

**47: 201: 103**  
**CJ-103: Introduction to Criminal Justice**  
**3 Credits**  
**Fall 2020**

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Video lectures will be posted Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30am (see course schedule).  
Live sessions (dates listed below) will be from 11:30am to 12:50pm on the days that they are held.

**Course Information**

**Professor:**

Instructor: Dr. Colleen Berryessa

Email: [colleen.berryessa@rutgers.edu](mailto:colleen.berryessa@rutgers.edu)

Online Office Hours: Thursdays from 1pm to 3pm and by appointment (online) at  
<https://rutgers.zoom.us/my/cmb472>

**Teaching Assistant:** Julia Bowling ([julia.bowling@rutgers.edu](mailto:julia.bowling@rutgers.edu))

**Course Overview & Structure:**

This course introduces the study of societal responses to crime and provides an explanation of why criminal justice should be thought of as a system. It covers the workings of law enforcement, courts, and correctional system, as well as juvenile justice. It reviews what constitutes crime and how crime is measured. Additionally, this course looks to the future and outlines some of the pressing issues that continue to challenge crime control in a democratic society.

The course will incorporate diverse online learning activities including posted video lectures given by yours truly, PowerPoints, discussion boards, podcasts and videos in an almost entirely asynchronous (aka self-paced) online format. Lecture slides for the week will be posted at 12pm on the Sunday before each week being covered, and I will post video lectures/material every week on Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30am. Although most course material will be presented asynchronously (aka self-paced) online for each week, we will have several synchronous (aka live) sessions online via Zoom throughout the semester, which will be class wide discussions, guest speakers, and a final review. The dates underlined in the syllabus are those with synchronous class sessions held online at the normal, assigned class time (11:30am to 12:50pm).

**Prerequisite:** None

### **B.S., Criminal Justice Program Learning Goals**

Upon completion of the B.S. in Criminal Justice at Rutgers University-Newark, students should be able to:

1. Describe the development and functions of major criminal justice institutions (e.g., police, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice), the activities of actors within these institutions, and how they relate to one another as well as the broader social, political, and economic world.
2. Describe the mechanisms, correlates, theoretical underpinnings, and situational contexts of crime, criminal behavior and opportunity, and techniques for prevention and treatment.
3. Apply and analyze theories related to the policies and practices of the criminal justice system and its major institutions.
4. Demonstrate the ability to gather, explain, and apply empirical research in criminal justice.
5. Obtain a comprehensive knowledge about the process of conducting criminal justice research, and develop the skills to conduct criminal justice research with appropriate methodologies.

### **Course Learning Objectives:**

1. Explain the structure and functioning of the basic components of the criminal justice system including the police, courts, corrections, and the juvenile justice system.
2. Articulate how the criminal justice system is a dynamic and interdisciplinary system made up of many different people and agencies.
3. Describe the relationships among all parts and players of the criminal justice system as well as their relationships to other social systems and relevant stakeholders.
4. Critically analyze about how policies and practices of criminal justice agencies may directly or indirectly affect other criminal justice agencies, social systems, and/or key stakeholders.

### **Required Reading:**

Fuller, J.R. (2019). *Introduction to Criminal Justice: A Brief Edition*. Oxford University Press.

### **Course Requirements:**

Students are required to watch recorded lectures, attend live sessions, read assigned readings, complete discussion posts, and engage with material in a manner that reflects familiarity with the readings and previous chapters and lectures. Students are required to access the course website regularly to watch lecture videos, read, watch or interact with course material, and stay informed about any changes in lecture topics, assigned readings, and other course announcements.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Required Reading</u>
Week 1	September 1 <sup>st</sup>	Introduction/Class Overview	
	September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Crime and Criminal Justice	Chapter 1
Week 2	September 8 <sup>th</sup>	NO CLASS – Labor Day (Observed)	
	September 10 <sup>th</sup>	How Crime is Measured and Who It Affects	Chapter 2
Week 3	September 15 <sup>th</sup> / <u>17<sup>th</sup></u>	Criminal Law	Chapter 3
Week 4	September 22 <sup>th</sup> / <u>24<sup>th</sup></u>	The History and Organization of Law Enforcement	Chapter 4
Week 5	September 29 <sup>th</sup> / <u>October 1<sup>st</sup></u>	Police Organization, Operation and the Law	Chapter 5
Week 6	October 6 <sup>th</sup> / <u>8<sup>th</sup></u>	Policing: Innovations and Controversies	Chapter 6
Week 7	October <u>13<sup>th</sup></u> / <u>15<sup>th</sup></u>	The Courts	Chapter 7
Week 8	October 20 <sup>th</sup>	The Courtroom Work Group	Chapter 8
	<b>October 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b><u>Midterm Exam (online)</u></b>	
Week 9	October 27 <sup>th</sup> / <u>29<sup>th</sup></u>	The Disposition: Plea Bargaining, Trial, and Sentencing	Chapter 9
Week 10	November <u>3<sup>rd</sup></u> / <u>5<sup>th</sup></u>	The History of Control and Punishment	Chapter 10
Week 11	November 10 <sup>th</sup> / <u>12<sup>th</sup></u>	Prisons and Jails	Chapter 11
Week 12	November 17 <sup>th</sup> / <u>19<sup>th</sup></u>	Community Corrections	Chapter 12
	<b>November 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>Home Assignment Response Paper DUE</u></b>	
Week 13	November 24 <sup>th</sup>	Juvenile Justice	Chapter 13
	November 26 <sup>th</sup>	NO CLASS – Thanksgiving	
Week 14	December 1 <sup>st</sup>	Criminal Justice in the Future	Chapter 14
	December <u>3<sup>rd</sup></u>	Final Review (live session)	
	<b>December 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b><u>Final Exam (online)</u></b>	

