

**CJ270 Courtroom Procedure****Credit hours:** 3**Scheduled hours per week**

Lecture: 2.5

Lab: 0

Other: 0

**Catalog course description:**

An introduction and overview of courtroom procedures to include the historical influences on the court system, the steps in the criminal justice system prior to trial (including investigation, arrest, and pre-trial proceedings), and the trial process itself and post-trial proceedings such as sentencing and appeals.

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

- Explain how checks and balances are incorporated into the criminal justice system.
- Describe the processing of a criminal case through its various stages.
- Explore rules controlling post-trial proceedings, including appeals, habeas corpus hearings, and the probation and parole processes
- Explain the different principles or theories intersecting in the sentencing process.
- Describe the 'funnel cake model' and the 'wedding cake model' of the criminal justice system.

**Topics to be studied:**

The primary objective of this course is to explore the adversary system of the US criminal justice system, tracing the various steps that precede trial (i.e. investigation, arrest, post-trial proceedings to include habeas corpus) as well as the trial process itself. We will continue to explore the criminal justice process through sentencing and probation and parole. Have a good understanding of both sides of the historical and current debate between those who advocate for expansion of police powers and those who advocate for the halt and/or contraction of police powers.

**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.	
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.	X
Display decision making and critical thinking skills as they relate to CJ.	X
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.	X

**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:**

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