Siena Heights University Syllabus

Semester: Summer I  
Instructor: Mary Jo Kennedy  
Year: 2010  
Phone: (517) 787-0800 ext. 8334  
E-Mail: kennedymaryjo@jccmi.edu

Course Title: Law Enforcement/Community Relations  
Course Number: CRJ341

Course Description:

Law enforcement and police operations affect the democratic process more crucially than any other aspect of public policy. This course looks at the discretionary conduct of the police, the development of police power, and the degree to which officers perform their tasks in accordance with community values and needs.


Learning Outcomes of the Criminal Justice Program:

1. Be able to link theory and practice.
2. Be able to critically evaluate the criminal justice system, identifying its strengths, identifying its weaknesses, and understanding its operational processes.
3. Recognize the need for the development of a fair, just, and ethical criminal justice system.
4. Be able to understand and develop explanations for a variety of human behaviors and seek solutions to social problems impacting the criminal justice system.
5. Develop an interdisciplinary approach to the study and practice of criminal justice and appreciate the role of social sciences in the study of criminal justice.

Relationship of the Course to the Program’s Learning Outcomes:

This course is related to three of the program’s learning outcomes. First, the student will be able to link theory and practice; be able to apply theory to classroom activities and to work settings in the community. This will be achieved by comparing how the criminal justice system was intended to operate with the reality of how it functions. Second, the student will be able to critically evaluate the criminal justice system, identifying its strengths and weaknesses and understanding its operations process. Finally the student will recognize the need for the development of a fair, just, and ethical criminal justice system.
Course Objectives:

1. To examine the police as a major component of the criminal justice system.
2. To identify and describe the police role.
3. To discuss police community relations.
4. To examine the police organization to gain an understanding of how police departments function.

Course Methods:

Lecture
Films
Class Participation
Speakers
Research Projects
Public Speaking

Current events Assignment:

Assignment is due each week at the start of class. Your paper must be typed with the article attached and contain the following information:

- Summary of event
- Did it have an effect on the community? (How)
- Was it reported positively or negatively? (How)
- Lessons learned from the situation?
- If you had the ability to change the situation what would you do?

Research Project:

A research project will be assigned the first week of class. This project will develop over the course of the class and end with a class presentation. The project and presentation will account for a significant portion of your grade.

Methods of Evaluation:

Class attendance is required
Class participation is expected and a necessary part of learning
Unannounced quizzes throughout the semester
Unit test with a variety of question types
Written current event papers
Grading:

Examinations, quiz, attendance, current events, research project and presentation and class assignments will account for 100% of your final grade.

The following scoring schedule will be used in assigning grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90+</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-79</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-59</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>below 54</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Course Ground Rules:

1. Meetings with the instructor may be arranged by phone, email or by asking during class.
2. All written assignments outside of class must be typed and double spaced.
3. Excused absence from class or tests must be made in advance in order to obtain credit. In the case of emergency it will be the students responsibility to verify the emergency with the instructor.
4. Attendance and participation is a portion of your grade. Failure to be on time for class and participate will negatively affect your grade.
5. Proof read all written work. Students will be graded on extensive spelling and/or writing errors.
6. If you are having problems with the course see the instructor. Do not wait until the end of the semester to seek help.
7. Talking in class, other than during discussion participation, will not be tolerated.
8. According to your college catalog, plagiarism is a serious offense and will not be tolerated. Documented proof of plagiarism will result in failure of an assignment and may have further effect on you course grade.

Academic Accommodations:

In accordance with University policy and the equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that you may be eligible for as a student with a disability. Please contact me for an appointment to discuss possible accommodations. Students must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities for disability verification and determination of reasonable accommodations. Requests for accommodations must be done in a timely manner and are not retroactive.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Introduction, History, Needs</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Structure of the CJ System</td>
<td>Chapters 2 &amp; 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>Community, Race Ethnicity</td>
<td>Chapters 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>Power Sharing, Media</td>
<td>Chapters 6 &amp; 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1</td>
<td>Courts, Corrections, Police</td>
<td>Chapters 8 &amp; 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 8</td>
<td>Community Problems</td>
<td>Chapters 10 &amp; 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 15</td>
<td>Responsibilities Research Project Presentations</td>
<td>Chapters 12 &amp; 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 22</td>
<td>Programming, Final Research project Presentations</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>