

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for AJ 50
INTRO TO ADMIN OF JUSTICE
Effective: Fall 2004

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

AJ 50 — INTRO TO ADMIN OF JUSTICE — 3.00 units

History and philosophy of administration of justice in America; recapitulation of the system; identifying the various subsystems, role expectations, and their interrelationships; theories of crime, punishment, and rehabilitation; ethics, education and training for professionalism in the system.

3.00 Units Lecture

Grading Methods:

Discipline:

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	54.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. discuss the evolution of the criminal justice system;
2. explain the interrelationship of the various criminal justice agencies;
3. list the causal theories, criminal types and societal factors used to explain the nature of modern crime;
4. articulate the scope of the crime problem in present-day America;
5. explain an individual's constitutionally guaranteed rights;
6. list the attributes of professionalism expected in criminal justice personnel.

V. CONTENT:

- A. Crime and the criminal justice system
 1. Historical development
 2. Current trends
 3. Federal involvement
- B. The criminal justice system
 1. Governmental structure
 2. Agencies of the criminal justice system
 3. The criminal justice process
- C. The nature of crime and victimization
 1. The concept of crime
 2. How crime is measured
 3. Crime rates – patterns and trends
 4. Victimization data
- D. The causes of crime
 1. The classical view of personal responsibility
 2. Biological theory
 3. Sociological theories
 4. Conflict theory
- E. Criminal Law
 1. Historical development
 2. Purposes of criminal law
 3. Sources of criminal law
 - a. Common law
 - b. Case decisions
 - c. Administrative rule making
 - d. Constitutional law
- F. Classification and legal definitions of crimes
- G. Criminal responsibility
- H. The criminal defense
 - I. Roles of the police
 1. Patrol procedures

- 2. Investigative techniques
- 3. Changing concepts
- 4. Community oriented policing
- J. Issues in policing
 - 1. Professionalism
 - 2. The police culture and personality
 - 3. Changing composition of the police force
 - a. Role of education
 - b. Inclusion of minorities
 - c. Increased role of female police officers
- K. Police and the rule of law
 - 1. Identifying criminal behavior
 - 2. Search and seizure
 - 3. Surveillance
 - 4. Custodial interrogation
 - 5. Exclusionary rule
- L. Courts and the judiciary
 - 1. Structure of the system
 - 2. Criminal court processes
 - 3. Prosecution
 - 4. Defense
 - 5. Right to counsel
- M. Procedures following arrest
 - 1. Bail
 - 2. Preventative detention
 - 3. The process of indictment
 - 4. Plea bargaining
- N. Trial procedures
- O. Punishment
 - 1. History and philosophy
 - 2. Goals
 - 3. Sentencing strategies
 - 4. Capital punishment
- P. Corrections
 - 1. History of correctional institutions
 - 2. Jails and prisons
 - 3. The correctional population
 - 4. Probation and parole
- Q. Juvenile Justice
 - 1. Historical development
 - 2. Juvenile court jurisdiction
 - 3. Trial, disposition, and treatment

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** -
- B. **Discussion** -
- C. Student group project and reports
- D. **Guest Lecturers** - from the various branches of the criminal justice system
- E. Case studies of recent court decisions

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Visit a selected justice facility – police station, courtroom, jail – and provide a three-page summary report.
- B. Homework assignments answering chapter study questions
- C. Brief oral and written report on student group project
- D. Written analysis of case study of recent court decision

VIII. EVALUATION:

- A. **Methods**
 - 1. Quizzes
 - 2. Projects
 - 3. Group Projects
 - 4. Class Participation
- B. **Frequency**

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IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Pursley, Robert *Introduction to Criminal Justice*. latest Edition. ed., McMillan Publishing Company, 0.
- 2. Senna, Joseph and Larry Siegel *Introduction to Criminal Justice*., West/Wadsworth Publishing., 0.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: