

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for AJ 50

INTRO TO ADMIN OF JUSTICE

Effective: Spring 2016

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:

- A. discuss the evolution of the criminal justice system, including the history, development, structure, and function of American police, courts, and corrections;
- B. explain the interrelationship of the various criminal justice agencies including probation, parole, community corrections, prisons, and jails;
- C. list the causal theories, criminal types and societal factors used to explain the nature of modern crime;
- D. articulate the scope of the crime problem in present-day America and discuss the methods, theories, and concepts associated with crime data, emerging patterns of criminal activity, and the cost of crime;
- E. identify and describe special issues in the criminal justice system involving juvenile delinquency, drugs, and the future development;
- F. explain an individual's constitutionally guaranteed rights;
- G. list the attributes of professionalism expected in criminal justice personnel;
- H. critically analyze and discuss issues of crime and justice from varying perspectives and utilize conclusions from scholarly research in creating informed positions on controversial issues in criminal justice;
- I. Effectively follow the appropriate writing style practiced in the social sciences

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--using APA, ASA, or a generally accepted Social Science writing format
- 5. Group work

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Fagin, James. *CJ 2015*. 1st ed., Pearson, 2016.

2. Siegel, Larry, and John Worrall. *Introduction to Criminal Justice*. 14th ed., Wadsworth Publishing, 2013.
3. Schmallegger, F. J. *Criminal Justice Today, An Introductory Text for the 21st Century*. 12th ed., Pearson , 2012.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: