

CJ 4310: Special Problems in the Criminal Justice System

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Class Hours: Asynchronous

Class Room: Zoom

Overview

Course Catalog Description: This course is a study of contemporary problems in the administration, management, organization and operation of criminal justice agencies.

Prerequisites: CJ 2310 and CJ 2350 and CJ 2355 and CJ 2360 all with grades of "D" or better.
Corequisite: CJ 3346 with a grade of "D" or better.

Required Textbook: Mays, G. L., & Ruddell, R. (2019). Making sense of criminal justice: Policies and practices. Oxford University Press. - No cost, PDF available.

Additional Readings/ Resources:

- Required articles will be provided by the instructor in PDF format on Canvas.
- Additional videos will be provided by the instructor on Canvas.
- Access to reliable Internet, Canvas, and Microsoft Word/ some other word processing software.

Course Rationale: This class will broadly cover crime control strategies. The primary focus will be on how the Criminal Justice System attempts to control criminal activity. Specifically, we will look at the role of the police, courts, and corrections in reducing offending. We will also cover how the community, environment, labor market, technological innovations, and legislation can be utilized to control crime.

Course Objectives:

- Understand important contemporary issues and problems concerning crime and criminal justice.
- Be able to critically examine criminal justice policies and their evidence base.
- Ability to distinguish between evidence-based and non-evidence-based policies
- Synthesize research materials and integrate what they have learned into undergraduate-level writing.