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SOCI 221.01: Criminal Justice System

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Criminal Justice System (Section: 01, 34328, Spring 2018).

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Criminal Justice System is an introductory course that focuses on the field of criminal justice. We will examine the history and structure of the American justice system, the history of law enforcement, the court system, and the corrections process. We will take a practical approach to these areas of criminal justice that will provide in a solid foundation for those interested in careers in law, law enforcement, corrections, forensics, and other areas in this ever-changing field.

The textbook is: “Criminal Justice: Mainstream and Crosscurrents.” John Randolph Fuller. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Our class discussions will generally follow the text, as follows:

Part One: Problems, Measurement, Theories, and Law

Chapter One	Crime and the Problem of Social Control	all
Chapter Two	The Nature and Measurement of Law	all
Chapter Three	Theories of Crime	omit
Chapter Four	Criminal Law	all

Part Two: Enforcing the Law

Chapter Five	History and Org. of Law Enforcement	pp. 166-191
Chapter Six	Policing and the Law	all
Chapter Seven	Issues in Policing	omit

Part Three: The Role of the Courts

Chapter Eight	The History and Org. of Courts	pp. 286-305
Chapter Nine	Working in the Courtroom	all
Chapter Ten	The Disposition	all

Part Four: From Penology to Corrections and Back

Chapter Eleven	Control and Punishment	pp. 389-415
Chapter Twelve	Contemporary Prison Life	all
Chapter Thirteen	Corrections in the Community	all

Part Five: Problems in the Crosscurrents

Chapter Fourteen	Juvenile Justice	all
Chapter Fifteen	Victims and Victimless Crimes	all
Chapter Sixteen	Trends	omit

We will have quizzes at the end of most chapters, and tests at the end of each section. There will be a final exam at the end of the course.