

# CRJ 100 – Introduction to Criminal Justice

## Course Description

This course introduces students to the components and operations of the criminal justice system. It examines the three main components of that system: law enforcement, the courts, and corrections. Issues and challenges within the criminal justice system and the system's future are also explored.

## Instructional Materials

Siegel, L. J., & Worrall, J. L. (2013). *Essentials of criminal justice* (8th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Cengage Learning.

## Course Learning Outcomes

1. Describe and define the structure of the American criminal justice system in terms of its major components and the functions they serve.
2. Distinguish the relationship of criminal justice to social justice and the wider notion of equity and fairness.
3. Explain how technology has impacted criminal justice and analyze cybercrime in society today.
4. Summarize the mission of law enforcement in democratic societies and describe the structure of American policing today.
5. Summarize the current ethical issues faced by criminal justice professionals and future of the criminal justice system.
6. Explain the development of American courts and illustrate the concept of the dual-court system.
7. Distinguish between the various courtroom participants, and describe the stages in a criminal trial.
8. Outline the major characteristics and purposes of prisons, including prisoners' rights and prison society.
9. Use technology and information resources to research issues in criminal justice.
10. Write clearly and concisely about criminal justice using proper writing mechanics and APA style conventions.