

# **JS 103- INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

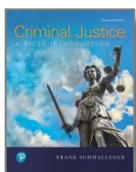
## **SPRING 2023 SYLLABUS**

### **INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

INSTRUCTOR: Angela Wartel	OFFICE: SPH 304
OFFICE HOURS: <i>Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00-2:00 or by appointment</i>	EMAIL: arwartel@lcsc.edu TELEPHONE: 208-792-2851

I can be reached via email through Canvas by clicking the email link on the left of the course page. Please send emails through Canvas or to arwartel@lcsc.edu. I check both regularly. Allow at least 24 hours for a response during the week and 48 hours during the weekend.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**



Schmalleger, F. (2018). *Criminal Justice: A Brief Introduction*, 13<sup>th</sup> edition. Pearson. ISBN: 978-0135186268

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

This survey course provides students with a general introduction to the concepts, phenomena, and issues in the study of criminal justice. The criminal justice system is an often controversial but essential aspect of our society. The sensationalized depictions of crime by the media and the “get tough” philosophy on crime have led many to question the justice system's effectiveness overall. This semester we will study the purpose, function, and history of the agencies that make up the criminal justice system. A survey of criminal law, criminal procedures, law enforcement agencies, criminal courts, and corrections (both institutional and community-based) will be conducted to understand the dynamics of the justice system.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Evaluate current criminal justice issues, policies, and court cases.
- Analyze the functions of the components of the criminal justice system and their interrelationship.
- Describe the history and development of the criminal justice system.
- Explain the need for a system of order maintenance and detail the role of law within that system.
- Describe the nature of due process and the specific constitutional amendments based on due process guarantees.
- Analyze the goals and philosophies of modern sentencing.
- Evaluate modern correctional practices and the philosophies guiding institutional and community corrections.

### **COURSE TECHNOLOGY**

This course has a web presence on Canvas. To access Canvas, go to [lcsc.instructure.com](http://lcsc.instructure.com). Your username should be the first part of your LCSC email (usually your first and middle initial, followed by your last name). If you have any problems accessing the site, please notify IT (208-792- 2231) as soon as possible.

The course site will have a copy of the syllabus and schedule, course notes and assignments, and a section for your grades. You must log in to this site at least twice a week.

EMAIL: You are expected to check your LCMail regularly. Important course information (such as schedule changes and assignments) may be sent by email.

TECHNOLOGICAL REQUIREMENTS: You must have a reliable internet connection.

## CLASS FORMAT

This course is designed to be conducted entirely online. Online courses are not self-paced. They require active weekly participation. Your participation is a necessary and integral part of the course. It is vital that you complete the readings and required work to be successful. Due dates are not suggested dates for assignments. Plan your work accordingly. Be sure to complete your coursework before the last minute. It creates unnecessary stress and can impact the quality of your work. You CAN work ahead in this course, but do not get behind!

Introductory courses are not to be taken lightly. Due to the volume of the material we will be covering, I strongly urge you to make every effort to prepare for the class.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### SYLLABUS QUIZ (4 POINTS)

The syllabus quiz is a short quiz that must be completed by all students entering the course. This quiz will cover basic information from the syllabus. There is no time limit for the quiz; it can be retaken once.

### INTRODUCTION POST (4 points)

Write a paragraph or two introducing yourself to the class. Some ideas of things to include --your year in college, major, hobbies, future goals, hometown, family, pets, jobs, or anything else you are comfortable sharing. Include a photograph of you or something important to you (pets, hobbies, favorite place, etc.). If you post a picture with another person, make sure you have permission.

### CHAPTER REVIEWS (12 @15 points each)

Students will complete twelve chapter reviews covering the assigned readings. Each review may consist of multiple-choice, true/false, essay, fill in the blank, and matching questions. You will not have a time limit on the reviews, but you must complete your work before the due date to avoid late penalties.

### UNIT DISCUSSIONS (4 @ 28 points each)

This semester, there are four discussion forums covering the assigned course readings. You are required to submit one original detailed post responding to my questions and post two replies to others. Your discussion posts should be written in proper English. Avoid "text-speak." Twenty points (of the overall 28) will be allotted for your post answering the discussion questions. The other eight points will go toward your two replies (4 points each).

## DISCUSSION GUIDELINES

- Thoroughly answer all discussion questions in one forum posting. Do not start a new thread for each question presented.

- Do not assume that others have the same knowledge or experiences that you do. Provide a brief context to your postings.
- Do not attach documents or photographs to the discussion forum (except for your introduction post). Attachments will not be graded.

Original Post Grading will be based on:

- The level of knowledge and understanding demonstrated towards the course readings and discussion prompts. Postings should be thoughtful and analyze the content and questions asked. Answers must be organized and easy to read.
- Depth: Evidence of college-level thinking that displays critical thinking and analytical ability.
- Detail: There should be no doubt that you have read the assigned readings and viewed all required course material. Cite relevant passages from the text in the body of your original post. When citing sources, the correct format must be used (MLA or APA).
- Originality: Students should answer the material in their own words, adding their thoughts and ideas to the concepts discussed. Original posts cannot be a direct copy of the views or opinions of others. Academic dishonesty will result in an "F."

