

Mr. Merten's Introduction to Criminal Justice

Course Expectations

2017-2018

Introduction to Criminal Justice, traces the history and philosophy of criminal justice systems and the administration of justice. We will examine the causes and patterns of crime and criminal behavior and the ways in which criminal justice institutions have responded in trying to solve these social problems. Students will obtain the fundamental of Criminal Justice theories and learn how to apply them to past, current and future policies and how they work in the Criminal Justice system. They will also review certain important criminal justice cases and deconstruct and discuss the process utilized in these cases.

What you should expect:

1. To think – try and understand the world in which you live and your place in it.
2. To read and write– these are the core skills to a modern learner
3. To design your own independent inquires that inspire your learning in the Criminal Justice Field
4. To become a Problem Solver – constantly ask why things work the way they do, in an effort to create positive change.
5. To collaborate and share– talk about your ideas and thoughts, in an effort to build on the knowledge of your colleagues and their experiences.
6. To be culturally literate – meaning make an effort to read daily newspapers, new magazines and watch the nightly news
7. To use the fantastic tool of technology as a resource, not a distraction.
8. To explore opportunities with the Criminal Justice Field outside the classroom.
9. To be on time.

What Mr. Merten expects:

1. Papers and projects may be turned in no more than one day late and will be docked 10 points per day.
2. Preparation – do what is asked of you prior to each class meeting so that class time can be spent on engaging activities rather than pulling teeth (so to speak)
3. Collaboration – class interaction COUNTS!
4. For your phone to be in your bag and OFF when in my classroom.

My Website & Google Classroom:

My **Weebly Website** contains all the important information for you to be successful in this course. Most importantly is contains a calendar of every class meeting for each chapter we study. It contains what you should be reading, lists the dates of each scheduled quiz and test, and provides a basic outline of the pace and subject matter of the course.

Google Classroom will be the classroom management software that we use. All classroom work and course notifications will be done through Google Classroom.

Areas of Exploration

Crime in America

What is Criminal Justice?

The Crime Picture”

“Criminal Law”

Policing

Policing: Purpose and Organization

Policing: Legal Aspects

Policing: Issues and Challenges

Adjudication

The Courts

Corrections

Prisons and Jails

Prison Life

Juvenile Justice

Grading:

Your grade for this course will be comprised of the following elements:

Classroom Research and Inquiry	30%
Content Assessments	35%
Journal / Reflections	20%
Collaboration	15%