HILL COLLEGE
112 Lamar Drive
Hillsboro, Texas 76645

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Prefix and Number  Course Title

CJSA 1312                          Crime in America

Hill College is committed to the principal of equal opportunity in education and employment. The college does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or veteran status in the administration of its educational programs, activities, or employment policies.

Catalog Description:  
CJSA 1312 – Crime in America  
American crime problems in historical perspective, social and public policy factors affecting crime, impact and crime trends, social characteristics of specific crimes, and prevention of crime.

End-of-Course Outcomes:  Explain the psychological, social and economic impact of crime in society and identify characteristics of major crimes, the impact on society and the prevention thereof.

Lecture Hours: 3  Lab Hours: 0  Semester Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites:  None

Introduction and Purpose:  
This course will provide the student with an introductory knowledge of the history and evolution of crime problems in America. The student will develop competency in explaining and analyzing the concept of crime, focusing on the accumulation of crime data.

This course will provide the student with a foundation in criminology looking at methods of studying crime which include Biological, Psychological and Sociological Theories of criminal behavior which will assist him/her in successful operations as a police officer.

The student will also develop competencies in the various types of crimes of violence, property crimes and organized crime.

Instructional Materials:  


Criminology Interactive, Pearson.
**Supplies:** Note-taking materials, Pens or Pencils and Paper.

**Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:**
SCANS are a list of skills developed by the Department of Labor to insure students are trained on necessary skills required by industry. Each objective listed relates to one or more of these skills standards. The translation for these standards is attached to the end of this syllabus.

THIS COURSE IS AN OVERVIEW; THE STUDENT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO READ AND RESEARCH IN DEPTH THE SUBJECTS SURVEYED THROUGH ONGOING CONTINUING EDUCATION.

A. Display an introductory level understanding of the sociological impact of crime on the American society. (C5, C9, C15, F1, F2, F5, F6, F12)

B. Describe and give a Historical Perspective of the historical Development, cultural variations, and international comparison in American crime problems. (C5-C7, C15, F1, F2, F5, F6, F12)

C. Describe the sociological and public policy factors affecting crime in America, as well as the impact of economic, social, racial, and ethnic concerns on crime trends. (C5-C7, C9, C14, C15, F1, F2, F5-F17)

D. Describe the social characteristics of specific crimes such as interpersonal violence, property crimes, professional/career crime, organized crime, white collar/economic crime, abuses of power and public trust, chemical substance abuse, and moral offenses. (C5-C7, F1, F2, F5, F6)

E. Describe prevention of crime, treatment theories, and the purposes of punishment. (C5-C7, C15, F1, F2, F5-F17)

**Program Threads and SCANS Competencies**
The curriculum content in all Criminal Justice courses are organized around five general content areas known as program threads.

**Program Threads:** Communication
Legal and Ethical Practices
Effective Helping
Diversity
Critical Thinking

These threads are used to formulate content, connect one course of study to another, and provide a structure for evaluation of basic professional skills.

The Secretary's Commission of Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS), U.S. Department of Labor, was formed “to encourage a high-performance economy characterized by high-skills, high-wage employment.” Representatives from education, business, labor, and government identified the five competencies that are necessary in the work place.

Programs in the Criminal Justice Department are organized around these competencies and the three part foundational skills that the competencies are based on Learning Activities and outcomes which relate to the SCANS Competencies are identified in the syllabus with **C1-20 and/or F1-17** in bold print.
The competencies C1-20 include:

**Resources**: identifies, organizes, plans, and allocates resources (C1-C4).
**Information**: acquires and uses information (C5-C8).
**Interpersonal**: works with others (C9-C14).
**Systems**: understands complex interrelationships (C15-C17)
**Technology**: works with a variety of technologies C18-C20).

The foundation competencies F1-F17 include:

**Basic Skills**: reads, writes, performs arithmetic and mathematical operations, listens and speaks (F1-F6).
**Thinking Skills**: thinks creatively, makes decisions, solves problems, visualizes, knows how to learn, and reasons (F7-F12).
**Personal Qualities**: displays responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity, and honesty (F13-F17).

