

# BLINN COLLEGE - CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

### ***INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE - CRIJ 1301 / A3***

#### **Spring Session – 2010**

Tuesday and Thursday 5:40 p.m. to 6:55 p.m.

#### **Instructor: Dan German**

Office S117 Office Phone: 209-7376 Classroom E218

Work Phone: 361-4380 (361<sup>st</sup> District Court, Brazos County)

Home Phone: 589-1374 e-mail: johndanielgerman@yahoo.com

Office Hours: The instructor does not have regular scheduled office hours. He will arrive approximately 15 minutes before class and stay approximately 15 minutes after class ends. To ensure an opportunity to meet with the instructor, **please call** or **e-mail** him and set an appointment for a particular date and time to meet.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** History and philosophy of criminal justice; ethical considerations, crime defined; crime's nature and impact; overview of the criminal justice system-, law enforcement, court systems; prosecution and defense; trial process and corrections.

Credit: Three semester hours.

No prerequisite: This course required before enrolling in 2300 level criminal justice courses

#### **STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

At the completion of the course, the student will:

- Describe and explain the philosophy and ethical considerations between community interests and individual rights within the criminal justice process.
- Define the nature and impact crime has on society and what statistics can tell us about crime in America.
- Interpret the relationship between the components of the criminal justice system.
- Examine the nature and purpose of criminal law.
- Explain the basic purposes of American policing.
- Learn the specialized vocabulary of the criminal justice system.
- Describe the various stages of the criminal trial.
- Describe the goals of contemporary criminal sentencing.

- Describe the nature of due process and the specific constitutional rights of both the accused and convicted.
- List and describe the professional occupations within the criminal justice field.

**TEXT., Criminal Justice Today. 10<sup>th</sup> edition, Schmalleger**

The majority of lecture material covered in this course comes from information found in the textbook and textbook supplement materials. It is required the students use the textbook and its supplements to properly prepare themselves for the exams and assignments given during the semester.

Course content will be made up from lecture presentations, videos, handouts, power point notes, guest speakers and possible field visits.

If a student misses class: handout material, power point notes or daily assignments will not be given to students by the instructor.

**ATTENDANCE:** Blinn College policy on attendance will be followed. Please refer to the class attendance policy in the Blinn College catalog for more details.

This course is in the Division of Applied Business, Information Technology, and Public Service. Our division attendance policy is that class rolls will be checked at each class meeting. Students must attend the entire class period to be counted as present. If a student is absent, it will be considered as either **Excused** or **Unexcused** absent day.

There are two forms of excused absences recognized by Blinn College.

1. **Observance of religious holy days.** The student must notify his/her instructor, in writing, no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the semester concerning the date(s) the student will be absent for any religious holy day; and
2. **Representing Blinn College in an official capacity.**

### **Student Attendance Policy – Flu Policy**

As the flu season continues, Blinn will take measures to prevent the spread of the virus. We remind you that if you have the flu or flu-like symptoms, you should not come to class.

**You must report your illness to the instructor by e-mail within 24 hours of the class period missed so the absence is recorded properly.** It is not necessary for you to provide a doctor's note to be excused or to return to class if you have the flu or symptoms of the flu. Do not return to class until you have been fever free for at least 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medication.

If a student has two or more unexcused absences during the semester, the instructor will report the student's absences to the college administration. The student will be placed on notice of the absent days and should contact his/her instructor immediately to discuss the problem. Should the student accumulate **two weeks worth of unexcused absent days (4 days)**, the student may be administratively dropped from the class.

It is entirely the student's responsibility to drop a class they are no longer attending. A



Therefore, all members should commit themselves to behave in a manner that recognizes personal respect and demonstrates concern for the dignity, rights and freedoms of every member of the College community, including respect for college property and the physical and intellectual property of others.

**CLASS PREPARATION:** Students are expected to report to class on time and to stay alert. Tardiness should be avoided. Sleeping in class will not be tolerated. You should present yourself in a professional and respectable manner during class.

Please be prepared for the lectures, guest speakers and exams during the semester.

**TENTATIVE CLASS CALENDAR: Subject to change by the instructor**