

I. COURSE INFORMATION

- A. Criminal Justice 242 Introduction to Criminology
- B. 3 credit hours
- C. Adler, Freda, Gerhard O.W. Mueller and William S. Laufer. *Criminology*. 8th ed. Ohio: McGraw-Hill, 2013
- D. Prerequisites: None

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a broad overview of the different theories related to the nature and extent of crime, including the causes and prevention of criminality. Students will gain an overview of the justice process, legal concepts, justice perspectives, and treatment programs for known criminals.

III. LEARNING OUTCOMES

- A. Gain an understanding of crime, criminal law, and criminology
- B. Comprehend the measurements of crime and their impact
- C. Contrast early explanations of criminal behavior with their modern counterparts
- D. Examine biological and psychology theories of criminal behavior
- E. Grasp and appreciate various sociological theories of criminal behavior
- F. Define and distinguish between types of crime
- G. Know the philosophy and workings of the U.S. criminal justice systems
- H. Be aware of the philosophy and mechanisms of the policing organizations in the U.S.
- I. Analyze the criminal court structure
- J. Discuss the social reaction to crime in terms of confinement and correction of offenders
- K. Value how all of the U.S. criminal justice systems work together benefitting U.S. citizens

IV. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

- A. Understanding criminology
- B. Explanations of crime and criminal behavior
- C. Types of crimes
- D. A criminology approach to the criminal justice system

V. ASSIGNMENTS (may include but are not limited to)

- A. Reading assignments
- B. Writing assignments
- C. Discussions
- D. Quizzes and exams

VI. EVALUATION METHODS (may include but are not limited to)

- A. Attendance and participation
- B. Assignments
- C. Quizzes and exams