

## Department:

Criminal Justice

## Course Description:

This is an introductory course in the field of criminal justice. The course will provide a short historical background of law enforcement, constitutional limits of law enforcement, 4th, 5th, 6th and 14th amendment safeguards, court room processes, and court processes from pre-arrest through verdict. This course will give students a general knowledge about the scope of crime, measurement of crime, and causes of crime.

## Course Competencies:

The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups for this course as approved by the Kansas Board of Regents. **(Kansas Regents Shared Number Course and Title: KRSN Course CRJ1010 Introduction to Criminal Justice.)**

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Summarize the historical, theoretical, and philosophical developments in criminal justice.
2. Identify and discuss the steps in the criminal justice process.
3. Distinguish the goals and philosophies of the due process and the crime control models of criminal justice.
4. Identify the ethical responsibilities and constitutional duties of the criminal justice professional.
5. Summarize how law enforcement, courts, and corrections operate and interact.
6. Explain the importance of empirical data in criminal justice policy.

## Course Content:

- A. Introduction and Overview of the Criminal Justice System
  1. Crime, statutes, and sanctions for violations of law
  2. The nature of law
    - a. Criminal law, statutory law, administrative law, civil law
    - b. The duality of the criminal justice system in terms of federal law, state law, federal courts, and state courts
- B. Measurement and statistical aspects of crime
  1. The National Incident Based Reporting System and the Kansas Incident Based Reporting System
  2. The Uniform Crime Report

3. The formula for crime rate, crime clock, and the inherent fallacies and myths within these parameters
  4. The correlation between reporting of crime, clearance rates, and funding ratios
- C. Overview of the Process of Criminal Justice
1. Concepts and constitutional aspects of pre-arrest, arrest, and booking
  2. History and structure of law enforcement and policing practices and concepts, including establishing burden of proof, scope of law enforcement powers, racial profiling concerns, laws of hot pursuit, etc.
- D. Structure of American Courts
1. The importance of establishing probable cause and binding over to district court
  2. The role of declaration of indigence, assignment of defense counsel, the role of the prosecutor, and the importance of the magistrate as the ultimate authority in the administration of justice.

### Learning Assessments:

Learning will be assessed through the use of examinations as well as a comprehensive final. Additional learning assessments may include pop quizzes, classroom discussion, and written assignments.

### Instructional Materials:

Criminal Justice Today: An Introductory Text for the 21st century, Schmalleger, 10th Ed., Pearson Education, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-0-13-513030-8

#### Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” at this link:

<https://highlandcc.edu/pages/disability-services>.

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.