

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY**



**CANTON, NEW YORK**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**JUST 101 - Introduction to Criminal Justice**

**Reviewed By: William J. Fassinger Ph.D.**

**SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
APRIL 2015**

## JUST 101 – INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- A. **TITLE:** Introduction to Criminal Justice
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 101
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE (OPTIONAL):** No
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall/Spring
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 hours per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course is a comprehensive study of the development of criminal justice systems and operations in the United States. This course includes detailed examination, analysis, and evaluations of the major components of the criminal justice system.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-COURSES:** none
- J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

<i><b>Course Objective</b></i>	<i><b>Institutional SLO</b></i>
a. Define and discuss criminal behaviors, the evolution of crime, and the US criminal law.	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking
b. Define and discuss the nature of police powers in the United States and of what the Constitution and the Supreme Court have to say about police powers.	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking
c. Define and discuss the meaning of due process and its evolution in the American criminal justice system and the various stages of criminal justice.	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking
d. Describe and discuss the criminal court process and explain the role in dispensing of justice.	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking
e. Review and discuss sentencing philosophies, the various sentencing options, and the sentencing process, along with the death penalty and the appellate review process available to the convicted.	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking
f. Describe and discuss the history of corrections in the United States and the correctional philosophies	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking

that have supported the development of corrections in the United States, the differences between prisons and jails, and of the jail inmate and jail conditions.	
g. Describe and discuss of the juvenile justice system and its philosophies.	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking

**K. TEXTS:**

*Pearson Criminal Justice Custom Text.* (2012). Boston, MA: Pearson.

**L. REFERENCES: N/A**

**M. EQUIPMENT: Technology Enhanced Classroom**

**N. GRADING METHOD: A-F**

**O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Assignments

**P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

**I. The Foundations of Crime and Justice**

- A. Criminal Justice in America
- B. Crime and the Nature of Law
- C. Legal and Behavioral Aspects of Crime
- D. Criminal Statistics and the Extent of Crime
- E. The Process of Justice

**II. The Police**

- A. Police Systems in the United States
- B. Enforcing the Law and Keeping the Peace
- C. The Law of Arrest, Search, and Seizure
- D. Beyond the Limits of Law: Police Crime, Corruption, and Brutality

**III. The Courts**

- A. The Structure of American Courts
- B. Judges, Prosecutors, and other Performers at the Bar of Justice
- C. The Business of the Court: First Appearance through trial
- D. Sentencing, Appeal, and the Judgment of Death

**IV. Corrections**

- A. The American Prison Experience
- B. Penitentiaries, Prisons, and other Correctional Facilities
- C. Prison Conditions and Inmate Rights
- D. Probation, Parole, and Community-based Correction

**V. Juvenile Justice**

- A. Juvenile Justice: An Overview

**Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: N/A**