

## **SOCI-2120 - INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE 3 CREDITS**

### **SYLLABUS**

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#### **CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an introduction to social issues that are currently affecting the criminal justice system in the United States. The course will cover the history of the US criminal justice system and how our system compares with other countries. We will address how the U.S. criminal justice system attempts to create and preserve a balance between sustaining order, maintaining individual rights, and promoting justice. Important themes also include, but are not limited to: discussions of how crime and delinquency are measured, key correlates of crime, sociological approaches to researching crime, sociological theories of crime, the quality of crime data in the U.S. and how it is used to make public policy decisions, and the causes and consequences of mass incarceration in the United States.

Formerly: SOCI-213

Prerequisites: SOCI 1110, ENGL 099 and (RDNG 099 or RDNG 113).

Semester Offered: Fall

#### ***COMMON STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES***

*Upon successful completion of San Juan College programs and degrees, the student will demonstrate competency in...*

##### **BROAD AND SPECIALIZED LEARNING**

Students will actively and independently acquire, apply, and adapt skills and knowledge with an awareness of global contexts.

##### **CRITICAL THINKING**

Students will think analytically and creatively to explore ideas, make connections, draw conclusions and solve problems.

##### **CULTURAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

Students will act purposefully, reflectively, and ethically in diverse and complex environments.

##### **EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION**

Students will exchange ideas and information with clarity in multiple contexts.

##### **INFORMATION LITERACY**

Students will be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use it effectively.

##### **INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGIES**

Students will demonstrate fluency in the application and use of technologies in multiple contexts.

Student work from this class may be randomly selected and used anonymously for assessment of course, program, and/or institutional learning outcomes. For more information, please refer to the Dean of the appropriate School.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

*Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to...*

1. Identify and define the major components of the criminal justice system and critically evaluate each component.
2. Demonstrate increased awareness and understanding of the criminal justice system at the local, state and national level.
3. Understand the failures within the criminal justice system by analyzing the history of the system within the United States.
4. Understand the interrelationships of the major components of the criminal justice system and the dependence of each upon the others.
5. Recognize the inadequacies of the present criminal justice system.