

# NIAGARA FALLS HIGH SCHOOL / NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## CRJ 101 Introduction to Criminal Justice COURSE SYLLABUS 2023-2024

### I. Basic Course Information

A. Division	Social Sciences
B. Course Prefix, Number and Title	CRJ 101M Introduction to Criminal Justice
C. Credit Hours	3 Credit Hours
D. Weekly Contact Hours (lecture/lab)	3 Lecture Hours per Week
E. Pre-requisites	Pre-requisites: None
	Co-requisites: None
	Pre-requisites that may be met concurrently: None
F. Textbook	Street Law- A Course of Practical Law 9 <sup>th</sup> Edition. Mc Graw Hill
G. Meets the following Elective Category	Meets Social Sciences elective
I. Meets SUNY GER knowledge and skill area(s)	Social Sciences (SS)

At the completion of this course, the following SUNY General Education student learning outcomes will be met. The student will demonstrate:

- Understanding of the methods social scientists use to explore social phenomena, including observation, hypothesis development, measurement and data collection, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and employment of mathematical and interpretive analysis.
- Knowledge of major concepts, models and issues of at least one discipline in the social sciences.

## II. Course Description

An overview of the criminal justice system and its historical development, as well as how it currently exists and operates at the national, state, and local levels. Although primarily a descriptive course, opportunities to discuss casual and concomitant variables of criminal behavior at a general level will be utilized to demonstrate relevancy to peripheral program courses and to indicate the relationship between this and subsequent courses within the curriculum. (THIS IS A FULL YEAR COURSE AS PART OF THE JUNIOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADAMEY.)

## III. Course Organization/Methods of Evaluation

### Course Organization

The course is organized on a lecture/discussion/Role play/simulation basis with supplementary required readings in the text(s). Where appropriate, films and other audio-visual materials will be introduced to clarify topics identified in the course outline. Student involvement and participation (in the classroom) will be encouraged, within the limits prescribed by related course material.

### Methods of Evaluation

Evaluation will be accomplished within the framework of NFHS and NCCC college policies. Student progress will be measured through the use of objective testing format, case briefs and class participation.

## IV. Student Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course the student will:

1. Demonstrate insight into the historical development of Criminal Justice.
2. Examine how the Criminal Justice System operates in the U.S. today.
3. Compare and rank (at an introductory level) the national criminal justice system with various local practices.
4. Identify that the criminal justice process is a system of operations and thereby is subject to analysis and modification.

## V. Course Outline

- A) Foundation of the criminal justice system and its history
  - a) Concepts of justice
  - b) Concepts of law
  - c) Concepts of democratic government
- B) Crime
  - a. Theoretical aspects of adult criminality
  - b. Theoretical aspects of juvenile delinquency
- C) Law Enforcement
  - a. Historical considerations
  - b. Operational designs
  - c. Limited law enforcement practices

- F) Judges
  - a. Selection systems
  - b. Judge's role
- G) Jury Trial
  - a. Historical precedents
  - b. Juror's role
  - c. Problems of the jury system
- H) Courts
  - a. Types of courts
    - 1. Jurisdiction
    - 2. Venue
    - 3. State systems
    - 4. Federal systems
- I) Community Based Corrections
  - a. History of probation/parole
  - b. Operation of probation/parole agencies
  - c. Treatment concepts
  - d. Problems of probation/parole
- J) Institutional Corrections
  - a. History
  - b. Modern Penology
  - c. Treatment concepts
  - d. Problems of institutional corrections