

CMJS 2023: INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

1. Catalog Description

A study of the nature and extent of crime, including discussion of the theories of causation, processes of criminal justice, correctional methods and the prevention and treatment of crime.

2. Prerequisites: CMJS 2003 or CMJS 2013 and SOCI 2013 or SOCI 2033

3. Credit, Contact, Local Hours: 3/3/3

4. Target Audience & Transfer

Designed for students majoring in criminal justice or social science fields. Successful completion of this course should prepare students for further study in the criminal justice or sociology curriculum. This course will transfer to the University of Arkansas in their Bachelor's Degree program in Criminal Justice.

5. General Course Outcomes

Students completing this course should be able to:

a. Knowledge. Obtain a foundation of facts, vocabulary and principles associated with the study of crime.

b. Critical Thinking. Use the basic information obtained in this course to recognize and be able to analyze issues relating to the people who commit crime and the criminal justice professional who must respond.

c. Cultural Awareness. Assist the student in analyzing data relating to theories on the effect of culture, race, gender and economic status to the commission of crime.

6. Required Texts: Bartol, Criminal Behavior: A Psychological Approach, 5th Edition
Upper Saddle River, NJ, Prentice Hall (1999)

7. Topics:

- A. Introduction to Criminal Behavior
- B. Juvenile Delinquency
- C. Origins of Criminal Behavior: Biological Factors
- D. The Psychopath
- E. Origins of Criminal Behavior: Learning Factors
- F. The Mentally Disordered Offender
- G. Human Aggression and Violence
- H. Criminal Homicide and Assault
- I. Criminal Homicide: A Closer Look
- J. Sexual Offenses
- K. Economic Crime, Public Order Crime and Other Crime
- L. Drugs and Crime
- M. Correctional Psychology

8. Required Methods of Instruction

Three hours classroom lecture per week with additional outside assignments on local issues augmenting the theories and research in the text.

9. Required Forms of Assessment

a. Students will be given a pre and post test written by individual faculty but which will include some questions from a Test Bank under development by the program Coordinator. The information from these pre and post tests will be analyzed each semester so that the faculty can target areas of insufficient learning and accomplishment.

b. Students will be given periodic examinations covering selected topics of the course so that when the course has been completed, students will have been tested on all topics

set out above. Each such test will contain a critical thinking element to measure the student's understanding of analytical matters and their competency in rational thinking.

10. Resources: None