



**LAMAR INSTITUTE  
OF TECHNOLOGY**

## Introduction to Criminal Justice (CRIJ 1301)

### **INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

Instructor: Trazarra Stelly

Email: [tnstelly@lit.edu](mailto:tnstelly@lit.edu)

Office Phone: 409-247-5224

Office Location: Technology Center (TC) #212

Office Hours: In Person or Virtual Appointments available by appointment only.  
Monday – Friday (Flexible Times)

### **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.

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS**

CJ5 by Larry K. Gaines and Roger L. Miller, 5th edition, Cengage Learning, ISBN 9781337402484

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

**This class is a face to face course. Students are REQUIRED to attend classes. Regular attendance is necessary to pass this course. Attendance counts toward your Class Discussion grade which is 15% of your FINAL GRADE (\*see course evaluation below\*). 3 unexcused absences will result in automatic failure of the course.**

### **DROP POLICY**

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the [Academic Calendar](#). If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

**STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT**

For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

**COURSE CALENDAR**

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	<b>ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)</b> <small>Assignments and Quizzes are submitted in Blackboard, on the assigned dates, <i>before</i> 10:00 PM</small>
2/11 – 2/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction Week</li> <li>• Criminal Justice Today</li> </ul>	2/12: Syllabus Review 2/16: Chapter 1	2/12: Syllabus Bingo (In Class) 2/16: Introduction Assignment 2/17: Syllabus Quiz
2/18 – 2/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Crime Picture: Theories and Trends</li> <li>• Inside Criminal Law</li> </ul>	2/19: Chapter 2 2/21: Chapter 3	2/19: Chapter 1 Assignment 2/23: Chapter 2 & 3 Assignment 2/24: Chapter 1-3 Quiz
2/25 – 3/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law Enforcement Today</li> <li>• Police and the Constitution: The Rules of Law Enforcement</li> </ul>	2/26: Chapter 4 3/1: Chapter 5	2/28: Final Topics / Groups assigned (Rubric Provided) 3/1: Chapter 4 Assignment
3/3 – 3/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problems and Solutions in Modern Policing</li> </ul>	3/6: Chapter 6	3/8: Chapter 5 & 6 Assignment 3/9: Chapter 4-6 Quiz
3/10 – 3/16	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break

3/17 - 3/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Courts and the Quest for Justice</li> <li>• Pretrial Procedures and the Criminal Trial</li> </ul>	3/18: Chapter 7 & Chapter 8	3/22: Chapter 7 and Chapter 8 Assignment
3/24 - 3/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Punishment and Sentencing</li> </ul>	3/25: Chapter 9	3/25: Group Final Presentation "Update" with Ms. Stelly 3/27: Chapter 9 Assignment 3/30: Chapter 7-9 Quiz
3/31 - 4/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Probation, Parole, and Intermediate Sanctions</li> </ul>	4/1: Chapter 10	4/5: Chapter 10 Assignment
4/7 - 4/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prisons and Jails</li> </ul>	4/8: Chapter 11	4/12: Chapter 11 Assignment
4/14 - 4/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Prison Experience and Prisoner Reentry</li> </ul>	4/15: Chapter 12	4/19: Chapter 12 Assignment 4/20: Chapter 10-12 Quiz
4/21 - 4/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Juvenile System</li> <li>• Today's Challenges in Criminal Justice</li> </ul>	4/22: Chapter 13 & Chapter 14	4/26: Chapter 13 & 14 Assignment
4/28 - 5/4	Presentation Week	Presentation Week	4/29: Final Presentation Day 5/1: Final Presentation Day <b>(LAST CLASS DAY)</b>
5/5 - 5/8	FINAL GRADES SUBMITTED	FINAL GRADES SUBMITTED	FINAL GRADES SUBMITTED

### COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Discussion 15%
- Assignments 40%
- Quizzes 25%
- Final Project 20%

### GRADING SCALE

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

60-69 D  
0-59 F

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at <http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty>.

### **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](mailto: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](http://www.lit.edu). Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

### **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**

I **DO NOT** accept late work. All assignments are due as scheduled. There are a few exceptions but those will be discussed on a case by case basis. (ex. Medical situation such as hospitalization).

**Preferred means of communication:** Email: [tnstelly@lit.edu](mailto:tnstelly@lit.edu) or phone: (409) 247-5224

**Communication Response Time:** Expected response time for communications with instructor is 48 hours (except weekends).

**Grading Response Time:** Assignments should be returned with grades within 2 weeks.