

MESABI RANGE COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE – VIRGINIA/EVELETH

Course Outline

Course Title: Introduction to Criminal Justice  
Semester Course Prefix and Number: SOC 1551  
Old Quarter Course Prefix and Number: SOC 130

Submitted By: Mark Muhich  
Approval Date:  
Revision Date: October 2002

Number of Credits: 3      Number of Lecture Credits: 3  
Semester(s) Offered: Fall      Number of Lab Credits:      Number of Lab Hours:  
Negotiated Class Size:      Number of Studio/Demonstration/Internship Credits:

**Course Purpose Code:**

- 0 – Developmental Courses
- 1 – Non-transferable, General Education
- 2 – Technical course related to career programs
- 3 – College course which has the primary goal of applying certain concepts (e.g. vocal ensemble)
- 4 – Other college course not considered a part of general education (MNTC) e.g. computer science, health, physical education
- 5 – Course which is intended to fulfill the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MNTC) requirements.
- 9 – Continuing Education/Customized Training specialized credit course (not occurring in 0-5)

**Catalog Description:**

This course is an analysis of the criminal justice system in the United States. It deals with criminal law and the roles and relationships of the four institutions in the criminal justice system: law enforcement, criminal bar, courts, and corrections.

**Prerequisites and/or recommended entry skills/knowledge:**

Course Prerequisite(s): None  
Reading Prerequisite: College level reading  
Composition Prerequisite: College level writing  
Mathematics Prerequisite: None

**Career Programs and Transfer Majors Accessing this Course:**

- Pre-Law
- Secondary Social Studies Education
- Criminal Justice/Criminology
- Sociology
- Law Enforcement
- Psychology
- Corrections

**Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal(s) partially met by this course if applicable:** Notes: No more than two goals may be met by any one course. (Curriculum Committee review and the Chief Academic Officer's approval are required).

- 0.  None
- 1.  Communications
- 2.  Critical Thinking
- 3.  Natural Sciences
- 4.  Mathematical/Logical Reasoning
- 5.  History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences
- 6.  The Humanities and Fine Arts
- 7.  Human Diversity
- 8.  Global Perspectives
- 9.  Ethical and Civic Responsibility
- 10.  People and the Environment

**Learning outcomes, including any relevant competencies listed in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum:**

1. To understand how the criminal justice system operates.
2. To understand basic substantive and procedural criminal law.
3. To understand the roles and relationships of the institutions in the criminal justice system.
4. To understand some contemporary issues facing the system.
5. To use and critique alternative explanatory system or theories.
6. To develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
7. To understand and apply core ethical concepts to specific issues.
8. To analyze and reflect on ethical dimensions of legal and social issues.
9. To examine, articulate, and apply one's own ethical views.

**Student assessment methods:**

Quizzes  
Examinations  
Position Paper  
Field Project  
Class Participation

**Use of instructional technology** (includes software, interactive video and other instructional technologies):

Videotapes

**Outline of the major course content:**

Introduction to criminal justice studies the nature and causes of crime, basic substantive and procedural criminal law, and the four institutions of the criminal justice system: law enforcement, criminal bar, courts, and corrections.

**Additional special information** (special fees, directives on hazardous materials, etc.)

**Transfer Information:** (Please list colleges/majors that accept this course in transfer.)  
UMD, UWS, Bemidji State, Mankato State and others

**Approvals:**

Body	Representative Signatures	Date
Curriculum Committee	Dr. Bonnie K. Edwards	October 10, 2002
Faculty Association	Georgia Suoja	December 16, 2002
Meet and Confer	Jill Peterson	January 25, 2003
Chief Academic Officer	Jill Peterson	January 25, 2003

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