### **Synchronous (Live) Online Class Sessions:**

- **Thursday, September 17th from 11:30am - 12:50pm** – Guest Speaker: Molly Donaldson (NYPD Investigator)
- **Thursday, October 1st from 11:30am - 12:50pm** – Open Class Discussion: Policing (moderated by Dr. Berryessa)
- **Tuesday, October 13th from 11:30am - 12:50pm** – Guest Speaker: John Huffington (Wrongfully Convicted)
- **Thursday, October 29th from 11:30am - 12:50pm** – Guest Speaker: Rachel Endick, Esquire (Wrongful Convictions)
- **Tuesday, November 3rd from 11:30am - 12:50pm**– Guest Speaker: Ivana Djak, Esquire (Law School)
- **Thursday, November 19th from 11:30am - 12:50pm** – Guest Speaker: your TA, Julia Bowling (Prison Labor)
- **Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11:30am - 12:50pm** – Final Review Session (given by Dr. Berryessa)

### **Grading Scale:**

The following grading scale will be used for this course:

A	90–100%
B+	85-89%
B	80-84%
C+	75-79%
C	70-74%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

### **Late or Missing Assignment/Exam Policy:**

Exams and reading assignments are due on their due date. If you will miss an exam, you **MUST** have contacted the professor **BEFORE** the day of the exam and document the reason for your absence or changes to your exam format, circumstances, etc.. I do not give makeup exams, except under extreme circumstances. Missing lectures more than once or twice is likely to compromise your grade.

## Course Grading

The final grade will be assessed based upon your performance on the following:

- **Midterm Examination (30%):** About halfway through the course, a midterm exam will be given comprising of 100 multiple choice questions. The test will cover the material in the first eight chapters. The midterm exam will be administered online via Blackboard, and you will be given 1 hour and 30 minutes to take the test. **You may take the midterm exam online via Blackboard during any continuous 1 hour and 30 minute period from October 21st (at 12:00am) to October 23rd (at 11:59pm).**
- **Final Examination (40%):** At the end of the class, a comprehensive final exam will be given that covers all the material but is weighted more heavily toward the second eight chapters of the book. The test will comprise 180 multiple choice questions. The final exam will be administered online via Blackboard and you will be given 3 hours to take the test. **You may take the final exam online via Blackboard during any continuous 3 hour period from December 8<sup>th</sup> (at 12:00am) to December 10<sup>th</sup> (at 11:59pm).**
- **Weekly Discussion Posts (12 posts) (15%):** Each student is expected to post one short response or reflection (about 100 to 150 words) to the Blackboard discussion boards in response to each week's material/chapter. Each chapter will have a discussion board (so 14 chapters and 14 discussion boards in total) that will be available beginning at 12pm the Sunday before that week's material. Every week I will post three reflection questions/prompts, and you will be asked to pick **one** and post your response to it on the board! You are also encouraged to respond and interact with your classmates' posts as well. Students must complete 12 posts throughout the semester for any 12 chapters. Students may skip two weeks without penalty. However, if you complete **all** 14 posts during the semester, you'll get extra credit for your additional posts. Posts will be graded out of 20 points, and a rubric will be posted for grade expectations. **Each week's post will be due (via Blackboard) on Thursdays by 1:00pm.**
- **Home Assignment (15%):** You will be asked watch a fictional movie or episode of a fictional television show related to the criminal justice system (your choice!). You will then write a 3 page response paper on how aspects of that movie/TV episode align and misalign with the "real" aspects of the criminal justice system you have learned about so far in the course. **The response paper should be submitted via Blackboard by November 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm.**

