

**PALOMAR COLLEGE**  
**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR**  
**DEGREE CREDIT COURSE**

Transfer course       A.A. degree applicable course  
(check all that apply)

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** AJ 100 INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

**UNIT VALUE:** 3

**MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS:** 48

**BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:** Appropriate language skills.

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**COREQUISITE:** None

**RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:** None

**SCOPE OF COURSE:**

A comprehensive overview of the American Criminal Justice System. History, theories, and philosophy of the three parts of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement, courts, and corrections. Relevant sociological and economic issues, past and present, will be addressed.

**SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The student will be able to:

1. Discuss the history, theories, and philosophy of the criminal justice system.
2. Identify the three parts of the criminal justice system and explain the function of each.
3. Relate knowledge gained from course in areas of current events.
4. Discuss landmark court decisions and their impact on the criminal justice system.
5. Identify and evaluate problems found within the criminal justice system and formulate their solutions.

6. Describe the function, organization, and operation of three criminal justice agencies.

**CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:**

1. The need for criminal justice agencies
2. History of the forming of the Criminal Justice System
  - A. Law enforcement
  - B. Courts
  - C. Corrections
3. Overview of the organization and operations in the criminal justice system
4. Crime theories:
  - A. Classical schools of thought
  - B. Positive schools of thought
5. Overview of court decisions and cases pertaining to effect on the criminal justice system
6. The process of arrest:
  - A. Arrest through grand jury
  - B. Preliminary hearing/juvenile court
7. The trial process: jury selection through appeals process
8. Sociological/economic/psychological theories in regard to criminal behavior and the effects on today's society.

**REQUIRED READING:**

Schmallegger, Frank. Criminal Justice: A Brief Introduction. 3rd edition. Old Tappan: Prentice Hall, 1998.

**SUGGESTED READING:**

None

**REQUIRED WRITING:**

A 3-5 page reaction paper on an approved topic in one of the three areas of the criminal justice system. Must include research in regard to topic manner.

**OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:**

**Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.**

Approximately six hours per week is required for reading assignments. A minimum of 4-6 hours is necessary to complete a representative writing assignment. A visitation to a law enforcement agency, court, or corrections facility.

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:**

**Check all that apply:**

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

**This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.**  
Yes  No

**If yes, check all that apply. (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)**

- telecourse
- mediated instruction
- computer assisted instruction

**GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):**

1. All quizzes, class assignments and participation will be averaged for 30% of the final grade.
2. Midterm Exam - 25% of final grade.
3. Reaction/Topic paper - 20% of final grade.
4. Final exam - 25% of final grade

\*A = 90-100% \*B= 80-89% \*C= 70-79% D= 60-69% F= Below 60%

**IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?**  
Yes  No  Number of times course may be taken for credit: 1

If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s) 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable:

**CONTACT PERSON:** Dr. Larry Roberts x2204

SIGNATURES ON FILE
--------------------