

**CJ112 Criminal Law****Credit hours:** 3**Scheduled hours per week**

Lecture:	2.5
Lab:	0
Other:	0

**Catalog course description:**

Covers substantive criminal and constitutional laws and how they relate to the criminal justice system. Examination of case, common, and penal law in conjunction with the Bill of Rights.

**Pre-requisites:** None**Co-requisites:** None**Course learning outcomes:**

- explore the history of US criminal law
- understand the organizational structure of the US federal court system and the US state court system
- understand the difference in US federal jurisdiction v. state jurisdiction
- understand how federal laws & federal court decisions apply or do not apply to state laws and state court decisions
- understand the Bill of Rights and its relationship with criminal law
- understand how precedence relates to the interpretation of laws
- understand the elements of major crimes

**Topics to be studied:**

Students will study the history, philosophy, politics and laws that constitute the US judicial system. This course will focus on substantive and procedural criminal law. Students will also study the elements of major crimes, how those elements must be proven in a court of law, and the permissible types of defenses open to the offender.

**Relationship of course to program or discipline learning outcomes:**

Demonstrate proficiency in the vocabulary pertaining to the Criminal Justice field.	X
Explain the history and evolution of the CJ system in the US.	X
Explain the investigative process and applicable laws.	
Demonstrate a basic understanding of the law and the legal system in the US.	X
Examine the history and theories of and current practices within the corrections system.	
Explain ethics and how it applies to the CJ system and various CJ professionals.	
Recognize the root causes of crime and criminal behavior and the role criminological theory plays in the study of CJ.	
Display decision making and critical thinking skills as they relate to CJ.	

Apply learned concepts by bridging the gap between theories and practice.	
Display an advanced level of understanding of CJ theories and concepts.	
Demonstrate a proficiency in writing, research, and critical thinking pertaining to the CJ field.	
Recognize the underlying societal problems that lead to crime and victimization.	
Utilize CJ theories and concepts to combat social problems and distribute resources effectively.	

**Relationship of course to general education learning outcomes:**

<b>Composition and Rhetoric:</b> Students illustrate a fundamental understanding of the best practices of communicating in English and meet the writing standards of their college or program-based communication requirements.	
<b>Science and Technology:</b> Students successfully apply systematic methods of analysis to the natural and physical world, understand scientific knowledge as empirical, and refer to data as a basis for conclusions.	
<b>Mathematics and Quantitative Skills:</b> Students effectively use quantitative techniques and the practical application of numerical, symbolic, or spatial concepts.	
<b>Society, Diversity, and Connections:</b> Students demonstrate understanding of and a logical ability to successfully analyze human behavior, societal and political organization, or communication.	X
<b>Human Inquiry and the Past:</b> Students interpret historical events or philosophical perspectives by identifying patterns, applying analytical reasoning, employing methods of critical inquiry, or expanding problem-solving skills.	
<b>The Arts and Creativity:</b> Students successfully articulate and apply methods and principles of critical and creative inquiry to the production or analysis of works of art.	
<i>Updated 05-03-2016</i>	

**Special requirements of the course:**

None

**Additional information:**

None

**Prepared by:**

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**Date last edited:**

October 19, 2017