# COURSE SYLLABUS

**Course Title:** Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice  
**Department:** Social Science  
**Curriculum:** Criminal Justice

**Course Code:** (eg. ACC 101)  
**Course Type:**  
**Course Code:** CJS*294  
**Course Type:** L

**Prerequisites:**  
C- or better in Integrated Reading and Writing II (ENG*075) OR Introduction to College Reading & Writing (ENG*093) OR Introduction to College English (ENG*096) OR Reading & Writing VI (ESL*162), or placement into Composition (ENG*101) [including embedded ENG*101] AND C- or better in Introduction to Criminal Justice (CJS*101) OR Introduction to Corrections (CJS*102)

**Course Descriptors:**  
Make certain that the course descriptors are consistent with college and Board of Trustees policies, and the current course numbering system.

**Course Code:** (eg. ACC 101)  
**Course Type:**  
**Course Code:** CJS*294  
**Course Type:** L

**Elective Type:** G

**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Developmental:** No  
**Lecture:** 3  
**Clinical:** 0  
**Lab:** 0  
**Studio:** 0  
**Other:** 0  
**Contact Hours:**  
**TOTAL:** 3  
**Class Maximum:** 35  
**Semesters Offered:** F/S

**Catalog Course Description:**  
The effects of contemporary trends upon the police, the courts, and the correctional processes are studied. Emphasis is on research and methodology as useful tools in criminal justice planning. Topics include secrecy and the police, court plea bargaining, and prisoners’ rights.

**Topical Outline:**  
List course content in outline format.

1. The Objectives and Goals of Research  
2. Illustration of Criminal Justice Research Projects  
3. The Research Model  
4. Conducting Research  
   a. Sources of books  
   b. Indexing services  
   c. Journals
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|   | d. General reference sources  
e. Bibliographies  
f. Directories  
g. Computerized literature searches  
h. Government documents  
i. Statistical data  
j. National Criminal Justice Reference Service  
k. The National Archive of Criminal Justice Data  
l. Historical Research Sources  
m. Legal Research |
|   |   |
|   | 5. Writing a Research Paper |
|   | 6. Issues in Criminal Justice (assigned readings)  
a. Law enforcement  
b. Courts  
c. Prosecution  
d. Sentencing  
e. Corrections  
f. Punishment |

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to do the following:

**COURSE:**

It is expected that the student will be equipped with the necessary knowledge needed to conduct research and experimentation in the field of criminal justice. Student will be familiar with the existing systems of methodology which are employed in criminal justice planning and design. Student will be exposed to research identification and writing; proper means used in documenting research findings; and the variety of investigative techniques used in uncovering information related to current trends in criminal justice.

**PROGRAM:** *(Numbering reflects Program Outcomes as they appear in the college catalog)*

**Criminal Justice A.S. Program & Criminal Justice: Corrections Option**

1. demonstrate an understanding of the roles of police, courts and corrections and explain the functions they serve within the criminal justice system and the community
2. apply principles of constitutional and criminal laws that protect the rights of and regulates the conduct of individuals in a culturally diverse society
3. demonstrate knowledge of theories, principles, and processes of the criminal justice system
4. prepare written documents and deliver oral presentations related to the criminal justice field

**GENERAL EDUCATION:** *(Numbering reflects General Education Abilities as they appear in the college catalog)*

11. Written Communication - Students will be prepared to develop written texts of varying lengths and styles that communicate effectively and appropriately across a variety of settings.

**Demonstrates:** Writes articulate texts using appropriate evidence and appeals as determined by the rhetorical situation.  
**Does Not Demonstrate:** Writes texts lacking appropriate evidence and appeals as determined by the rhetorical situation.
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<th>Evaluation:</th>
<th>Assessment will be based on the following criteria:</th>
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| Instructional Resources: | **Required:** None  
**Desired:** None  
List library (e.g. books, journals, on-line resources), technological (e.g. Smartboard, software), and other resources (e.g. equipment, supplies, facilities) required and desired to teach this course. |
| Textbook(s) | Refer to current academic year printout. |