

**Course number & Name:** Introduction to Criminal Justice (LSJ101)

**Credit hours:** 4 Quarter Hours

**Method of Delivery:** Arranged with an eLearning Component (AE).

**Course Description:** This course examines the development of criminal justice systems and operations in the United States and introduces the student to the major components of the criminal justice system.

**Prerequisite:** None.

**Textbook:** Criminal Justice in Action: The Core, 7th Edition (ISBN 9781285069159)

**Authors:** Larry K. Gaines; Roger LeRoy Miller

**Publisher:** Cengage Learning (2013)

**Materials needed for this course:** Access to computer (including Internet/email).

**Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Crime
3. The Police/Law Enforcement.
4. The Courts
5. Corrections

**Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

**Midstate Grading Scale:**

A = 100% to 90%

B = 89% to 80%

C = 79% to 70%

D = 69% to 60%

F = 59% to 0%

All students must have a 70% or better to pass this course.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity is a basic principle of the College's function. Midstate College students are expected to maintain a high level of academic honesty. Contrary actions may result in penalties such as failure of the assignment(s), a lesser grade on assignment(s), failure of the course and/or suspension from the College. The course instructor will review all submitted documents and supporting evidence in connection to the infraction. The course instructor will also review the student's personal file for other notifications of academic dishonesty before determining the level of action to be applied. The course instructor will complete the Academic Dishonesty Report form to document and describe the incident and actions taken, then kept on file. The student may appeal the decision to administration, whose decision will be final.

The following (**plagiarism, cheating, deception, sabotage, computer misuse and copyright infringement**) are included in the actions Midstate College considers behavior contrary to the academic integrity policy; however, the policy is not limited to these examples. Further discussion of consequences regarding academic dishonesty are addressed in the Student Handbook.

### **Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is using another person's words, either by paraphrase or direct quotation, without giving credit to the author(s). Plagiarism can also consist of cutting and pasting material from electronic sources by submitting all or a portion of work for assignment credit. This includes papers, computer programs, music, sculptures, paintings, photographs, etc. authored by another person without explicitly citing the

original source(s). These actions violate the trust and honesty expected in academic work. Plagiarism is strictly against the academic policy of Midstate College. Its seriousness requires a measured, forceful response which includes consequences for inappropriate and/or no citation.

In courses containing writing assignments, the College promotes the use of Turnitin which compares the student's writing against previously submitted papers, journals, periodicals, books, and web pages. Students and instructors can use this service to reduce the incidence of plagiarism. This electronic resource has been found to conform to legal requirements for fair use and student confidentiality. It is able to provide a report to the student indicating the parts of the assignment that match.

**Student Success and Tutoring:**

Contact Student Success: Room 110; (309) 692-4092, ext. 1100;  
studentsuccess@midstate.edu;

The Office of Student Success offers help in the following areas:

- Tutoring: Tutoring is encouraged for students who are doing their best to complete assignments yet still are experiencing difficulty in this course. Tutoring may be provided by the instructor outside of scheduled class times or through the office of Student Success.
- Writing assignment assistance: This may include learning how to conduct research; using proofreading tools such as Turnitin; outlining a topic; and applying MLA/APA standards.
- Math, accounting, and computer skills (including file management).
- Test-taking techniques.
- Note-taking skills development.
- Study skills development.
- Time management.

**Assessment Portfolio Reminder:** Students (depending on your program major) may be required to prepare an assessment portfolio for graduation. Keep a copy of this syllabus in the portfolio. Use the "Evidence for Success" list from your program

portfolio (or consult your Program Director) and instructions from the instructor to determine the assignment(s) that should be placed in the assessment portfolio.

