Program in Criminal Justice
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Learning Goals:
A Statement of Principles

The Program Committee for the Program in Criminal Justice at Rutgers University in New Brunswick has adopted a series of learning goals for students who complete the major. These goals represent the consensus of the faculty regarding the concepts a student should grasp and the skills a student should acquire in the course of completing the major. These goals guide the choices faculty make about the structure of the curriculum and the requirements for our majors. Moreover, they guide faculty and instructors preparing course material and teaching courses.

The Program in Criminal Justice will provide students with a rich understanding of crime and criminal justice in the United States and abroad through an interdisciplinary approach that blends a strong liberal arts educational experience with pre-professional instruction in the field of criminal justice. Graduates of the program will be well-informed citizens on the topic of crime and justice, and qualified for graduate study or for employment as practitioners in a variety of legal, policymaking, and law enforcement fields.

Criminal justice majors graduating from a research university should be able to use critical thinking, factual inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to individual and group behavior. In addition, students should have an understanding of the legal, political and policymaking processes that affect criminal justice systems in the United States and elsewhere in the world. Finally, students should be familiar with the institutional structures and latest developments in the field in order to engage in meaningful debate about current public policy issues.
Learning Goals for Criminal Justice Majors

1. Competence:
   a.) Theory. Students who complete the major in criminal justice should understand and be able to articulate, both orally and in writing, the core theoretical concepts that form the foundation of analysis and research in criminology and criminal justice today. Core concepts are derived from explanations of crime from a variety of perspectives, including biogenic, psychological, and sociological approaches. There are myriad theories of crime that are informed by these perspectives, including, classical, control, critical, ecology, labeling, learning, strain, and trait-based approaches. Theoretical literacy should extend to multicultural and international understanding.

   b.) Institutions. Students who complete the major in criminal justice should understand the special role of three types of institutions: Police, Corrections, and Courts. In addition, students should know how institutional forms vary across jurisdictions and how these institutions interact with and influence each other.

   c.) Research Methods. Students who complete the criminal justice major should be familiar with the tools, techniques, and data sources necessary for empirical analysis. Students should understand the various ways that empirical analysis is used in the scientific approach: for description, for developing, and for testing theories. They should be able to analyze data using computer applications and should be familiar with basic statistical techniques and regression analysis. They should be able to read and assess research from a wide range of sources, including general interest, academic, and government publications.

2. Critical Thinking: Upon completion of the major students should be able to apply their understanding of core concepts and quantitative tools to analyze and research real world problems, and evaluate alternative policy proposals on a range of criminal justice issues, from micro-level analyses relevant to particular cases to management concerns to macro-level analyses of legislative and other broad-scale policies. Accomplishment of this goal will require that students can apply their literacy and numeracy skills to different institutional structures, within the U.S. and across countries.

3. Scholarship: Qualified majors should have an opportunity through such avenues as advanced coursework, internships, and faculty interactions to conduct independent research on matters of central relevance to the field of criminal justice.
COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine the effects of organizational structure and administrative procedure on police function; the processes of police recruitment, career advancement and leadership.

REQUIRED TEXT


COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1) *Attendance & Participation*

Participation and attendance are required and mandatory, as they count toward your grade. Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website //https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra// /to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An e-mail is automatically sent to me. You are expected to have the material read for the respective class. Students are encouraged to take an active part in all classroom discussion and will be called on regularly. Please remember that participation will be graded accordingly.

2) *Reading Material*

Readings are assigned for every class.

3) *Newspaper Article Review*

A part of your grade will be a write-up of a newspaper article. Hard copy newspaper articles can be searched, as well as outlets like the New York Times and the Washington Post, which would allow you to search by key word. No Wikepedia. The article should be attached to a 1 page type-written write-up. Students should outline the problem or topic in the article and depending on the content; they should offer suggestions, opinions or remedies- DO NOT SIMPLY REGURGITATE THE ARTICLE.

4) Unannounced Quizzes

There will be several unannounced quizzes on covered topics in assigned reading assignments. There are no make up dates for any quiz.
COURSE GRADING
The final grade will be determined using the following weighting scale:

- Midterm: 25%
- Final Exam: 35%
- Pop Quizzes: 10%
- Newspaper Article: 15%
- Attendance, participation: 15%

GRADING SCALE
A 100-- 90
B+ 89-- 85
B 84-- 80
C+ 79-- 75
C 74-- 70
D 69-- 60
F 59 and below
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Rutgers University has a well defined academic integrity policy, which will strictly enforced in this class. All students in this class should review and be familiar with the policy of the university, which can be found at http://TeachX.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html

Fall 2015—COURSE SCHEDULE
This calendar of events is subject to change based on the completion of course material and student progress.

Sept. 1 Introduction
Presentation of the syllabus, requirements and discussion of current issues.

Sept. 3 Chapter 2-Policing Today

Sept. 8 No Class- Rutgers Monday Schedule

Sept. 10 Chapter 4- Politics and Police Administration

Sept. 17 & 17 Chapter 6- Organizational Design

Sept. 22 & 24 Chapter 7- Leadership

Sept. 29 Chapter 8- Planning and Decision Making

Oct. 1 Class Period to work on Opinion paper

Oct. 6 & 8 Chapter 9- Human Resource Management

Oct. 13 Midterm Review/ Opinion Paper Due

Oct. 15 Midterm

Oct. 20 & 22 Chapter 10- Organizational and Interpersonal Communication

Oct. 27 & 29 Chapter 11- Labor Relations

Nov. 3 & 5 Chapter 12- Financial Management

Nov. 10 & 12 Chapter 13- Stress and Police Personnel

Nov. 17 & 19 Chapter 14- Legal Aspects of Police Administration

Nov. 24 Mock Interviews

Dec. 1 & 3 Chapter 15- Organizational Change
Dec. 8 Use of Force Scenarios

Dec. 10 Final Exam Review

Dec. 15-22 Final Exam Date To Be Determined

http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/ For exam date and any changes to it.