# 7/24/2020

# brcc keystone logo

Baton Rouge Community College

*Academic Affairs Master Syllabus*

Date Approved: 4 September 2020

Term and Year of Implementation: Fall 2020

**Course Title:** Introduction to Criminal Justice

**BRCC Course Rubric:** CJUS 1013

**Previous Course Rubric**: CJUS 101

**Lecture Hours per week-Lab Hours per week-Credit Hours**: 3-0-3

**Per semester: Lecture Hours-Lab Hours-Instructional Contact Hours**: 45-0-45

**Louisiana Common Course Number:** CCRJ 1013

**CIP Code:** 43.0104

**Course Description:** Introduces basic concepts of crime and criminal justice in America. Focuses on the main elements of criminal justice and how criminal justice operates as a system and a process.

**Prerequisites:**  None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Suggested Enrollment Cap:** 35

**Learning Outcomes.** *Upon successful completion of this course, the students will be able to:*

1. Describe criminal justice as a system, process, and area of knowledge.

2. Define the primary function of the police, courts, and corrections within the criminal justice system.

3. Explain the difference between the formal and informal process of the criminal justice system.

4. Discuss the various contemporary criminal justice perspectives on approaching the problems of crime.

**General Education Learning Outcome(s):** This course supports the development of competency in the following area(s). Students will:

Determine the meaning of words as they are used in context. (General Education Competency in Communication)

**Assessment Measures.** Assessment of all learning outcomes will be measured using the following methods:

1. Administer instructor created objective exams during the semester to demonstrate the student's ability to understand, define, identify, and apply their knowledge of the criminal justice system.

2. Assign discussion topics throughout the semester to determine the students' writing skills and knowledge of each chapter.

3. Administer a comprehensive final exam to gauge learning gained from this course for all students in all sections.

**Information to be included on the Instructor’s Course Syllabi:**

* ***Disability Statement*:** Baton Rouge Community College seeks to meet the needs of its students in many ways. See the Office of Disability Services to receive suggestions for disability statements that should be included in each syllabus.
* ***Grading:*** The College grading policy should be included in the course syllabus. Any special practices should also go here. This should include the instructor’s and/or the department’s policy for make-up work. For example in a speech course, “Speeches not given on due date will receive no grade higher than a sixty” or “Make-up work will not be accepted after the last day of class”.
* ***Attendance Policy*:** Include the overall attendance policy of the college. Instructors may want to add additional information in individual syllabi to meet the needs of their courses.
* ***General Policies*:** Instructors’ policy on the use of things such as beepers and cell phones and/or hand held programmable calculators should be covered in this section.
* ***Cheating and Plagiarism*:** This must be included in all syllabi and should include the penalties for incidents in a given class. Students should have a clear idea of what constitutes cheating in a given course.
* ***Safety Concerns:*** In some courses, this may be a major issue. For example, “No student will be allowed in the lab without safety glasses”. General statements such as, “Items that may be harmful to one’s self or others should not be brought to class”.
* ***Library/ Learning Resources:*** Since the development of the total person is part of our mission, assignments in the library and/or the Learning Resources Center should be included to assist students in enhancing skills and in using resources. Students should be encouraged to use the library for reading enjoyment as part of lifelong learning.

**Expanded Course Outline:**

I. The various criminal justice perspectives on approaching the problems of crime

A. How crime is measured and reported

B. The cause, nature, extent, and control of criminal behavior in the United States

C. The different classifications of crime

II. The history and jurisdictions of criminal law

A. The various aspects and sources of criminal law

B. The history of law enforcement

C. The differences between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies

III. The role of the police in the criminal justice system

A. How a police department is organized

B. The role and function of the police within the community

C. Police culture, personality, and their contrasting styles

D. Police discretion

E. The primary investigative functions performed by law enforcement

F. How the rule of law applies to the police

IV. The judiciary and courts' role in the criminal justice process

A. The history and goals of criminal punishment

B. The duties and roles of the prosecutor and criminal defense attorney

C. The steps in the pretrial process

D. The various types of sentencing available to the court system

E. The concept, conditions, extent, and administration of probation

F. The difference between probation and parole

G. The role of intermediate sanctions within the corrections system

H. The various programs that are available through the concept of intermediate sanctions

V. Correctional institutions

A. The history of correctional institutions

B. The different functions of prison and jails

C. Jail and prison populations

D. The concept and purpose of shock incarceration or boot camps within the corrections system

E. Evaluate the success or failure of probation, intermediate sanctions, and traditional incarceration