**47: 201: 103**

**CJ-103: Introduction to Criminal Justice  
3 Credits | Fall 2024**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays**

**10 am to 11:20 am - Smith Hall, Room 243**

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Professor**: Emily Greberman ([e.greberman@rutgers.edu](mailto:e.greberman@rutgers.edu))

**Office Hours:** In-Person Thursdays, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, in the Center for Law and Justice (CLJ) Suite located in the Law School building, 123 Washington Street, 5th Floor, Room 577

**On Zoom** by Appointment:

<https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/8305368167?pwd=UmhhQ2xNbUt0N0ttQWI1eURneE5QZz09>

Password: 577505

**Course Overview**

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. Specific topics include the study of the people and organizations that make up the criminal justice system including actors such as the police, prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, and corrections officials. Major branches and functions of the criminal justice system including law enforcement and order maintenance, courts and sentencing, and corrections and reentry are covered.

**Prerequisite:** None

**By the end of the class, students will…**

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

**B.S., Criminal Justice at Rutgers University-Newark Program Learning Goals**

Upon completion of the B.S. in Criminal Justice, 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 and 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 the field of criminal justice.
5. Obtain comprehensive knowledge about conducting criminal justice research, and develop the skills to conduct criminal justice research with appropriate methodologies.

### Required Textbook

Fuller, J.R. (2018). ***Introduction to Criminal Justice: A Brief Edition***, Oxford University Press. (There are a few editions of this book, any version is fine.)

**Course Requirements**

Students will use the textbook and class lectures to participate in class discussions and activities. They should come to class aware of previous week’s chapters and any questions they have about the text/topics. The course website on Canvas should be used regularly to stay informed about any changes in lecture topics, syllabus dates, assignments, and other course announcements.

**Course Structure**

The course will incorporate diverse learning activities, including lectures and group discussions. Group activities will benefit from participation by all students so we as a class can consider different perspectives, ask questions, and learn from one another. I ask that students come to class on time, silence and put away cell phones, be ready to discuss topics from the textbook and class, and submit assignments on time.

**COURSE ASSESSMENT AND GRADING**

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

**Key Term Weekly Assignments (25%):** Every week, students will either hand-write or type-up the key terms and definitions from the chapter we cover that week and will turn them in by the beginning of the following Tuesday class (e.g., the Week 2/Chapter 2 Key Terms will be due the Tuesday at 9:59am of Week 3/Chapter 3). Turn them in on Canvas where you can upload a picture or screenshot of written responses or a file from Word/Drive. These are graded based on completion. **There will not be a Key Term Assignment for Chapter 8. However, if you choose to do it, you will receive 1 Extra Credit Point towards your grade.**

**Paper (25%):** Students will be asked to watch a movie or an episode of a television show related to the criminal justice system of your choice and write a 4- page double-space 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 class. A rubric for this assignment will be on Canvas. **The response paper should be submitted to Canvas by 11:49 pm on November 14th.**

**Venn Diagram Assignments (10%):** Over the semester, students will create three Venn Diagrams, the first comparing crime measurement tools, the second comparing different courts, and the third comparing prisons to jails. A rubric for this assignment will also be on the Canvas page.

**Midterm Examination (20%):** Mid-semester, there will be a small exam where students will be tested on their knowledge of the key terms and concepts from the chapters we have already covered in the semester, including the processes of different criminal justice institutions, their key actors, and core roles/definitions. More details will be provided closer to the exam date. The midterm exam will take place **IN CLASS on October 29th.**

**Final Examination (20%):** At the end of the class, a comprehensive final exam will be given thatcovers core material from the semester. This test will comprise of 50 true/false statements about the criminal justice system such as the role of different agents and institutions. **This exam will occur during the LAST class period on December 10th at 10:00am.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment Description** | **% of Course Grade** |
| Paper | 25% |
| Key Terms Weekly Assignment | 25% |
| Midterm Exam | 20% |
| Final Exam | 20% |
| Venn Diagrams | 10% |

The following grading scale will be used for this course:

A 89.50–100%

B+ 85-89.49%

B 80-84%

C+ 75-79%

C 70-74%

D 60-69%

F <60%

**Course Schedule**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  | | | |  |  | | | | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |  | |  |
| **Week** | **Date** | **Topic** | | | |  |  | | | | **Required Reading** | | | | | | | |
| Week 1 | **September 3rd** | Introduction to the Class | | | |  |  | | | |  | | | | |
|  | **September 5th** |  | | Crime and Criminal Justice | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 1 | | | | | | | |
| Week 2 | **September 10th/12th** |  | | How Crime is Measured and Who It Affects | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 2 | | | | | | | |
| Week 3 | **September 17th/19th** |  | | Criminal Law | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 3 | | | | | | | |  |
| Week 4 | **September 24th/26th** |  | | History of Law Enforcement - **VD #1 Due** | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 4 | | | | | | | |
| Week 5 | **October 1st/3rd** |  | | Police Organization, Operation and the Law | | | | | | | | |  | Chapter 5 | | | | | | | |
| Week 6 | **October 8th/10th** |  | | Policing: Innovations and Controversies | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 6 | | | | | | | |
| Week 7 | **October 15th/17th** |  | | The Courts | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 7 | | | | | | | |
| Week 8 | **October 22nd** |  | | Courtroom Work Group – No Chapt 8 KTA | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 8 | | | | | | | |
|  | **October 24th** |  | |  | Plea Bargain, Trial, & Sentencing-**VD #2 Due** | | | | | | |  | |  | Chapter 9 | | | | | | | |  |
| Week 9 | **October 29th/ 31st** |  | | History of Control & Punishment | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 10 | | | | | | | |  |
| Week 10 | **MIDTERM EXAM**  **November 5th/ 7th** |  | | Prisons and Jail | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 11 | | | | | | | |  |
| Week 11 | **November 12th** |  | | Online Class on Prison Architecture | | | | | | | |  |  | Canvas | | | | | | | |  |
|  | **November 14th** |  | | Online Class on Crime & Media  **PAPER DUE** | | | | | | | |  |  | Canvas | | | | | | | |  |
| Week 12 | **November 19th/ 21st** |  | | **NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK** | | | | | | | |  |  |  | | | | | | | |
| Week 13 | **November 26th/ 28th** |  | | Jails, Prisons, & Community Corrections | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 12 | | | | | | | |
| Week 14 | **December 3rd** |  | | Juvenile Justice - **VD #3 Due** | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 13 | | | | | | | |
|  | **December 5th** |  | | Criminal Justice in the Future | | | | | | | |  |  | Chapter 14 | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  | |  | | | | | | | |  |  |  | | | | | | | |
| Week 15 | **December 10th** |  | | **FINAL EXAM** | | | | | | | |  |  |  | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  | |  |  | | | |  |  | | | | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |  | |  |

**EVERYTHING DUE DECEMBER 16TH 11:59pm**

### Late or Missing Assignment/Exam Policy

If for any reason you believe you may not be able to submit an assignment on time by the due date, I will only approve requests for extensions if you ask BEFORE the deadline, exceptions only given to some circumstances Assignments submitted after the due date will be deducted 2pts each week it’s late. If given an extension, no submissions will be accepted after the new due date.

Most Key Term assignments are due the Tuesday morning before class at 9:59am. If you miss an exam or believe you will be absent for an exam, you **MUST** have contacted me **BEFORE** the day of the exam and **document** the reason for your absence. I do not give makeup exams except under extreme circumstances. For clarity on due dates, please check the Canvas Page. While attendance is not a part of the grade, we will cover topics and material in class that are not on the posted slides. Therefore, I ask that you making coming to class and participating a priority.

**Language Statement**

The Rutgers University School of Criminal Justice (SCJ) encourages students, faculty, and staff to use *person-first* and *humanizing* language in their verbal and written communications.

