Intro to Criminal Justice (CJSA 1322) Fall 25 SISD

CREDIT
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION
Face to Face

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:
None

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides a historical and philosophical overview of the American criminal justice system, including the nature, extent, and impact of crime; criminal law; and justice agencies and processes.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
1. Describe the history and philosophy of the American criminal justice system.
2. Explain the nature and extent of crime in America.
3. Analyze the impact and consequences of crime.
4. Evaluate the development, concepts, and functions of law in the criminal justice system.
5. Describe the structure of contemporary federal, state, and local justice agencies and processes.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor:	Robert L. Smith
Email:	rlsmith5@lit.edu / robert.smith@silsbeeisd.org
Office Phone:	409-980-7877 Ext. 6240
Office Location:	Silsbee High School #240
Office Hours:	In Person available by Appointment only M-F (flexible hours)

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS
None/ Open Source Material

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Students are expected to attend scheduled class or have evidence of a district approved absence.

DROP POLICY

Approved: TNS 08/21/25

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an "F" in the course.

COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
8/25 – 8/29	Intro to Criminal Justice: Purpose and Function of Criminal Justice System	8/29
9/2 – 9/5	Overview of Policing, Courts, and Corrections: Process Flow, System Roles and Responsibilities.	9/5
9/8 – 9/12	History and Development of Law Enforcement (Historical Foundation)	9/12
9/15 – 9/19	History and Development of Law Enforcement (Evolution of Modern Law Enforcement Agencies)	9/19
9/22 – 9/26	Legal Systems: Criminal Courts	9/26
9/29 -10/3	Legal Systems: Criminal Courts Continued	10/3
10/6 – 10/10	Arrest, Search & Seizure: 4th Amendment	10/10
10/13 – 10/17	Arrest, Search & Seizure: Probable Cause, Warrants, Rules of Evidence	10/17
10/20 – 10/24	Arrest, Search & Seizure: Miranda Rights & Interrogation	10/24
10/27 – 11/31	Juvenile Justice System: Juvenile Rights, Courts, and Corrections	11/31
11/3 – 11/7	Corrections Systems: Pre-Trial Processes	11/7
11/10 – 11/14	Corrections Systems: Probation, Alternative Sentences	11/14
11/17 – 11/21	Corrections Systems: Incarceration, Parole	11/21
11/24 – 11/30 ***Thanksgiving (Nov. 28-29)***	No Class	---
12/1 – 12/5	Ethics and Professional Standards/ Careers in CJ System	12/5
12/4 – 12/10	Finals	12/9

COURSE EVALUATION
Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:
- Assignments/ Discussions   40%
- Exams   60%

GRADE SCALE
- 90-100   A
- 80-89   B
- 70-79   C
- 60-69   D
- 0-59   F

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS
The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT
The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology (lit.edu).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT
It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT
Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses

STARFISH
LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION
All assignments are due as scheduled. Late or incomplete assignments will be discussed on a case-by-case basis (ex. medical situation such as hospitalization).