**Instructor:**

Mark Wiltse, Legal Studies Department Director

[mwiltse@midstate.edu](mailto:mwiltse@midstate.edu)

Office: 219

Phone: (309) 692-4092, Extension 2190

Fax: (309) 692-3893

**Course Policies and Procedures:**

1. All assignments in this course must have a professional appearance (submitted in typewritten form, using 12-point Times New Roman font, double spaced, with proper grammar/spelling/structure).
2. All work must be submitted on time (by the assignment due date). Late work will not be accepted unless arrangements have been made with the instructor (arrangements must be made prior to the assignment due date). Approval for accepting late work is at the discretion of the instructor and will only be granted for extenuating circumstances. If late work is accepted, late penalties will apply at the discretion of the instructor. Late assignments will only be accepted up to seven (7) days after their due dates (for late credit). Any assignment turned in after this 7-day period expires will receive no credit.
3. Exams must be taken on the dates scheduled by the instructor. Failure to take an exam on the scheduled date will result in a grade of "F" (0 points). Make-up exams will be given only when special circumstances are approved by the instructor. Make-up exams must be taken in the testing center. It is the student's obligation to make the appropriate arrangements to have a test administered.
4. In order to receive full credit for online discussion, you must also respond to at least one other student (or a post from the instructor) in a **meaningful** manner with either a value-added comment or an insightful question about the posting of your classmate or instructor.
5. Academic integrity is important at Midstate College, as stated in the catalog, student handbook, and our course syllabus. This not only includes prevention of cheating on exams and written research papers, but also discussion forum postings. Academic dishonesty (cheating / plagiarism) in any form will not be

tolerated in this course and may result in the dismissal / suspension from the course / program / college.

6. The policy for eLearning is that course materials are available to students at noon each Monday and that students have until 8:00 AM on Monday morning to complete the previous week's material. However, students are advised against waiting until the last minute or last day to submit their work for a variety of reasons. If you work on your eLearning course early in the week and experience computer problems, you have more time to find an alternate computer. Also, the discussion forums can be very beneficial learning tools in eLearning if utilized to their greatest potential. It is difficult to have an effective and meaningful "discussion" if nobody posts until the last minute.
7. This is a tentative syllabus and outline and is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

**Participation Requirements:** You are expected to participate at least two days a week in several conference discussions / homework assignments relating to the subject materials for the week. Discussions will take place in the class meeting as assigned by the faculty member in the course syllabus. You will read, analyze, and respond to questions and comments from the faculty member and fellow students.

**Examination Information:**

1. Midterm Examination – will consist of 100 points and it will cover chapters 1 – 11. It will be administered in week 7.
2. Final Examination – will consist of 100 points and it will cover chapters 12 – 17. It will be administered in week 12.

**Methods of evaluating student performance:** Please see "Instructor Final Grade Determination" below for more information.

**Attendance Policy:** eLearning students must login and participate at least once a week to be counted present for the week (participation is strongly recommended and essential for passing this course). You must post a gradable assignment each week to be counted as "Present" for the week. Students that miss 30% (or more) of the scheduled classes will not be allowed to successfully complete this course (unless departmental approval is obtained).

**Instructors Grading Scale:** The following assignments and activities are outlined in a week-by-week format. All assignments (unless specified otherwise) are due by either day 5 or day 7 and they need to be posted to the location specified by the faculty member in the syllabus. The following schedule indicates the days of the week to be followed in this module:

- Day 1 = Monday
- Day 2 = Tuesday
- Day 3 = Wednesday
- Day 4 = Thursday
- Day 5 = Friday
- Day 6 = Saturday
- Day 7 = Sunday

Late assignments (excluding responses to discussion questions and vocabulary quizzes) will only be accepted up to 7 days after their due dates. Any assignment turned in after this 7-day period expires will receive no credit. Vocabulary quizzes cannot be taken late. Credit for weekly discussion questions will not be given when received late.

