

College Document # COAS013

UCC Document # _____

Date Received _____

CATALOG YEAR 2006-2007

(Please use separate form for each add/change)

COLLEGE/SCHOOL : Arts and Sciences

Current Catalog Page(s) Affected p.270

Course:

(check all that apply)

Add: X Delete: _____
Change: _____ Number _____ Title _____ SCH _____
Description _____ Prerequisite _____

If new, provide Course Prefix, Number, Title, SCH Value, Description, prerequisite, and lecture/lab hours if applicable. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the on-line catalog and indicate changes in red.

New: CRIJ 4321- Senior Pro-Seminar (SP)

This course is an intensive seminar that allows students to critically examine issues relevant to the police, courts, and correctional systems in the U.S. It is a writing intensive course in which students will apply research skills and submit a literature review. Students also participate in review sessions related to core topical areas in criminal justice. Prerequisite for CRIJ majors: Successful completion of the lower-level CRIJ courses and completion of the core requirements of the CRIJ Major. Prerequisite for CRIJ minors: Successful completion of the core requirements of the CRIJ minor.

Justification: This course will meet the university mission of enhancing writing and will be embedded as a capstone course required for all majors and to be used for assessment.

Program: Add: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the on-line catalog and indicate changes in red.

Minor: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed minor.
If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the on-line catalog and indicate changes in red.

Faculty: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed faculty entry.
If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the on-line catalog and indicate changes in red.

College Introductory Pages: Add information: _____ Change information: _____
Attach new/changed information. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the on-line catalog and indicate changes in red.

Approvals:

Signature

Date

Chair
Department Curriculum Committee

Judith Ann Warner

10-27-2005

John Kilburn

Digitally signed by John Kilburn
DN: CN = John Kilburn, C = US, O =
TAMU, OU = BASCJ
Reason: I am approving this document
Date: 2005.10.27 14:34:13 -05'00'

Chair
Department

Neal McReynolds

Digitally signed by Neal McReynolds
DN: CN = Neal McReynolds, C = US, O =
TAMU, OU = Department of Biology and
Chemistry
Date: 2005.11.10 17:55:01 -06'00'

Chair
College Curriculum Committee

Dr. Nasser
Momayezi - Dean

Digitally signed by Dr. Nasser Momayezi - Dean
DN: CN = Dr. Nasser Momayezi - Dean, C =
US, O = Taras ASU International University,
OU = C.O.A.S. - Dean's Office
Reason: I have reviewed this document
Date: 2005.11.11 08:53:07 -06'00'

Dean

**SYLLABUS
CRIJ 4321
SENIOR PRO-SEMINAR
SPRING 2006**

Professor: Claudia San Miguel, Ph.D.
Office: CH 302 J
Telephone: 326-2529
Email: csanmiguel@tamiu.edu
Class Hours: MW 2:30-3:45
Classroom: BH 208
Office Hours: MW 1-2:30 pm; Tue. & Thurs. 11-12 noon; Friday 1-2pm; or by appointment.

Required Texts:

Sheldon, R. & Brown, W. (2003). Criminal Justice in America: A Critical View.

Johnson, W., Rettig, R., Scott, G., & Garrison, S. (2005). The Criminal Justice Student Writer's Manual.

Additional Readings:

The professor may assign additional readings.

Course Description:

This course is an intensive seminar that allows students to critically examine issues in criminal justice. Issues to be examined include the constitutional basis of the criminal justice system, the problem of crime in American society, and the extent of crime in the United States. Criminological theories, a historical overview of policing, and criminal procedure will also be covered in the course. Additionally, students will explore correctional systems and practices.

This course is writing intensive. Students will apply research skills and submit a research proposal, which includes an abstract, a literature review, and a methodological framework for their research proposal. Students will also participate in review sessions related to core topical areas in criminal justice. Each student's knowledge and understanding of the core topical areas will also be assessed.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will gain an understanding and appreciation of contemporary issues in the field of criminal justice such as
 - a. the problem of crime in American society
 - b. perspectives on criminal justice issues and the law

- c. historical and contemporary criminological theories
 - d. the history of policing and law enforcement operations
 - e. criminal courts and court processes
 - f. correctional systems and practices
2. The student will develop more knowledge about the discipline through reading professional literature.
3. The student will learn to think critically and analytically about the material presented in class.
4. The student will develop professional writing skills in the field of criminal justice by submitting two written assignments in addition to a final written project.

Attendance Policy:

Regular and prompt attendance is expected in order to fulfill the requirements of this course. (See attachment on University Attendance Rules)

Tardiness and leaving class early (without prior permission) will be counted as an absence. It is the student's responsibility to obtain missed material from other class members. Please see the professor to discuss attendance concerns or excessive absences. Participation and engagement on the part of the student will be a critical part of learning in this class so please plan on attending all sessions.

Note: It is in the best interest of the student to notify the professor by phone or e-mail ahead of class if he/she is going to be absent.

Electronic Devices:

The use of electronic devices such as headphones, cell-phones, and electronic games is not allowed in the classroom. If you have a cell-phone or pager please turn them off or set them to "silent" mode during class. If you receive a call during class that you have to take, please leave the classroom prior to engaging in your conversation.

Course Requirements:

Participation: This class will rely on a lecture-discussion format. Thus, there is a great deal of responsibility placed upon *the professor and students* to keep class sessions interesting and productive. In order to participate, students must read the assigned readings before coming to class. The professor will assume that students have read the material and are ready to discuss issues presented by the author(s). Engaging in conversation about issues addressed in this course is essential to a better understanding of the material. The professor will call on students and students should be prepared to answer the questions posed to them.