Assignment Description	Linked to SLO	% of Course Grade
Midterm Exam	SLO 1, 2, 3 and 4	30%
Final Exam	SLO 1, 2, 3 and 4	40%
Home Assignment	SLO 3 and 4	15%
Weekly Discussion Posts	SLO 1, 2, and 3	15%

## **Course Policies**

### **Classroom Rules**

Students who wish to dispute grades on any portion of the exam, posts, or paper will, at the discretion of the instructor, be offered an anonymous re-grading opportunity. If you have a grade dispute, please communicate it to your assigned teaching assistant. The assistant will convey the argument to me and, if I agree, I will regrade your paper (anonymously and without knowing your original grade). After the re-grade, you will be given the average of the two grades. You should recognize that this may result in your grade increasing, decreasing, or staying the same.

### **Academic Integrity**

As a member of the Rutgers University community you are not to engage in any academic dishonesty. You are responsible for adhering to basic academic standards of honesty and integrity as outlined in the Rutgers University Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students <http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity>

Your academic work should be the result of your own individual effort, you should not allow other students to use your work, and you are required to recognize and reference any material that is not your own. Violations of the university's policy will result in appropriate action.

### **Accommodation and Support**

Accommodation and Support Statement Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students and the University as a whole. RU-N has identified the following resources to further the mission of access and support:

For Individuals with Disabilities: The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter barriers due to disability. Once a student has completed the ODS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and reasonable accommodations are determined to be necessary and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be provided. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at [ods.rutgers.edu](http://ods.rutgers.edu). Contact ODS at (973)353-5375 or via email at [ods@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:ods@newark.rutgers.edu). For

Individuals who are Pregnant: The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy. Students may contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance at (973) 353-1906 or via email at [TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu).

For Absence Verification: The Office of the Dean of Students can provide assistance for absences related to religious observance, emergency or unavoidable conflict (e.g., illness, personal or family emergency, etc.). Students should refer to University Policy 10.2.7 for information about expectations and responsibilities. The Office of the Dean of Students can be contacted by calling (973) 353-5063 or emailing [deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu).

For Individuals with temporary conditions/injuries: The Office of the Dean of Students can assist students who are experiencing a temporary condition or injury (e.g., broken or sprained limbs, concussions, or recovery from surgery). Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury should submit a request using the following link: <https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu>.

For English as a Second Language (ESL): The Program in American Language Studies (PALS) can support students experiencing difficulty in courses due to English as a Second Language (ESL) and can be reached by emailing [PALS@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:PALS@newark.rutgers.edu) to discuss potential supports.

For Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment: The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance can assist students who are experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking. Students can report an incident to the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance by calling (973) 353-1906 or emailing [TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu). Incidents may also be reported by using the following link: [tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm](http://tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm). For more information, students should refer to the University's Student Policy Prohibiting Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence, Stalking and Related Misconduct located at <http://compliance.rutgers.edu/title-ix/about-title-ix/title-ix-policies/>.

For support related to interpersonal violence: The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance can provide any student with confidential support. The office is a confidential resource and does not have an obligation to report information to the University's Title IX Coordinator. Students can contact the office by calling (973) 353-1918 or emailing [run.vpva@rutgers.edu](mailto:run.vpva@rutgers.edu). There is also a confidential text-based line available to students; students can text (973) 339-0734 for support.

For Crisis and Concerns: The Campus Awareness Response and Education (CARE) Team works with students in crisis to develop a support plan to address personal situations that might impact their academic performance. Students, faculty and staff may contact the CARE Team by using the following link: [tinyurl.com/RUNCARE](http://tinyurl.com/RUNCARE) or emailing [careteam@rutgers.edu](mailto:careteam@rutgers.edu).

For Stress, Worry, or Concerns about Well-being: The Counseling Center has confidential therapists available to support students. Students should reach out to the Counseling Center to schedule an appointment: [counseling@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:counseling@newark.rutgers.edu) or (973) 353-5805. If you are not quite ready to make an appointment with a therapist but are interested in self-help, check out TAO at Rutgers-Newark for an easy, web-based approach to self-care and support: <https://tinyurl.com/RUN-TAO>.

For emergencies, call 911 or contact Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD) by calling (973) 353-5111.