**Methods of Instruction**:  
This course will be taught using traditional lecture with a question and answer period daily, independent study, guest speakers, field trips, periodic quizzes and examinations. Audio-visual materials and computer based technology will be used when appropriate.

**Methods of Evaluation**:  
There will be a total of 16 chapter quizzes which will make up 40% of the students final grade and 1 comprehensive final exam which will make up 20% of the student’s final grade.

Chapter assignments and discussion board assignments will make up 40% of the student’s final grade.

Letter grades for the course will be based on the following percentages:

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

**Course Outline:**

**Class Policies:**

A. “Excused and Unexcused” absences are treated exactly the same way as far as attendance policy is concerned except that excused absences allow the student to make up work missed. “Excused” absences will be granted for the following reasons:
1. Illness
2. Death in the family
3. School sponsored events
Excusing an absence for reasons other than those above is the prerogative of each instructor concerned.

B. Warnings are issued after:
1. Three (3) consecutive hours; or
2. A total of four (4) hours absent
C. It should be remembered that absences always result in work being missed and, in spite of the best efforts of both the instructor and the student this usually means the grade will suffer.

D. An “Incomplete” grade may be given only in those cases where, because of personal illness, death in the immediate family, school sponsored trips, or military orders, the student is unable to complete the final examination for a course. Prior approval of the instructor is required before the grade of “I” is recorded. A student who merely fails to show up for the final examination will receive a zero (0) for the final and “F” for the course.

All work must be completed and on time or no credit will be received.

E. Students should consult with their instructor or advisor before dropping a course. Failure to attend class is not tantamount to dropping a course.

F. You may leave a message for me at (254) 659-7980, if you have an emergency.

Disabilities/ADA:
In accordance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the regulations published by the United States Department of Justice 28 C.F.R. 35.107(a), Hill College’s designated ADA coordinator, Debra Hargrove, Vice President, Human Resources and Organizational Development, shall be responsible for coordinating the College’s efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under ADA. Students with disabilities requiring physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact Salley Schmid, Director of Counseling, at (254) 659-7651 or sschmid@hillcollege.edu.

Course Requirements:
A. Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students, and each instructor will maintain a complete record of attendance for the entire length of each course, including online. The Hill College attendance policy will be rigorously enforced. Students will be counted absent from class meeting missed, beginning with the first official day of classes. In the case of online courses, attendance will be determined in terms of participation, as described in the course syllabus.

B. Turn in all assignments on time ~ Students will be permitted to make up class work and assignments missed due to one of the above mentioned absences. It is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor of the reason for an absence and to do so in a timely fashion.

C. Proper classroom behavior ~ Disturbance in the classroom, which includes talking during class, will not be tolerated. Students disturbing the class will be requested to leave the classroom. NO texting during class. Anyone caught texting will have their phone taken up until the end of class.

D. Your first responsibility is scholarship. The grade you receive will be the result of your efforts, not a gift from the instructor.
E. Cheating during tests or where related to a term paper will result in the student being given an “F” for the course.

F. This course is designed to require a steady, continuous effort from the student. A crash-cram policy will not result in the best grade possible.

G. From time-to-time, special library and other assignments may be made to members of the class, individually, and in groups.

