



**CRIJ 1301 – Introduction to Criminal Justice**  
**Course Syllabus: Spring 2017**

**NORTHEAST TEXAS**  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide responsible, exemplary learning opportunities.”

**Bryan Francis**

**Office Hours:** By phone on M,T,W, & T (hours of 6p to 9p)

**Phone:** 903-746-4600 (You may text anytime)

**Email:** bfrancis@ntcc.edu

<b>Office Hours</b> (by phone)	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesda y</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Online</b>
	6p to 9p	6p to 9p	6p to 9p	6p to 9p		Email anytime

*The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.*

**Catalog Course Description:**

Topics for this course include the police profession; organization of law enforcement systems; the police role; police discretion, ethics; police-community interaction; current and future issues.

**Prerequisites:**

No formal course requirements, but students should understand how to access the Internet via a web browser.

**Required Textbook(s):**

*CJ: Realities and Challenges.* Masters, Ruth E. et. al.; McGraw Hill Publishing, second edition, 2013. Connect access code required

**You must have access to McGraw-Hill CONNECT access code in order to complete this course.**

All course content will be delivered through this method. You may purchase an access code through the NTCC College Store or online (click Registration link within the BlackBoard course to access McGraw-Hill purchase site).

**Recommended Reading(s):**

Weekly reading assignments will be made as part of the weekly notes. These assignments may be external to textbook (i.e. Internet, etc.)

**Resources:**

**Computers and computer labs assistants** are available in MS 103. The LRC and the Academic Skills Center have computers available for students but with limited or no assistance. Assignments will be submitted in electronic form through BlackBoard; therefore minimal printing will be required.

**Your instructor** can be your greatest resource. Your instructor is here to assist you in learning the material and helping you earn the grade you wish to earn in the course. This is a commitment by your instructor. Please utilize this resource by contacting him with any matter you feel he can assist you with, both within this class or your college success in general. It is your responsibility to learn the material, but this can often be best accomplished by initiating contact with the instructor on topics you need clarification or further assistance. Please do this!

## **Student Responsibilities/Expectations:**

Students are expected to complete all assignments by the due date and time stated. All assignments and exams are due by 11:59 pm on their scheduled date. No late work will be accepted for credit and no make-up work will be permitted. Since this course is an online course, the attendance policy is the following: a student must log in at least once a day (24 hour period) for the duration of the course, except holidays (Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day are holidays). If a student does not sign in, the instructor may begin drop procedures for a student. The instructor will keep records of attendance. If the attendance policy is broken, the instructor will examine the reasons for the student's absences, the student's work in the class, and determine whether it is in the student's best interest to remain in the class. If the student breaks the attendance policy, the instructor may begin withdrawal procedures (up to the college's withdrawal deadline) or may fail the student for the course (after the college's withdrawal deadline has passed).

## **Student Learning Outcomes:**

### Course Level

- Describe the history and philosophy of the American criminal justice system.
- Explain the nature and extent of crime in America.
- Analyze the impact and consequences of crime.
- Evaluate the development, concepts, and functions of law in the criminal justice system.
- Describe the structure of contemporary federal, state, and local justice agencies and processes

### During this course the student will be able to: (References from textbook)

- I. Chapter 1
  - A. Illustrate how social norms help define crime
  - B. Define crime and crime classifications
  - C. Describe crime consequences
    1. Offender
    2. Victim
  - D. Outline basic structure of the criminal justice system
  - E. Describe influences on the criminal justice system
    1. Public opinion
    2. Media
    3. Politics
    4. Policy
- II. Chapter 3
  - A. Understand factors leading to criminal behavior
    1. Social
      - a. Moral reasoning
    2. Biological
    3. Mental disorders
    4. Intelligence

- 5. Economic
- B. Understand factors causing people to become victims
- III. Chapter 5
  - A. Identify characteristics of policing
  - B. Understand the history of policing
  - C. Recognize the importance of police recruitment, selection, and training
  - D. Describe police subculture dynamics
  - E. Gain insight to police corruption and abuse of authority
- IV. Chapter 7
  - A. Identify police limitations set by U.S. constitution
  - B. Recognize police use of force and legal limitations
  - C. Describe police pursuits
    - 1. Policy limitations
    - 2. Legal limitations
  - D. Identify strategies by police to reduce certain crimes
    - 1. Drugs
    - 2. Street gang activity
  - E. Understand Texas laws regarding family violence
  - F. Describe factors creating and reducing police stress
- V. Chapter 9
  - A. Describe the right to bail
    - 1. U.S. constitution
    - 2. Texas constitution
  - B. List sixth amendment defendant rights
  - C. Describe double jeopardy
  - D. Identify pretrial process steps
  - E. Analyze due process clause
  - F. Identify steps of a criminal trial
- VI. Chapter 11
  - A. Describe the role of U.S. corrections
  - B. Contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems
  - C. Identify features of differing correctional programs
    - 1. Reformatories
    - 2. Therapeutic
  - D. Describe and evaluate correction models
  - E. Examine private prison programs
- VII. Chapter 13
  - A. Identify distinctive features of probation
  - B. Contrast traditional and intensive probation
  - C. Assess success of probation
  - D. Identify features of parole
  - E. Assess success of parole
  - F. Describe role of intermediate sanctions

**Exemplary Educational Objectives:**

N/A

**SCANS Skills:**

N/A

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

Grades of A, B, C, D, and F will be determined by the student's achievement of a total number of possible points based on the below listed categories.