**Instructor Final Grade Determination:** Your final grade will be based on the total points accumulated on the examinations (Midterm and Final), weekly discussion questions and weekly summary assignments administered throughout the course. There is a total of 500 points issued for the class. The point distribution is based on the following (totaling 500 points):

1. 100 Points = Discussion Questions (10 Discussions Questions at 10 points each)
2. 100 Points = Weekly Summaries (10 Summaries at 10 points each)
3. 100 Points = Weekly Quizzes (based on a cumulative score of all quizzes, see below)
4. 100 Points = Midterm Examination
5. 100 Points = Final Examination

**Weekly Quizzes:** There will be a quiz for each chapter covered in this course. I will take the cumulative score from your quizzes to award you points for your final grade. For example, if your overall quiz score is an 88% (on all your quizzes combined you scored an 88%), you will earn 88 points toward your final grade in this course. All the quizzes in this course are timed (45 minute time limit)

## **Introduction to Criminal Justice – LSJ 101**

**Summer Term 2019**

### **Class Schedule**

#### **Week 1:**

1. Introduction to Criminal Justice
2. Review of Syllabus and Course Goals
3. Pretest (online)
4. Read Chapter 1: Criminal Justice Today.
5. Assignments: Vocabulary and Discussion.

**Week 1 Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Crime
3. The Police/Law Enforcement.
4. The Courts
5. Corrections

**Week 1 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

#### **Week 2:**

1. Read Chapter 2: Measuring and Explaining Crime.
2. Read Chapter 3: Inside Criminal Law.
3. Assignments: Vocabulary, Discussion, and Summary.

**Week 2 Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Crime

**Week 2 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
2. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

**Week 3:**

1. Read Chapter 4: Law Enforcement Today.
2. Read Chapter 5: Problems and Solutions in Modern Policing.
3. Assignments: Vocabulary, Discussion, and Summary

**Week 3 Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Crime
3. The Police/Law Enforcement.

**Week 3 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

**Week 4:**

1. Read Chapter 6: Police and the Constitution: The Rules of Law Enforcement.
2. Assignments: Vocabulary, Discussion, and Summary

**Week 4 Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Crime
3. The Police/Law Enforcement.

**Week 4 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

**Week 5:**

1. Read Chapter 7: Courts and the Quest for Justice.
2. Assignments: Vocabulary, Discussion, and Summary

**Week 5 Topics: The following topics will be covered in this course:**

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. The Courts

**Week 5 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

**Week 6:**

1. Online Midterm Examination (Chapters 1 – 7)
2. Assignments: Exam and Summary

**Week 7:**

1. Read Chapter 8: Pretrial Procedures and the Criminal Trial
2. Read Chapter 9: Punishment and Sentencing
3. Assignments: Vocabulary, Discussion, and Summary

**Week 7 Topics: The following topics will be covered in this course:**

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Crime
3. The Police/Law Enforcement.

**Week 7 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

**Week 8:**

1. Read Chapter 10: Probation and Intermediate Sanctions.
2. Read Chapter 11: Prisons and Jails.
3. Assignments: Vocabulary, Discussion, and Summary

**Week 8 Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Corrections

**Week 8 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

**Week 9:**

1. Read Chapter 12: Behind Bars: The Life of an Inmate.
2. Assignments: Vocabulary, Discussion, and Summary

**Week 9 Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Corrections

**Week 9 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

**Week 10:**

1. Read Chapter 13: The Juvenile Justice System.
2. Assignments: Vocabulary, Discussion, and Summary

**Week 10 Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Crime
3. The Police/Law Enforcement.
4. The Courts
5. Corrections

**Week 10 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

**Week 11:**

1. Read Chapter 14: Today's Challenges in Criminal Justice.
2. Posttest (online)
3. Assignments: Vocabulary, Discussion, Posttest, and Summary

**Week 11 Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Crime

3. The Police/Law Enforcement.
4. The Courts
5. Corrections

**Week 11 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.

**Week 12:**

1. Online Final Examination (Chapters 12 – 17)
2. Assignments: Exam and Summary

**Week 12 Topics:** The following topics will be covered in this course:

1. The Criminal/Juvenile Justice System
2. Crime
3. The Police/Law Enforcement.
4. The Courts
5. Corrections

**Week 12 Learning Objectives:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how the components of the Criminal Justice system are interrelated.
2. Explain the professional responsibilities of components within the Criminal Justice system and society at large.
3. Describe the historical development and philosophical foundations of the Criminal Justice system.
4. Define the terminology relevant to the Criminal Justice system.