H. Students, whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades.

**Topics and Tests:**
Part I: Criminology Explained – The Evil Men (and Women) Do
   Chapter 1     What is Criminology? Understanding Crime and Criminals

Part II: Crime Causation – What We Do and Why We Do It
   Chapter 2 Classical and Neoclassical Criminology: Choice and Consequences
   Chapter 3 Biological Roots of Criminal Behavior: It’s What We Are
   Chapter 4 Psychological and Psychiatric Foundations of Criminal Behavior: It’s How We Think
   Chapter 5 Social Structure: It’s How We Live
   Chapter 6 Social Process and Social Development: It’s What We Learn
   Chapter 7 Social Conflict: It’s How We Relate

Part III: The Crime Picture – It’s Not Pretty
   Chapter 8 Crimes against Persons: What We Fear
   Chapter 9 Crimes against Property: It’s What We Lose
   Chapter 10 White-Collar and Organized: Crime as a Job

   Chapter 11 Public Order and Drug Crimes: Recreational offenses

Part IV: Crime in the Modern World – Today’s Headlines
   Chapter 12 Technology and Crime: It’s a Double-Edged Sword
   Chapter 13 Globalization and Terrorism: our Small World

**Bibliography:**

**Textbooks:**


**Periodicals:**
The Police News, Police News Publishing Company L.L.C., Galveston, TX

Federal Bureau of Investigation, **FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin**, Washington, DC

**Assessment:**
Students will display competence in the course by scoring a satisfactory grade on subjective quizzes and/or tests. The student may be required to make a classroom presentation on the subject related to the course material or submit a paper, the length and topic to be approved by the instructor.

Students will know the key individuals who play a role in the study of criminology.
Students will know the differences between the different theories as to why individuals commit crime.
Students will display a level of understanding of the sociological impact of crime on American society.
Students will be able to identify the trends in violent crimes, property crimes, crimes of the business worlds and organized crime.

SCANS Skills are grouped in two areas: (1) foundation skills and (2) workplace competencies.

1. **Foundation Skills** are defined in three areas: (a) basic skills, (b) thinking skills, and (c) personal qualities.

   (a) **Basic Skills:** A worker must read, write, perform arithmetic and mathematical operations, listen, and speak effectively. These skills include:
   - Reading: locate, understand, and interpret written information in prose and in documents such as manuals, graphs, and schedules.
   - Writing: communicate thoughts, ideas, information, and messages in writing, and create documents such as letters, directions, manuals, reports, graphs, and flow charts.
   - Arithmetic and Mathematical Operations: perform basic computations and approach practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques.
   - Listening: receive, attend to, interpret, and respond to verbal messages and other cues.
   - Speaking: organize ideas and communicate orally.

   (b) **Thinking Skills:** A worker must think creatively, make decisions, solve problems, visualize, know how to learn, and reason effectively. These skills include:
   - Creative Thinking: generate new ideas.
   - Decision Making: specify goals and constraints generate alternatives, consider risks, and evaluate and choose the best alternative.
   - Problem Solving: recognize problems and devise and implement plan of action.
   - Visualize ("Seeing Things in the Mind's Eye"): organize and process symbols, pictures, graphs, objects, and other information.
   - Knowing How to Learn: use efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills.
   - Reasoning: discover a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and apply it when solving a problem.

   (c) **Personal Qualities:** A worker must display responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity, and honesty.
   - Responsibility: exert a high level of effort and persevere toward goal attainment.
   - Self-Esteem: believe in one’s own self-worth and maintain a positive view of oneself.
   - Sociability: demonstrate understanding, friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness in group settings.
   - Self-Management: assess oneself accurately, set personal goals, monitor progress, and exhibit self control.
   - Integrity and Honesty: choose ethical courses of action.
2. Workplace Competencies are defined in five areas: (a) resources, (b) interpersonal skills, (c) information, (d) systems, and (e) technology.

(a) **Resources:** A worker must identify, organize, plan, and allocate resources effectively.
- **Time:** select goal-relevant activities, rank them, allocate time, and prepare and follow schedules.
- **Money:** Use or prepare budgets, make forecasts, keep records, and make adjustments to meet objectives.
- **Material and Facilities:** Acquire, store, allocate, and use materials or space efficiently.
- **Human Resources:** Assess skills and distribute work accordingly, evaluate performance and provide feedback.

Examples: use computer software to plan a project; prepare a budget; conduct a cost/benefits analysis; design an RFP process; write a job description; develop a staffing plan.

