

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



MASTER SYLLABUS

JUST 201 – CRITICAL ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Updated By: Michelle L. Currier

**SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
OCTOBER 2019**

- A. TITLE:** Critical Issues in Criminal Justice
- B. COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 201
- C. CREDIT HOURS:** 3 credits/3 contact hours per week for 15 weeks.
- D. WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** Yes
- E. GER CATEGORY:** n/a
- F. SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall and spring
- G. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**
This course provides a study of the economic, political, ethical and emotional issues in policing, courts and corrections. Issues covered may include use of force by law enforcement, juvenile justice, drugs, gender-related violence, racial issues, the media, forensics, mental health and disability, immigration, the death penalty, or other current and emerging topics in criminal justice.
- H. PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**
- a. Pre-requisite(s): JUST 101, Introduction to Criminal Justice, or permission of the instructor.
- I. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

<u>Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]</u>	<u>PSLO (LEL)</u>	<u>GER</u>	<u>ISLO</u>
a. Explore the impact of current and emerging issues in law enforcement and policing.	PSLO3-Students will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of core law enforcement principles		2. Critical Thinking [IA]
b. Analyze legal decisions of importance and critical issues in sentencing and the courts.	PSLO3-Students will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of core law enforcement principles		2. Critical Thinking [IA]
c. Describe the impact of punishment and corrections on those within the system.	PSLO3-Students will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of core law enforcement principles		2. Critical Thinking [IA]

d. Explain how diversity and minority issues have impacted the criminal justice system.	PSLO1-Students will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of core law enforcement principles and how they impact agency operations.		4.Social Responsibility
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KEY	<u>Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]</u>
ISLO #	ISLO & Subsets
1	Communication Skills Oral [O], Written [W]
2	Critical Thinking <i>Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry & Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]</i>
3	Foundational Skills <i>Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]</i>
4	Social Responsibility <i>Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]</i>
5	Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

J. **APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT:** Yes _____ No X

K. **TEXTS:**

Free materials from the open web or from library resources.

L. **REFERENCES:** n/a

M. **EQUIPMENT:** Standard technology-enhanced classroom

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

O. **SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

Assignments; Exams; Research Paper

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

- I. Introduction
 - A. The Criminal Justice System
- II. Critical Issues in the U.S. Justice System
 - A. Identifying current and emerging issues

- B. The media, bias, and interpreting information
- III. Policing and Law Enforcement
 - A. Identifying emerging issues of importance in law enforcement and policing
 - B. Suggested topic: Use of force, police brutality
 - C. Suggested topic: Immigration enforcement
- IV. The Courts and Sentencing
 - A. Identifying emerging issues of importance in the courts and sentencing
 - B. Suggested topic: Forensic Science in the Court
 - C. Suggested topic: Sentencing Disparity, Mandatory Minimums
- V. Corrections and Punishment
 - A. Identifying emerging issues of importance in corrections and punishment
 - B. Suggested topic: Death Penalty
 - C. Suggested topic: Solitary Confinement
- VI. Communicating About the Issues
 - A. Writing and Speaking about Critical Issues
 - B. Research and Argument on a Critical-Issue Topic