

Course Learning Objectives for PSC 101, SOC 203 and CJBS 101

I. PSC 101 - Introduction to Law Enforcement

Learning Objectives:

- 1. Explain the role of the police in the administration of justice in the United States of America;**
 - a. Identify specific periods related to the origins of U.S. police and their development
 - b. State the interrelated functions of modern U.S. police with courts and corrections
- 2. Analyze the theories related to the policy and practice of police;**
 - a. Describe how specific theories of crime control affect the police (i.e., routine activities, deterrence, environmental criminology)
 - b. Given a fact pattern, identify what crime control approach to employ
- 3. Analyze the operations and administration of police;**
 - a. Categorize and differentiate the primary elements of police operations and administration in various police agencies
- 4. Demonstrate critical thinking skills by analyzing and synthesizing evidence to evaluate arguments and draw inferences;**
 - a. Actively conceptualize, apply, analyze, synthesize, and/or evaluate information from class lectures and exposure to written works in research papers, presentations and exams
 - b. Use the aforementioned skills as a guide to belief and action when presented with given fact pattern by reciting, writing responses or presenting perspectives during exams, research projects and presentations
- 5. Demonstrate the ability to access, conduct, interpret and apply police research within the context of public discourse;**
 - a. Deliver or recite information about a specific topic through class-led discussion, research papers and presentations
- 6. Demonstrate proper writing skills;**
 - a. Through written homework, assigned writing projects, and exams, apply the principles and techniques of democratic policing

II. SOC 203 – Criminology

Learning Objectives:

- 1. Students will demonstrate a knowledge of the core literature and debates that make up the discipline of criminology.**

Students will be expected to:

 - a. show evidence of having read and understood the core literature and debates presented on the course, specifically those related to the socially constructed nature of crime and deviance, measurement, causes and key aspects of crime control policy.

2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the key components of criminological theory and the ability to apply theory to specific contexts.

Students will be expected to:

- a. be familiar with the main thinkers and leading classical and contemporary theories of crime causation.
- b. show an understanding of how theory relates to definitions of crime, criminal behavior and policy.

3. Students will demonstrate the ability to make reasoned and informed judgment on issues relating to crime and punishment

Students will be expected to:

- a. show the ability to question conventional wisdom about crime and punishment.
- b. show the ability to put debates on crime and punishment and policies relating to the control of crime in their wider social, historical, political and economic context

III. CJBS 101 - Introduction to the American Criminal Justice System

Learning Objectives:

Performance objectives:

1. Students will develop analytical, ethical and critical reasoning skills through writing assignments and participation in class discussions.
2. Students will develop the ability to effectively locate information.
3. Students will develop the ability to integrate and contrast information from different sources and to present this information in writing in a clear, coherent and systematic way.

Knowledge objectives:

1. Students will gain an understanding of the American criminal justice system with a view to its social and institutional context, and its structure and functioning. This includes an understanding of the importance of issues of diversity embedded in the field of criminal justice.
2. Students will gain an understanding of why societies punish certain behavior in the first place, how the law distinguishes between lawful and unlawful behavior, and what legal safeguards have been established in democratic societies against unfair and unreasonable punishment
3. Students will gain an understanding of how and why crimes are committed, and what this means for individual victims and for society.
4. Students will gain an understanding of the sequence of events that leads to the determination of guilt or innocence of an individual alleged to have committed a crime. Students will also learn about the various criminal justice institutions, including police,

courts and corrections, and how they interact at the various stages of the criminal justice process

5. Students will gain an understanding of why and how offenders are punished, and what the individual and social consequences of punishment are.