

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for AJ 50

INTRO TO ADMIN OF JUSTICE

Effective: Fall 2014

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:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

	<u>MIN</u>
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. Exams/Tests
2. Quizzes
3. Research Projects
4. Papers
5. Oral Presentation
6. Projects
7. Group Projects
8. Class Participation
9. Home Work

B. **Frequency**

1. Daily attendance
2. Periodic quizzes
3. Midterm and Final Exams
4. Research project
5. Group work

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Senna, Joseph and Larry Siegel (2010). *Introduction to Criminal Justice*. : West/Wadsworth Publishing..
2. Schmalleger, F. J. (2012). *Criminal Justice Today, An Introductory Text for the 21st Century* (12th ed.). : Pearson .
3. Fagin, J. A, (2013). *Criminal Justice 2013* (1st ed.). : Pearson.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

