



Foundations of Criminal Justice
CJUS300
Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Catalog Description

Foundations of Criminal Justice surveys the concepts of crime and justice, the rule of law, and provides an overview of how crime impacts society. It provides a summary of police, prosecution, courts, and the correctional system. Additional issues and challenges in the criminal justice system such as juvenile crime, terrorism, and transnational organized crime are reviewed.

II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

Siegel, L. J., & Worrall, J. L. (2014). *Introduction to criminal justice* (14th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.

III. Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has learning outcomes specific to each course and each [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) program of study, as well as [institution-wide outcomes](#) related to the mission and vision of the college. Outcomes can help learners and instructors focus on the big picture of the learning experience and can help inform potential employers about a graduate's knowledge and skills.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Describe the history and structure of the criminal justice system
2. Discuss the causes of crime and the laws that guide the administration of criminal justice
3. Explain how the police, courts, and correctional agencies function
4. Analyze and apply foundational concepts of criminal justice to situations in the field

At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes. You are more likely to achieve these outcomes only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus, complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

IV. Course Policies

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies located in the instructor-specific syllabus in the blackboard course.

V. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussions	6	300	30
Exams	5	250	25
Criminal Justice Theory Analysis	1	150	15
Essay	1	300	30
Total Points		1000	100

VI. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapters 1 – 4 Crime Trends and Demographics video Chapter powerpoints Introductions discussion forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 Discussion Unit 1 Exam
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapters 5 – 8 Protecting our Protectors video Orlando Police Bias-Free Policing Policy Chapter powerpoints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 2 Discussion Unit 2 Exam
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapters 9 – 11 Plea Bargains and the Role of Judges video Chapter powerpoints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 3 Discussion Unit 3 Exam
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapters 12 – 14 Chapter powerpoints U.S. Prison Population video Prison Policies video 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 4 Discussion Unit 4 Exam
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 15 Chapter powerpoint 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 5 Discussion Criminal Justice Theory Analysis
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 16 Chapter powerpoint Homeland Security Threats and Response video Senate Debate on renewing USA Patriot Act provisions video FBI Cyber Crime Investigations video Homeland Security 4.0 report 2012 Internet Crime Report FBI Secret Letters article 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 6 Discussion Unit 6 Essay Unit 6 Exam

VII. Other Policies and Requirements

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.