Because the use of readings, lectures and previous discussions will strengthen the student's understanding of the material presented in class, in-class participation is reflected in your final grade.

Exams: There will be a total of four (4) exams, including the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, true/false, matching and/or essay questions.

The final exam will be comprehensive, meaning that it will contain material from previous exams.

Make-up exams will not be given unless a student can provide appropriate cause for missing the exam. Additionally, failure to take the exam on the scheduled date will result in a deduction of total points. Each day a student delays taking the exam, a deduction of 10 points will occur.

Quizzes: There will be a total of 13 quizzes throughout the semester (meaning that there is a high probability that there will be a pop-quiz at least once a week). Quiz questions will be either true/false, multiple choice, matching, or short answer questions. The quizzes will not be open book, but you may use your written class notes. Thus, it is important for students to know the material before coming to class each week and take good notes each class meeting.

Only 3 quizzes will be dropped, therefore plan your absences accordingly.

There will be no make-up quizzes!

Assignments: There will be a total of two (2) assignments for students to work on throughout the semester. These assignments will be library-based and will require the student to research a topic. Thus, the student must obtain a current journal article (1990+) on a selected topic. The student will also be required to orally present his/her summary of the article on the designated date. Additionally, the student will be required to submit a written summary of the article.

Because these are out-of-class assignments, they must be typed; double-spaced; and in 12 point font. Each assignment must be *a minimum* of 4 pages in length and a maximum of 7 pages in length. Also, a title page and a reference or work cited page must be included and does not count toward the 4 page minimum requirement. Assignments must utilize APA referencing. If you are not familiar with APA referencing, look at the Johnson et al. book or visit the library.

Any assignment that is not submitted in on the specified date will receive a deduction of points, 10 points per weekday. Also, points will be deducted if the student does not present on the designated date.

No make-up assignments will be given unless the professor is notified before the class as to why the student was not present and the student can provide appropriate cause.

Under no circumstances will a student be allowed to submit his/her assignments via email. All assignments must be submitted in person to the professor on the day that it is due!

Assignments will be worth 50 points each, for a grand total of 100 points.

Final Project: Each student will be required to submit a research proposal. A research proposal is composed of three sections: an abstract, a review of the literature, and a methodological section explaining how the proposed study will be conducted. An abstract is a short description of the proposed study, the purpose of the study, and a brief description of how the study will be conducted. A literature review is a brief overview of what recent researchers have found related to a topic. The methodology section includes a research hypothesis; study variables; and the method in which the study is to be conducted.

Each student will need to select a topic in criminal justice, with the professor's approval. Once the topic has been approved, each student must research the topic in scholarly journals. At least 5 journal articles are required for this project. To find scholarly journal articles, you will need to either visit the university's webpage or visit the library. Internet articles and books are acceptable, but this does not absolve you from using at least 5 journal articles.

This project must be typed; double-spaced; and in 12 point font. The project must be a *minimum* of 8 pages in length and a maximum of 12 pages. Also, a title page and a reference or work cited page must be included and does not count toward the 8 page minimum requirement. The project must utilize APA referencing. Outside journal articles may be used, but must be properly cited.

Each student will be required to submit a preliminary draft and final draft in order to meet the requirements of this course. The preliminary draft will be graded on a 50 point scale. The final draft will also be graded similarly. The combined possible maximum points for the preliminary draft and the final draft is 100.

Projects that are not submitted on the specified date will receive a deduction of points, 10 points per weekday.

Under no circumstances will a student be allowed to submit his/her drafts via email. All drafts must be submitted in person to the professor on the day that it is due!

Calculation of Your Final Grade:

Exam #1	100 points
Exam #2	100 points
Exam #3	100 points
Exam #4 (Final)	100 points
Quizzes (10-- 10 points each)	100 points
Assignments (2-- 50 points each)	100 points
Draft & Final Project	100 points
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(TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS)	700 POINTS

*******Tentative Class Schedule*******

Date	Topic	Chapter
<hr/>		
18 Jan.	Introduction to the Course Affirm student e-mails Review Syllabus	
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23 Jan.	An Overview of the Criminal Justice System	1
25 Jan.	The Problem of Crime in American Society	2
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30 Jan.	Perspectives on Criminal Justice and Law <i>(Jan. 31st: Twelfth Class Day; last day courses may be dropped without record)</i>	3
1 Feb.	Perspectives on Criminal Justice and Law	3
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6 Feb.	Perspectives on Criminal Justice and Law	3
8 Feb.	Theories of Crime	4
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13 Feb.	Theories of Crime	4
15 Feb.	Exam 1	1-4
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20 Feb.	A Historical Overview of American Policing	5
22 Feb.	A Historical Overview of American Policing	5
27 Feb.	American Law Enforcement in the 21 st Century	6
1 March	Police Functions and Problems	7
6 March	Police Functions and Problems	7
8 March	Criminal Courts: The System & Participants Preliminary Draft Due	8
13 March	Spring Break	
15 March	Spring Break	
20 March	Criminal Courts: The System & Participants	8
22 March	Criminal Courts: The Process	9
27 March	Criminal Courts: The Process	9
29 March	Exam 2	5-9
3 April	Research Methods	handouts
5 April	Research Methods	handouts
10 April	Sentencing	10
12 April	Sentencing <i>(April 13: Last day to drop course or withdraw from the University)</i>	10
17 April	The Modern Prison System	11
19 April	The Modern Prison System	11

24 April	The Juvenile Justice System	12
26 April	The Juvenile Justice System	12

1 May	Exam 3	10-12
3 May	Final Project Due Review for Final Exam	

8 May (Mon.) Final Exam @ 2 pm
