
 - Use criminal law vocabulary correctly.
 - Order and describe the common procedural steps in a criminal case.
 - Describe corrections, including probation and parole.
 - Identify and describe various career opportunities within the field of criminal justice.
 - Explain the juvenile justice system and the role it plays within the criminal justice system.
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Course Materials and Texts



Introduction to Criminal Justice, 1/E
Matthew L Duffin, Utah Valley University

Copyright year: 2024 Available eBook USD 75.00
See more at [Kendall Hunt's website to buy the book](#)

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Grades are issued at the end of each semester. All grades earned will be reflected on and remain on the official academic transcript. The following grading scale is used:

A	100-94%	B-	83-80%	D+	69-67%
A-	93-90%	C+	79-77%	D	67-65-64%
B+	89-87%	C	76-74%	D-	63-60%
B	86-84%	C-	73-70%	E	<59%

Grading Criteria

Final Grades for this course will be calculated as follows:

Graded Activity	Points Possible
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Reading Assignments	130
13 @ 10 points each	
Quizzes	110
13 @ 10 points each	
Attendance	100
Current Event	30
Top Ten./ Reflection Papers	130
Critical Thinking Problem	50
Jail Tour Paper	10
SRI	20
Mid Term Exam (First 7 Chapters)	100
Final	200
Totals	880

Late Work

All late assignments will lose 1% per day. Late exams can cost up to 30%.

Attendance Policy

Since this class is recorded, you may watch it and prove that you have done so, and I will give you attendance credit. You can show me you watched by emailing me something that happened in class that day at the beginning, middle, and end.

Participation:

Regular and consistent participation is mandatory in this course.

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

Date	Details
Wed Jan 8, 2025	Quiz Syllabus Quiz
	Discussion Topic Introduce Yourself
Thu Jan 9, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 1
Sat Jan 11, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 1
	Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 1)
Thu Jan 16, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 2
Sat Jan 18, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 2
	Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 2)
Thu Jan 23, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 3
Sat Jan 25, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 3
	Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 3)
Thu Jan 30, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 4
Sat Feb 1, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 4
	Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 4)
Thu Feb 6, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 5
Sat Feb 8, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 5
	Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 5)

Date	Details
Thu Feb 13, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 6
Sat Feb 15, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 6
	Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 6)
Tue Feb 18, 2025	Quiz Mid-term (Available Feb 17th to Feb 22nd (Remotely Proctored))
Tue Feb 25, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 7
Thu Feb 27, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 7
	Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 7)
Tue Mar 4, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 8
Thu Mar 6, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 8
	Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 8)
Mon Mar 10, 2025	Calendar Event Spring Break -- Mar 10 thru Mar 15
Tue Mar 18, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 9
Thu Mar 20, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 9
	Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 9)
Tue Mar 25, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 10
Thu Mar 27, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 10
	Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 10)

Date	Details
Tue Apr 1, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 11
Thu Apr 3, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 11 Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 11)
Fri Apr 4, 2025	Assignment Jail Tour
Thu Apr 10, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 12 Assignment Jail Tour Paper
Sat Apr 12, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 12 Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 12)
Thu Apr 17, 2025	Quiz Reading Assignment Chapter 13
Sat Apr 19, 2025	Quiz Reading & Learning Quiz 13 Assignment Top Ten / Reflection (Chapter 13)
Tue Apr 22, 2025	Assignment Final Review Assignment SRI 10 Points Extra Credit
Thu Apr 24, 2025	Quiz Final Exam (Available April 20 to April 24) (Remotely Proctored)

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

- Chapter 1 – The Constitution: The Basis of Criminal Justice in America
- Chapter 2 – Introduction to the Justice System
- Chapter 3 – The Extent of Crime in America
- Chapter 4 – The Concept of Laws in America
- Chapter 5 – The US Police System
- Chapter 6 – The Police Process

Chapter 7 – Constitutional Criminal Rights
Chapter 8 – Courts: The System
Chapter 9 – Pretrial Activities and the Criminal Trial
Chapter 10 – Sentencing
Chapter 11 – Corrections: Jails and Prisons
Chapter 12 – Corrections: Alternatives to Incarceration
Chapter 13 – Juvenile Justice

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Statement

**adapted from [Temple University's Links to an external site.](#) statement on AI in classes.*

AI programs are not a replacement for your human creativity, originality, and critical thinking. Writing, thinking, and researching are crafts you must develop over time to develop your voice. At the same time, you should learn how to use AI and in what instances AI can be helpful to you.

The use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Google Bard, etc.) is permitted in this course for the following activities:

- Brainstorming and refining your ideas;
- Fine-tuning your research questions;
- Finding information on your topic;
- Drafting an outline to organize your thoughts and
- Checking grammar and style.

The use of generative AI tools is not permitted in this course for the following activities:

- Impersonating you in classroom contexts, such as by using the tool to compose discussion board prompts/responses assigned to you or content that you put into a Teams/Canvas chat.
- You must complete the group work that your group has assigned to you unless it is mutually agreed upon that you may utilize the tool.
- Writing a draft of a writing assignment.
- Writing entire sentences, paragraphs or papers to complete class assignments.

You are responsible for the information you submit based on an AI query (for instance, that it does not violate intellectual property laws or contain misinformation or unethical content). Your use of AI tools must be appropriately documented and cited to stay within university policies on academic honesty.

Any student work submitted using AI tools should indicate the student's work and what part is generated by the AI. In such cases, no more than 25% of the student work should be generated by AI. If any part of this is confusing or uncertain, please contact me for a conversation before submitting your work.

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.