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SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

University of Colorado Denver

BACJ Core Courses

CJ 1001 INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

This course is designed to provide an overview of the criminal justice process and the criminal justice system in general. Concepts of crime, deviance, and justice are discussed and general theories of crime causality are examined. Special emphasis is placed on the components of the criminal justice system: the police, the prosecutorial and defense functions, the judiciary, and the field of corrections.

CJ 2041 CRIME THEORY AND CAUSES

This course provides a general survey of the nature and causes of crime and efforts of the criminal justice system to predict, prevent, modify, and correct this behavior. This course involves a critical appraisal of various theories of crime causation, including an examination of biological, psychological, economic, and sociological perspectives that explain crime and deviance.

CJ 3100 CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH METHODS

This course introduces students to the formulation of research questions covering crime and justice, research designs, data collection, and the interpretation and reporting of these data in criminological and justice-system settings. Course content also includes experimental and non-experimental research designs, probability and non-probability sampling techniques, and construction of scales and indexes for research purposes.

CJ 3150 STATISTICS FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

This course serves as an introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics and the computer analysis of criminology and criminal justice data. Course content includes basic procedures of hypothesis testing, correlation and regression analysis, and the analysis of continuous and binary dependent variables. Emphasis is placed on the examination of research problems and issues in the field of criminology and criminal justice

CJ 4042 CORRECTIONS

This course consists of an overview of the field of penology and corrections. Attention is paid to conflicting philosophies of punishment, criminological theory as it applies to the field of corrections, the selectivity of the process through which offenders move prior to their involvement in correctional programs, alternative correctional placements, and empirical assessments of the short- and long-term consequences of one's involvement in correctional programs.

CJ 4043 LAW ENFORCEMENT

This course presents an overview of the role that police in American society today. Attention is on the origins of policing, the nature of police organizations and police work, patterns of relations between the police and the public, discretion, and police role in a socio-legal context.

CJ 4044 COURTS AND JUDICIAL PROCESS

This course examines the basic functions, structure, and organization of the federal and state court systems, with special attention on the criminal court system. This course also focuses on the influence of judicial behavior on the court process by examining judges' policy preferences, legal considerations, group processes within courts, and courts' political and social environments.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ELECTIVES

CJ 2110 DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND CRIME

This course looks at the socially constructed nature of drugs and drug policy, and focuses on the variety of ways drugs and crime is connected and the socio-historical context of contemporary U.S. drug policy. The course discusses the relationships between drug and alcohol abuse and criminal offending, including the historical and contemporary criminal justice system responses to illegal substances.

CJ 2210 PROBATION AND PAROLE

This course is appropriate for students who have a specific interest in the role of probation and parole as correctional sanctions in community settings. Particular attention is paid to evaluation research evidence on the success of probation and parole, factors that contribute to the successful completion of probation and parole, and the role that the community and citizens play in the community corrections process.

CJ 2320 POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

This course focuses on the police and community response to crime. Course content includes an overview of the major concepts and issues involved in what many consider to be a major fundamental shift in the approach and operations of modern policing. The origins, meaning, development, and experiences of community policing and various assessments of the advantages and disadvantages of community policing are emphasized.

CJ 2510 JUVENILE JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION

This course examines the development, change, and operation of the American juvenile justice system and the social factors that shape the identification and treatment of juvenile offenders. Special emphasis is placed on the nature of juvenile law and methods of dealing with youthful offenders.

CJ 3160 WHITE-COLLAR CRIME

This course introduces students to a variety of topics and issues in white-collar crime including types, causes, and the measurement of white-collar crime. The class examines the debate surrounding the definition of white-collar crime, provides an overview the costs

of white-collar and corporate crime to society, considers competing theories that explain white-collar criminality, and explores the use of criminal sanctions to deter misconduct involving corporations and elite offenders.

CJ 3220 COMMUNITY-BASED CORRECTIONS

This course focuses on innovative community-based strategies for dealing with criminal offenders. Correctional alternatives to imprisonment discussed in this course include probation and parole and various community programs such as day reporting centers, electronic monitoring, half-way houses, and boot camp programs.

CJ 3250 VIOLENT OFFENDERS

This course consists of a historical overview of violence in American society. Course content includes an examination of violent crime rates over time, societal explanations for changes in rates, and an examination of the theoretical causes and preventive strategies for acts of violence.

CJ 3310 POLICE IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

This course examines law enforcement's role in contemporary society and the impact of police interaction on other segments of the criminal justice system. Special attention is paid to controversies related to police training and education, career development, and community relations.