<u>Assignments</u>		<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Pts. Per Assign.</u>
Discussion questions (BB discussion)	10	20	200
Homework assignments			500
Syllabus Quiz	1	20	20
Reading Worksheets	7	60	420
Video Assignments	6	10	60
Mid-Term Exam	1	150	150
Final exam	1	150	150
Total			1000

## **Total Pts. Possible**

The letter grade is based on the following Grading Scale:

<b>Total Pts. Earned</b>	<b>Ltr. Grade</b>
900-1000	A
800-899	B
700-799	C
600-699	D
Below 600	F

### **Final Exam:**

This course consists of two exams, a mid-term and a final.

### **Assignments, Discussions, Exams, & Research Paper:**

The semester is divided into 8 weeks of assignments. The assignments and associated due dates can be found below or on the Black Board site under the title “Schedule and Due Dates.” You must follow the week to week schedule in Black Board. All work for the week is due Sunday of that week at 11:59pm. I will not accept any late work for this course. The research paper must be turned in on or before due date in Black Board via “turnitin.com” link. No late research papers will be accepted. Papers must be submitted through turnitin on the research paper tab in Black Board. Email submissions will not be accepted. Papers should be submitted in a format accepted by turnitin (MS Word).

**CONNECT Assignments:** Each chapter includes a number of McGraw-Hill CONNECT assignments. These are included in your weekly folders. In order to complete these sections, you must have purchased a code pass with your textbook. Your grade for this section will be a composite of your performance for all these assignments.

**Discussion Board:** Over the course of the semester, students are required to engage in discussion board posts. The boards offer an opportunity to engage with classmates and strengthen critical thinking skills. Each discussion board week, you are required to write three substantial posts. The final post must be made by the due date in order to receive points. Late posts will not receive points. A substantive post consists of analytical questions, intelligent comments, illustrations of pertinent personal experiences, etc. Simple written agreement concerning an issue or repetition of ideas does not count as a substantive post. Discussion board posts must also abide by the following rules:

1. The first substantive post must be your original response to the forum topic, questions, and

article. (See discussion page for specific instructions)

2. The second and third substantive post must be responses to other students' posts.
3. In order to receive full credit, all posts must be respectful in tone (this does not mean you cannot argue a point), thorough, substantive, objective, and written according to the rules of proper English grammar and spelling. No texting language. Failure to abide by these rules will result in academic penalties. **Please make sure you follow the instructions for the individual Discussion Assignment. Each discussion assignment is different.**

**Research Paper:** One research paper will be required for this course. For this paper you will identify an issue in state government or local government that you are particularly concerned about or interested in. The issue can be one that has gained attention recently or it can be any issue you feel is important, as long as it is relevant to the course. **Please see assignment for instructions!** After clearly identifying the issue, you will write a persuasive paper on the issue explaining the issue and then argue your opinion. You must be specific and factual. The research paper must be turned in before or on the due date in Black Board. Papers can be submitted at any time throughout the semester up until the due date listed. Papers shall be submitted through turnitin on the research paper tab in Black Board. Papers shall be submitted in a format accepted by turnitin (typically MS Office). No late research papers will be accepted!

**Quizzes & Exams:** Unless noted, quizzes and exams will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. Students will be tested on assigned readings from the text. All tests must be completed by the due date.

Each Unit will culminate with an online test. The questions may be multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank, true/false or short answer. Students will have two hours to complete each test. Students need to have a thorough understanding of the material before taking the exam. While you may use your textbook you will simply not have enough time to look for all the answers.

Students need to have reliable internet access as a test will not be restarted because of technical error. It is also recommended that students not wait until the very last moment to take a test as this can cause a great deal of traffic on the server and could slow things down or lead to technical malfunctions.

### **Student Responsibilities/Expectations:**

*Online Access:* Students must login to the class during the first week of the semester and post to the discussion board through BlackBoard (see first assignment). Submission of assigned work will count as communication.

*Class Attendance:* Participation on the class website will constitute “attendance.” Withdrawal requests **MUST BE** initiated by the student. Students who stop coming to class (that is, stop participating on the class website) but fail to drop the course will earn an “F” for the course.

*Late Work:* To be considered “on time,” **all work must be submitted the day it is due.** This means before midnight. Assignments can be submitted for a 10% deduction for one week following the assignment due date. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact your instructor.

**No late discussion postings will be accepted.** Homework assignments can always be submitted early. Please recognize part of Internet technology is the age old adage of “not if the technology is going to fail, but when!”; therefore, don’t wait until the last minute to complete and submit your work!

### **NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:**

Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook (see Student Handbook on the student MyEagle Portal).

### **Academic Ethics**

The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

### **ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student’s responsibility to arrange an appointment

with a College counselor to obtain a Request for Accommodations form. For more information, please refer to the NTCC Catalog or Student Handbook.

**Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.