

Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice  
CRJU 2105 (2 credit, 10 week course)  
Social Issues: Perspectives in Criminal Justice  
Fall 2014

**Class:** Mon/Wednesday  
**Instructor:** Jenny Petersen  
**Office:** TBA  
**Telephone:** 678-859-8005  
**Email:** Jln0308@kennesaw.edu  
**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Textbook:**

There is no required textbook for this course. Materials will be provided through D2L.

**Course Description:**

This course satisfies the Social Issues requirement in the general education curriculum. It will examine how the discipline of criminal justice and criminology both explain and help us to understand the phenomenon of crime and our response to it. We will examine how crime is defined, measured, classified, interpreted and controlled. The implications of this for criminal justice policy and for understanding criminal behavior will be explored. Ultimately, this course will uncover how crime, criminality and criminal justice can help us to understand deeper cultural, social and political processes in society.

**Course Objectives:**

- To develop an understanding of crime and crime control
- To develop an understanding of data sources available about crime
- To challenge assumptions about crime and the criminal justice system
- To familiarize students with the main components of the criminal justice system: cops, courts and corrections

**Prerequisite:**

ENGL 0099 and READ 0099, if required.

**Method of Instruction:**

Lectures, Films, Class Discussions

**Course Requirements:**

- Midterm 100 points (40%)
- Final 100 points (40%)
- Career Profile 50 points (20%)

**Grading Scale:**

A	90-100	Excellent
B	80-89	Good
C	70-79	Satisfactory
D	60-69	Passing
F	0-59	Failing

**Classroom Expectations:**

I expect students to attend class each morning as scheduled. If you are unable to attend class, you are responsible for getting the missed materials. You should speak with your classmates to get the notes. Students are responsible for any material presented in class including lectures, discussions, and films shown in class.

It is your responsibility to be in class for exams. If you miss a pop quiz or other assignment, you will not be allowed to make it up. Make up exams are at the discretion of the instructor, based on a legitimate medical/family emergency. Documentation may be requested.

**Student Conduct:**

Students should familiarize themselves with the University's Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, I have the following requirements in my classroom:

- Please be on time to class. It is disruptive to come in late.
- Please turn off all electronic devices or place them on silent.
- Please be respectful of your classmates and not carry on side conversations while others are speaking.

**Sensitive Topics:**

The topics covered in any Criminal Justice course can be sensitive in nature. I appreciate hearing every student's thoughts and ideas, but request that all thoughts are shared with respect. Most students will already have preconceived notions concerning the justice system and law enforcement and we will challenge those in this course.

**Accommodations:**

This course will be conducted in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you are a student with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation, please inform me at the beginning of the semester and make the appropriate arrangements with Disabled Student Support Services located in Suite 267 of the Carmichael Student Center Addition, 770-423-6443

**Course Outline:**

<b>January 7, 2015</b>	Course Introduction Syllabus Overview Intro to the Criminal Justice System
<b>January 12, 2015</b>	Intro to the Criminal Justice System
<b>January 14, 2015</b>	Criminology, terms and schools of thought
<b>January 19, 2015</b>	Criminology
<b>January 21, 2015</b>	Crime Data
<b>January 26, 2015</b>	Crime Data
<b>January 28, 2015</b>	<b>Mid Term</b>
<b>February 2, 2015</b>	The Role of the Police
<b>February 4, 2015</b>	The Role of the Police
<b>February 9, 2015</b>	The Court System
<b>February 11, 2015</b>	The Court System
<b>February 16, 2015</b>	<b>No Class</b>

<b>February 18, 2015</b>	<b>Career Profile Due</b> Overview of Corrections
<b>February 23, 2015</b>	Overview of Corrections
<b>February 25, 2015</b>	Juvenile Justice System
<b>March 2, 2015</b>	Homeland Security
<b>March 4, 2014</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>