CJ 3420 PLEAS, TRIALS AND SENTENCES

This course focuses on analysis of case materials involving pleas, trials, and sentences. Course content includes an examination of the basic dimensions of criminality, the specific elements of major crimes, the use of confessions, fair trial procedures, and the nature of criminal sanctions including cruel and unusual punishments.

CJ 3540 CRIME AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

This course provides students with an overview of issues related to crime and delinquency prevention, both from criminological and criminal justice points of view. Crime prevention programs that encompass both the individual and community levels are examined. Responses to juvenile offenders-ranging from prevention and diversion to institutional corrections and aftercare-are explored in the context of youth policy generally.

CJ 4120 RACE, CLASS AND CRIME (PREREQUISITE CJ3041)

This course examines the relationships between race, social class, and crime. Attention is given to theoretical explanations, empirical research, and patterns of criminal behavior and focuses on historical frameworks that are relevant to current perspectives on the impact and interactions of race, class, and crime in the field.

CJ 4130 POVERTY AND CRIME

This course involves an economic analysis of crime and the criminal justice system. Topics include empirical and theoretical analysis of the economic causes of criminal behavior, the social costs of crime and its prevention, and the design of crime enforcement policies.

CJ 4140 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CRIME

This course examines the criminal justice system's response to intimate partner violence by focusing on the interactions between victims, offenders, and the individual components of the criminal justice system (law enforcement and the judiciary). By exploring the dynamics of intimate partner violence this course addresses the theory, history, research, legislation, and policy implications related to the criminal justice system's response to violence against women.

CJ 4170 VICTIM STUDIES

This course involves the scientific study of crime victims and focuses on the physical, emotional, and financial harm people suffer at the hands of criminals. Focus is placed on victim-offender relationships, interactions between victims and the criminal justice system, and connections between victims and other social groups and institutions. The theory, history, research, legislation, and policy implications related to the social construction of "the victim" are explored.

CJ 4180 COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS (PREREQUISITE CJ1001)

This course analyzes the dynamics of criminality and the social response to criminality across countries. Special emphasis is placed on the methods of comparative legal analysis utilized to examine international differences in crime and justice, international cooperation in criminal justice, and crime and development.

CJ 4230 CORRECTIONS AND TREATMENT

This course examines the origins and historical development of prisons and jails in America. Particular attention is given to the impact of reform movements, the rise of centralized correctional systems, and regional variations in the practice of punishment.

CJ 4410 CRIMINAL LAW AND CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURE

This course focuses on substantive criminal law and constitutional rights of the accused in criminal proceedings. Course content includes legal aspects of the investigation and arrest processes as well as the rules governing the admissibility of evidence in court.

CJ 4430 LAW AND SOCIETY

This course introduces students to the scholarly study of law. Students will have an opportunity to become familiar with social science perspectives of the law, legal institutions, the legal process, and the impact of law on behavior, with particular emphasis on the study of criminal behavior and the criminal justice process in American society. Additional topics include theories of law and legality, comparative legal systems, lawyers, judges and juries, and the use of social science in the courts.

CJ 4440 COURTS AND SOCIAL POLICY

This course involves the study of emerging trends and issues in the administration of the courts, the emerging role of the judiciary in the administration of programs in the public and private sectors, and the implications of court administration on social policy. Course content includes the history of judicial approaches to the criminal justice administrative process and substantive social policy.

CJ 4520 GANGS AND CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS

This course traces the origins and historical development of the activities known as "organized crime." These crimes are some of the most dangerous to American society and range from the commonly known offenses of gambling and narcotics to the more subtle and sophisticated, less understood but equally serious, crimes of extortion, commercial bribery and political corruption.

CJ 4530 FAMILIES AND INTERGENERATIONAL CRIME

This course focuses on the family as the primary institutional mechanism of social control. The course is structured around social learning theory and explores the relationships between exposure to childhood violence and violence in dating relationships during adolescence and later violent marital relationships. The "cycle of violence" is also discussed in terms of the impact of early childhood violence on juvenile delinquency, adult criminality, and violent behavior in general.

CJ 4600 SPECIAL TOPICS IN CJ (PREREQUISITES CJ1001, CJ2041)

This highly specialized seminar addresses cutting-edge and emerging developments in the field of criminal justice and provides students and faculty with the opportunity to explore significant themes, issues, and problems from a broad interdisciplinary perspective. Topics vary from semester to semester.

CJ 4700 INTERNSHIP

Internships involve a career-related supervised experiential course in a criminal justice agency. Permission to enroll must be preceded by an application for an internship. Approval by the instructor and advisor is required for undergraduate students.

CJ 4800 INDEPENDENT STUDY

This course consists of faculty-guided research in an area of mutual interest to the student and instructor. Students are responsible for selecting their area of inquiry prior to contacting the instructor. Instructor approval is required.