

# Upper Iowa University External Degree Program

## CJ 224-07 Introduction to Criminal Justice

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course explores the history of the development of the criminal justice system in America. The everyday practices in this system and the articulation amongst policing, judicial and correctional institutions. Same as SOC 224. Prerequisite SOC110.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

In this course, the student will:

1. Identify the common and differentiating elements of the criminal justice system.
2. Recall and utilize terms common to the justice system
3. Interpret theory, historical forces, events and trends relevant to the justice system
4. Explain the reasons for and state of justice systems

Additionally, the student will:

1. You will understand how the criminal justice system operates and is shaped by society.
2. Investigate the relationships and constitutional requirements of the criminal justice system.
3. You will evaluate the goals of the American system of criminal justice.

### **REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

1. The following textbook is required for the course: Cole, George, F. and Smith, Christopher, E. *The American System of Criminal Justice* 11<sup>th</sup> edition
2. Syllabus

You may purchase your textbook through MBS Direct by calling their toll free number at: 800-325-3252 or through the UIU homepage: [www.uiu.edu](http://www.uiu.edu). Click on the link for current students then select order textbooks from the options in the left hand column. Follow the link and select External Degree for your location.

### **SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL:**

There is a PowerPoint presentation (paper copy) provided to you to assist you in your textbook readings and further strengthen your understanding of criminal justice in America. The PowerPoint presentation provides you with additional information that will assist you in responding to the essay questions. The presentation follows the sections and chapters in the textbook, if you have any questions about this material please contact me.

Also, if the Internet is available you should visit the Web page for the textbook it contains study tools for each chapter and links to current criminal justice related issues. The Internet site is: [http://www.cjwadsworth.com/cole\\_smith\\_ascj11e](http://www.cjwadsworth.com/cole_smith_ascj11e).

### **WRITING PROFICIENCY:**

It is recommended that all papers and research are done in the APA style. We expect appropriate writing skills of proper grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, paragraph development, and logical sequence of thought in all written work, and exams.

It is recommended that all students purchase the APA guide/manual listed on the UIU website. *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. \$27.00 new.

### **CITATION:**

Encyclopedias of any kind, including the very popular Wikipedia, are not primary sources and should not be cited or used in constructing academic papers at the graduate or undergraduate level. They can, however, be useful to help gather some background information and to point the way to more reliable sources.

### **EXAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

There are four examinations, chapter research assignments and five writing assignments scheduled during the course. The examinations will be a combination of multiple choice, true and false and short answer questions. Each examination is closed book, meaning you cannot use notes, the textbook or prompts of any type. The research and writing assignments will be writing assignments and you will research current issues in criminal justice. These assignments must follow the APA (American Psychological Association) writing style. The APA maintains a WEB site ([www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org)) if you need assistance in this writing style. The APA also publishes a writer's guide – most libraries have this guide in their reference section.

### **SKILLS:**

This course prepares the criminal justice major and/or minor to understand the principles of the criminal justice system in the United States. This course will prepare the student to understand the role of the police (law enforcement), the courts and corrections have in a democratic society. This course fulfills the partial degree requirements for the baccalaureate degree. Additionally, the assigned research questions support writing across the curriculum.

### **GRADING CRITERIA:**

There will be three components of your final grade: four exams (consisting of multiple choice, true and false questions and short answer questions) valued at 100 points each for a total of 400 points. Sixteen chapter research questions each valued at 10 points for a total of 160 points. Four writing assignments valued at 25 points each for a total of 100 points. Therefore, the total

possible points for the course are 660. The following will assess both the assignments and exams:

1. The extent and quality of research.
2. Balance of fact and opinion.
3. Quality of writing (level of readability, grammar, spelling)
4. Quantity of effort.
5. The acceptability of perspectives in the theory of and practice of criminal justice in America.

**NOTE:** In order to pass this course, you must get a passing grade (“D” or better), on one of the proctored exams and have enough cumulative points to earn a passing grade.

Grades will be earned by using the following point scale:

A = 600 - 660  
B = 539 - 599  
C = 478 - 538  
D = 417- 477  
F = 000 - 416

No extra credit is available for this course.

### **UPPER IOWA UNIVERSITY USES A STANDARD GRADING SYSTEM:**

**A** = All work is excellent, shows exceptional understanding of materials; logical, clear, and insightful written and oral work, incorporates knowledge from other sources and moves easily to the next level of understanding, works well beyond minimum requirements.

**B** = Understanding material is good to very good, demonstrates good grasp of material, good oral and written skills, produces more than the minimum requirements, quality of all work is high.