Being mindful of how we describe people impacted by our criminal legal systems is an important step in restoring their dignity and humanity. We encourage *replacing* labels that refer to people as “offender,” “inmate,” “parolee” or related terms with more neutral descriptors such as “person convicted of a crime,” “incarcerated person,” and “person under parole supervision.”  Additional details about why this is important can be found [here](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.themarshallproject.org%2F2021%2F04%2F12%2Fthe-language-project&data=05%7C01%7Ccolleen.berryessa%40rutgers.edu%7C0701f5856e3343ce797f08db4595a435%7Cb92d2b234d35447093ff69aca6632ffe%7C1%7C0%7C638180281249226084%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FD0OkahtZlWuCCaWUPcl1Z9R94GveN47Oh%2BcDCpzA3o%3D&reserved=0), [here](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov%2Fpmc%2Farticles%2FPMC6240232%2F&data=05%7C01%7Ccolleen.berryessa%40rutgers.edu%7C0701f5856e3343ce797f08db4595a435%7Cb92d2b234d35447093ff69aca6632ffe%7C1%7C0%7C638180281249226084%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4Fei56%2FA3mPT6SiaNQXXKk2nlnDiC5bIFVqiMt75qfk%3D&reserved=0), and [here](https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/doi/full/10.1111/1745-9125.12145).

### COURSE POLICIES

### Classroom Rules

Please turn the volume OFF on all cell phones, computers, and any other electronic devices before you come to class. Phones ringing or videos playing during class can interfere with students’ ability to hear the lecture, for me to hear your questions and comments, and may also be distracting for all of us. This is especially important during the exam period.

Students who wish to dispute grades on any portion of the exam or assignments must identify the exact reasons why their grade should be different based on the rubric provided. Only comments and questions based on the rubric will be considered. I am happy to meet with any student to discuss their grade and provide feedback.

**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. This includes the use of Chat GPT in papers, directly quoting something from the textbook without providing citations, and re-using old papers from previous or other current classes. Chat GPT is a decent tool for creating outlines, but all papers and work should be in your own words. Responses taken from Chat GPT will be easily identified and reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

**Accommodation and Support Statement**

If a student is seeking accommodation requests for the class, below are several resources to obtain such, as the professor is not able to grant accommodations themselves. 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 provide access and support:

**For Individuals Experiencing Disability:** The Office of Disability Services (ODS) works with students with medical, physical, and/or mental conditions who encounter disabling barriers to determine reasonable and appropriate accommodations for access. Students who have completed the process with ODS and have approved accommodations are provided a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) specific to each course. To initiate accommodations for their course students must both provide the LOA and have a conversation with the course instructor about the accommodations. This should occur as early in the semester as possible. More information can be found at the RU-N ODS website (ods.newark.rutgers.edu). Contact ODS at (973) 353-5375 or via email at 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) 353-5063 or via email at TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu.

**For Short-term Absence Verification:** The Office of the Dean of Students can help with absences related to religious observance, emergency or unavoidable conflict (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.

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

**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. Incidents may also be reported by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm. For more information, students should refer to the University’s Title IX Policy and Grievance Procedures located at https://uec.rutgers.edu/wp-content/uploads/60-1-33-current-1.pdf

**For support related to Interpersonal Violence:** The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance (VPVA) can provide any student with confidential support. VPVA is a confidential resource and does **not** have a reporting obligation to Title IX. Students can contact the office by calling (973) 353-1918 or emailing run.vpva@rutgers.edu. VPVA also maintains a confidential text-based helpline available to students; students can text (973) 339-0734 for support. Students do not need to be a victim/survivor of violence to receive assistance; any student can receive services, information, and support.

**For Crisis and Concerns:** The Campus Awareness Response and Education (CARE) Team works with students in crisis to develop a plan of support plan and address personal situations that might impact their academic performance. Connect with the CARE Team by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNCARE or emailing careteam@rutgers.edu.

**For Psychological Support (Stress, Mood, Family Issues, Substance Use concerns and other personal challenges):** The Rutgers University-Newark Counseling Center provides individual therapy and support groups for students dealing with psychological issues. To schedule an appointment, email counseling@newark.rutgers.edu or call (973) 353-5805.

Additional support is available to any RU-N student through Uwill services:

* Umatch: Teletherapy with flexible scheduling, starting with a free account.
* Uhelp: Crisis support at 833-646-1526 (available 24/7/365).
* Urise: Wellness-based video collection with a free account.

Access Uwill@RUN at https://my.rutgers.edu using your netid. Services are confidential and free. **For emergencies**, call 911 or Rutgers University Police Department at (973) 353-5111.