### **DISCUSSION RESPONSE GRADING**

- Responses should be respectful, courteous, and polite.
- Responses should demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the readings. Provide supporting statements with examples or experiences to support your replies.
- Responses must help to continue the conversation by asking a relevant question, bringing in new information, or relating the post to another phenomenon.
- Only posts demonstrating excellence in continuing the conversation and providing detail will be given full credit. One or two- sentence replies are unacceptable and will not be considered for grading. Responses should be at least two full paragraphs.

Check the discussions often. You are not required to post a response to every student, but you should take the time to read all the postings from classmates. The free exchange of ideas (within the assignment confines) will help you get more out of the course.

Discussions close at 11:59 PM on the due date indicated on the schedule. Discussion grades will be available in the "Grade" section within one week of the due date.

### **EXAMS (4 @ 50 points each)**

Four unproctored exams will be conducted online. Students will have a 1.5-hour time limit. Although you may use your textbook (not the internet), avoid doing so. You will run out of time. It is important that you know the concepts and ideas of the course. The exams may contain true/false, multiple-choice, matching, and essay questions. Each test must be completed (submitted) before the ending date/time indicated on the schedule. Exams cannot be submitted late.

Note- working with another student or individual on exams constitutes cheating. If discovered, both individuals will receive an F in the course and be referred to the appropriate LCSC authorities for further action.

Exams in this course require the use of LockDown Browser. The software is located at the Respondus site (link available in Canvas). Download and install this program as soon as possible. LockDown Browser is a customized browser that increases the security of test delivery in Canvas. When students use LockDown Browser to access an exam, they cannot print, copy, go to another URL, or

access other applications. Once an assessment is started, students are locked into it until it is submitted for grading.

## COURSE GRADING BREAKDOWN AND POINT VALUES

		Letter Grade	Point Range
		A (93-100)	465-500
		A- (90-92)	464-450
		B+ (87-89)	449-435
		B (83-86)	434-415
		B- (80-82)	414-400
		C+ (77-79)	399-385
		C (73-76)	384-365
		C- (70-72)	364-350
		D+ (67-69)	349-335
		D (60-66)	334-300
		F (59 and below)	299 and below

Assignments	Point Value
Syllabus Quiz & Introduction Post	8 points
Exams (4 @50)	200 points
Discussions (4 @28)	112 points
Chapter Reviews (12 @15)	180 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>500 points</b>

**I do not curve grades. Every point counts!**

## COURSE POLICIES AND SYLLABI ADDENDUM

### Late Work and Incompletes

Exams must be submitted on time. Chapter Reviews will receive a 30% grade deduction up to one week after the due date. Work submitted after one week will not be accepted and will receive a zero. If an emergency prevents you from completing your work on time, email as soon as possible to make arrangements. Emergencies are defined as anything serious and unexpected. Examples of emergencies are car accidents, a serious health crisis of the student or the student's immediate family, etc. Examples of non-emergencies are weddings, vacations, or any other event which can be planned around.

Students are expected to complete all work in a timely fashion. Incompletes are granted at the instructor's discretion after at least 80% of all coursework is finished successfully (D+ or higher). Incompletes are reserved only for documented catastrophic or extenuating circumstances. The instructor reserves the right to set the course completion deadline, which may be at any time before the end of the following semester. Incompletes revert to an F if the work is not completed by the expiration deadline.

### Course Etiquette

This course will bring together students from diverse backgrounds. We are working together to develop an inclusive and respectful community for all students. The goal of inclusiveness encourages and appreciates expressions of different views so that conversations can become an opportunity for intellectual and personal growth. We will be discussing controversial topics, which will challenge you to analyze your views and the views of others. In keeping with this goal, hate speech, racist, sexist, homophobic, or other discriminatory language and behavior will not be tolerated. It is okay to disagree, but it must be done civilly. Mutual respect, civility, and recognizing others' views are crucial to critical thinking. Active, thoughtful, and respectful participation will make this course productive and engaging.

### Flexibility Clause

The instructor reserves the right to modify the course requirements and other related policies as circumstances dictate, with sufficient notification to all students. Even the professor can have an unanticipated emergency, and the college—or the community—may experience an emergency

requiring changing the class schedule or requirements. I do not expect to invoke this clause, but you will be notified as soon as possible if I do. Any change will also be posted to Canvas.

Keep up to date on the [LCSC Social Sciences Division](#) and  
[the LCSC Justice Studies Club](#)

## TOPICAL OUTLINE

Topics to be covered in the course include:

What is Criminal Justice?

The Crime Picture

Criminal Law

Policing: Purpose and Organization

Policing: Legal Aspects

Policing: Issues and Challenges

The Courts, the Courtroom Work Group

The Criminal Trial

Sentencing

Prisons and Jails

Prison Life

Community Corrections