RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Department of Criminal Justice

01:202:201 – Introduction to Criminal Justice
Spring 2011 – Section 03 (Index 56669)
Livingston Classroom Building – Room 109
Tuesday & Thursday – 1:40PM to 3:00PM

Professor: Sergeant Frank LoSacco, B.S., M.A.
East Brunswick Police Department

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COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description: This course will provide students with an in-depth examination of the American criminal justice system, including police, courts, corrections and juvenile justice. To enhance the learning experience, students will also receive fascinating personal perspectives from guest speakers who are current practitioners in the criminal justice system, including law enforcement officers, attorneys, the courts and corrections.

Course Objective: Students will gain a better understanding and appreciation of the American criminal justice system through a combination of textbook readings, classroom discussions and presentations from contemporary criminal justice practitioners. While the classroom presentations and discussions will often parallel the readings, students will be expected to read and understand the textbook on their own.

Course Requirements: There will be two quizzes, a midterm exam and a final exam. The quizzes and exams will be based on the textbook, class lectures and guest speaker presentations, and they will consist of multiple-choice questions. There will NOT be ANY opportunities for extra credit. Quiz grades, exam grades and attendance will determine the final grade.

Methods of Instruction: Although the textbook will be the primary source of test questions, class discussions and guest speakers will provide information not found in the textbook. A considerable number of test questions will come from the lectures and the speakers, and it is essential for students to attend each class. Students will be expected to come to class prepared to engage in an open discussion of the criminal justice system.

Grading Breakdown:

Quiz #1 ............... 15%
Midterm Exam .... 25%
Quiz #2 ............... 15%
Final Exam ........... 25%
Attendance ........... 20%

Grading Scale: (Grades will NOT be rounded up)

90 - 100 ........... A
87 - 89 ............ B+
80 - 86 ............ B
77 - 79 ............ C+
70 - 76 ............ C
65 - 69 ............ D
0 - 64 ............ F

Class Attendance and Conduct:

- Attendance will be taken each class and every student is expected to attend every class! Students who miss a class are responsible for obtaining class notes from their fellow students. I will not provide class notes to students who miss a class. All “excused” absences must be approved by me PRIOR to the class being missed. Students WILL be penalized for every unexcused absence! Students exceeding five (5) unexcused absences will not receive any credit for attendance.

- All students are expected to ask questions and provide input into class discussions.

- Students are expected to arrive for class on time and conduct themselves appropriately. Cell phones must be turned off or placed on vibrate. Students are not permitted to use recording devices or MP3 players.

- Each week I will announce the reading assignments for the following class. All students are expected to complete the reading assignments prior to the next class to actively participate in the lecture.

- Rutgers University has a well-defined academic integrity policy, which will be strictly enforced in this class. All students in this class should review and be familiar with the policy of the university, which can be found at http://TeachX.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html.

Office Hours:

My goal is to provide quality instruction and share my years of experience to enhance learning. My obligation to the students is not limited to the course material, as I welcome the opportunity to provide guidance to any student who would like to pursue a career in the criminal justice field.

I will always make the time to meet with any student who would like to discuss this course, law enforcement career opportunities, or any other matter. Due to the nature of my schedule, as well as my status as a part-time adjunct, I do not have set office hours. Accordingly, I will meet with any student by appointment. Please see me before or after class, or contact me via email, so that we may arrange an appointment.