**C** = Satisfactory understanding of the material, submits only the minimum requirements, communicates adequately in oral and written formats, displays an adequate understanding of all basic concepts.

**D** = Quality and quantity written and oral work is below average and barely acceptable.

**F** = Quality and quantity written and oral work is unacceptable.

### **LIBRARY RESOURCES:**

As a student of Upper Iowa University, you have access to the resources of the Henderson-Wilder Library on the Fayette campus. If travel to the campus is not feasible, you can access the library through the University’s website. Go to: [www.uiu.edu](http://www.uiu.edu) and click on the Library option located on the left side of the home page. If you would like to use InfoTrac, please contact the UIU Library staff at [library@uiu.edu](mailto:library@uiu.edu).

## **STUDY HINTS:**

I offer you several important clues for completing the exams and writing assignments. First, read each exam question carefully. There are no trick questions, but the correct response to a question may hinge on one word. Second, when completing the writing assignments make sure you have addressed all components of the question. Your grade (points awarded) for each writing assignment will be affected by your writing skills. You must strive for a neat and accurate work product using your best writing skills. Third, there is no penalty for guessing at an exam question, so always respond to all exam questions.

## **THE PROCESSING OF EXAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

Mail all completed writing assignments to your instructor for review, evaluation, comment and point total awarded. Do not e-mail these assignments. I will then return your assignment to the External Degree office; they will record your grade and return the materials to you. Completed exams are returned to the External Degree office by the exam proctor. You will receive feedback on all exams by the instructor. *Please note:* allow sufficient time for your submitted work to be sent to both the instructor and the External Degree office.

## **GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW FOR SUBMITTING MATERIALS:**

Always make a copy of your writing assignment. Use the required cover sheet and attach it to each assignment. All writing assignments must be word-processed or typed using double spacing. Submit your request to take an exam directly to the External Degree office. Please, also, take note of any other guidelines that the External Degree office maintains.

## **CHEATING, ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND PLAGIARISM:**

Because cheating, academic dishonesty and plagiarism are affronts to the University community as a whole and a denial of the offender's own integrity, they will not be tolerated. Cheating includes but is not limited to:

- the use of unauthorized books, notes or other sources in the giving or securing of help in an examination or other course assignments,
- the copying of other students' work or allowing others to copy your work,
- the submission of work that is not your own or allowing others to submit your work as theirs,
- the submission of the same work for two or more classes without the approval of any instructors involved.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- sharing academic materials knowing they will be used inappropriately,
- having access to another person's work without permission,
- providing false or incomplete information on an academic document,
- changing student records without approval.
- obtaining and using texts intended for instructor use only.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- the presentation of another's published or unpublished work as one's own,

- taking words or ideas of another and either copying them or paraphrasing them without proper citation of the source,
- using charts, graphs, statistics or tables without proper citation.

Detected cheating, academic dishonesty, or plagiarism will result in consequences that may, at the instructor's discretion, include course failure. In addition, an offender may be reported to the Senior Vice President for the Extended University, the Dean of the Extended University, or designee for possible disciplinary action, which may include suspension or dismissal from the University. Upper Iowa University may make use of various plagiarism detection services. Individuals, by enrolling in courses offered by the University, consent to submission by the University of course-related assignments to such services and the retention of a copy of such assignments by the service.

Cheating, academic dishonesty and plagiarism infractions are tracked by the Dean of the Extended University, and cumulative evidence collected from multiple incidents will be considered when making suspension or dismissal decisions.

Extended University Catalog 2006/07 page 94.

[http://www.uui.edu/catalogs/eu/html/univ\\_policies.html#cheating](http://www.uui.edu/catalogs/eu/html/univ_policies.html#cheating)

### **ATTENDANCE:**

Even though a student does not attend a regular classroom in the traditional sense and keep up with a set schedule of assignments, it should be pointed out how important it is to keep yourself on a regular timely schedule if possible to complete and send in units. It is too easy to set work aside and decide to do it later. Suddenly, the need to complete assignments and get them in by deadlines can become stressful and, at times, impossible. The key would be to set time aside on a regular basis and submit work in a timely manner.

### **WITHDRAWAL:**

If you wish to withdraw prior to the last day of the enrollment period you must contact the External Degree office by phone or in writing. After your original six month enrollment period you no longer have the option to withdraw from the course. You must finish the course or have a final grade assigned based on the coursework submitted.

### **SPECIAL NEEDS:**

If you require accommodation for special needs, please provide documentation to: Director of External Degree.

**This syllabus is tentative and subject to change.**