(b) **Interpersonal Skills:** A worker must work with others effectively.
- **Participate as Member of a Team:** contribute to group effort.
- **Teach Others New Skills.**
- **Serve Clients/Customers:** work to satisfy customers’ expectations.
- **Exercise Leadership:** communicate ideas to justify position, persuade and convince others, responsibly challenge existing procedures and policies.
- **Negotiate:** work toward agreements involving exchange of resources, resolve divergent interests.
- **Work with Diversity:** work well with men and women from diverse backgrounds.

Examples: collaborate with a group member to solve a problem; work through a group conflict situation; train a colleague; deal with a dissatisfied customer in person; select and use appropriate leadership styles; use effective delegation techniques; conduct an individual or team negotiation; demonstrate an understanding of how people from different cultural backgrounds might behave in various situations.

(c) **Information:** A worker must be able to acquire and use information.
- **Acquire and Evaluate Information.**
- **Organize and Maintain Information.**
- **Interpret and Communicate Information.**
- **Use Computers to Process Information.**

Examples: research and collect data from various sources; develop a form to collect data; develop an inventory record-keeping system; produce a report using graphics; make an oral presentation using various media; use on-line computer data bases to research a report; use a computer spreadsheet to develop a budget.

(d) **Systems:** A worker must understand complex interrelationships.
- **Understand Systems:** know how social, organizational, and
technological systems work and operate effectively with them.

- Monitor and Correct Performance: distinguish trends, predict impacts on system operations, diagnose deviations in systems' performance and correct malfunctions.
- Improve or Design Systems: suggest modifications to existing systems and develop new or alternative systems to improve performance.

Examples: draw and interpret an organizational chart; develop a monitoring process; choose a situation needing improvement, break it down, examine it, propose an improvement, and implement it.

(e) **Technology**: A worker must be able to work with a variety of technologies.

- Select Technology: choose procedures, tools or equipment including computers and related technologies.
- Apply Technologies to Task: understand overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment.
- Maintain and Troubleshoot Equipment: Prevent, identify, or solve problems with equipment, including computers and other technologies.

Examples: read equipment descriptions and technical specifications to select equipment to meet needs; set up and assemble appropriate equipment from instructions; read and follow directions for troubleshooting and repairing equipment.
3. **SCANS Occupational Assessment**

The know-how identified by SCANS is made up of five competencies and a three-part foundation of skills and personal qualities needed for solid job performance. The rating level ranges from 1 (low) to 5 (high). Please circle your response.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPETENCY</th>
<th>RATING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Resources:</strong> Identifies, organizes, plans, and allocates resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C1 Time: Selects goal-relevant activities, ranks them, allocates time, and prepares and follows schedules.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>C2 Money: Uses or prepares budgets, makes forecasts, keeps records, and makes adjustments to meet objectives.</td>
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<td>C3 Materials and Facilities: Acquires, stores, allocates, and uses materials or space efficiently.</td>
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<td>C4 Human Resources: Assesses skills and distributes work accordingly, evaluates performance, and provides feedback.</td>
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<td><strong>Information:</strong> Acquires and uses information.</td>
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<td>C5 Acquires and evaluates information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C6 Organizes and maintains information.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>C7 Interprets and communicates information.</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<td>C8 Uses computers to process information.</td>
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<td><strong>Interpersonal:</strong> Works with others.</td>
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<td>C9 Participates as a member of a team: Contributes to group effort.</td>
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<td>C10 Teaches others new skills.</td>
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<td>C11 Serves Clients/Customers: Works to satisfy customer=s expectations.</td>
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<td>C16 Monitors and Corrects Performance: Distinguishes trends, predicts impacts on system operations, diagnoses system=s performance, and corrects malfunctions.</td>
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<td>F3 Arithmetic: Performs basic computations; uses basic numerical concepts such as whole numbers, etc.</td>
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<td>F4 Mathematics: Approaches practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques.</td>
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