**Criminal Justice Syllabus**

**Ms. Kramer**

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**Course Description:**

Introduction to Criminal Justice is the study of the agencies and processes involved in the criminal justice system, including the legislature, the courts, and corrections; an analysis of the roles and problems of the criminal justice system in a democratic society with an emphasis on 4th, 5th, & 6th amendment considerations during police investigations, arrest, in pre-trial procedures, and while moving through the justice system. Careers in policing will be examined, including ethical considerations and standard protocols and dilemmas facing law enforcement on a daily basis such as matters involving use of force and the force continuum, so that students can make an informed decision whether or to pursue the full range of careers and postsecondary opportunities the criminal justice fields.

**COURSE PHILOSOPHY / OUTCOMES:**

Students will, upon completion, be able to demonstrate knowledge of the facts, concepts and theories pertaining to Criminal Justice, to understand the integrative functioning and independent functioning of America’s criminal justice system, and to be able to analyze and interpret data and relationships in and among the various aspects of the Criminal Justice system in the United States.

**Class Materials: In order to be prepared for class all students will need:**

1. **Composition Book**
2. **Highlighters**
3. **Student Planner (students need their planner as a pass to use the restroom as per school policy)**
4. **Pens & Pencils**

**Text Book:**

The Text that will be used in this class is “Introduction to Criminal Justice”” Written by Larry Siegel & John Worrall. Cengage Learning, 2014 ISBN 978-1-305-26104-4

**All students are expected to abide by the classroom rules listed below:**

1. Show Respect to EVERYONE to get Respect.
2. Own your choices/behavior
3. Use appropriate language
4. Be prompt and prepared
5. Participate in all activities
6. No food, gum, or personal electronics in class.

**Consequences for Rule Breaking:** If a student chooses to break a rule or class/school/district policy, appropriate consequences will follow. For minor offenses, a student will be assigned detention in room 123 after school (2:45 pm – 3:15 pm) on Thursday of that week. If the offense occurs on a Thursday or Friday, the student will be expected to serve their detention the Thursday of the following week. If a student chooses not to show up for detention, they will be assigned After School Work to be served with security. For more serious offenses, the instructor reserves the right to exercise other available and approved school disciplinary measures. ***All rule breaking will result in the loss of participation points and will negatively affect a student’s grade.***

\*\*\* Please note if your student is habitually being disciplined, not only will they loose participation points, but they may lose their privilege of doing extra credit work. Students who disrupt the class and cause the loss of valuable instruction time for 35-40 other students will not be given the option to improve their grade whenever they deem it worth their time.\*\*\*\*

**Participation:** Each student must actively participate daily in class activities. This does not mean the student must be overly vocal during each class session, only focused on the lecture, discussion, or activity. Any discipline issues, discipline referral, *unexcused* absence or tardy, or failure to be prepared for class, violation of classroom rules will result in a loss of points. These points may be deducted at any time in any quantity deemed appropriate by the teacher. If students are habitually engaging in unacceptable behavior they may lose all points and will not be able to earn them back. Student must have their planners and school IDs. Students may lose participation points for not wearing the IDs and not using their planners as directed by the teacher and school policy.

**Assessment Strategies:**

The following will be used in the evaluation of students: Weekly assignments, Tests (after each chapter is completed), quizzes (to test for reading assignments and vocabulary), research paper (3-5 Pages), homework, various projects, presentations, cooperative learning activities, online discussions, and self-assessment.

*\*\*No LATE papers/projects will be accepted due to technological failure! Nor will the student receive* ***ANY*** *points for the project/paper if any portion of the paper/project has been plagiarized or not properly cited with an MLA Works Cited page &/or in-text citations. \*\**

**Academic Honesty (Cheating/Plagiarism):** Cheating and/or Plagiarism will not be tolerated at any time. Should a student be caught cheating on any exam, quiz, paper, project, or homework assignment, the student will receive a ZERO for the assignment and may receive additional consequences as outlined in the student planner or at the discretion of the teacher. The procedure for test taking is: as soon as the first test is passed out all talking must stop! If a student(s) are caught talking while they are still in possession of their testing materials the student(s) will be considered to have been cheating and therefore will receive a ZERO for the test. Also, if a student is caught talking after they have turned in their testing materials, but other students are still taking the exam, that student will be given a zero for not following procedure. Any student in possession of an electronic device at any time during a testing session will receive a Zero. Any student giving their assignment to another student for the purposes of trading/copying answers will also receive a ZERO for cheating. *In addition, any student caught cheating or plagiarizing on any assignment indefinitely forfeits any opportunity to earn extra credit.*

**Tutoring and Assistance:** Any Student in need of assistance should personally contact me by e-mail or in person to schedule tutorial time. I am available at lunch and by appointment after school. Please ask for assistance if you are struggling.

**Attendance & Tardy Policy:** This class will follow school and district policies. Simply, any unexcused absence or tardy will result in a loss of participation points, as well as a zero on any assignment covered during missed class time. For excused absences, you will be allowed one day to make up assignments for each class day missed.

***Finally if students have more than 10 Unexcused absences for the semester 10% will be deducted from the students final grade. This 10% percent could be the difference between passing or failing the course! Please monitor your student’s attendance on PowerSchool***

**GRADING MEASUREMENT:**

All individual assignments, examinations or other work products are graded on the basis of assigned point values. The individual assignments, examinations or other work products are then averaged within each category noted under General Coursework Requirements. These averages comprise the weighted basis for the quarterly and semester grades as noted in Semester Evaluations. Students will be awarded grades for work as noted:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = Below 60%

***Parents and guardians please complete the parent e-signature agreement on the parent page of my class website. This agreements acknowledges that you*** *have read and understand the purpose of this class, required materials for the class, the class rules/procedures/consequences, and the grading scale for the class assignments. I am aware of what is expected of my student and I am aware of the consequences my student may face for breaking class rules and procedures. Thanks so much!*

***Students please complete the Student e-signature agreement on the Criminal Justice Home Tab of my class website. This agreement acknowledges*** *have read and understand the purpose of this class, any and all required materials for the class, the class rules/procedures/consequences, and the grading scale for the class assignments. By signing below I agree to abide by the behavior expectations, procedures, and class rules. Should I fail to do so, I agree I will accept the consequences dictated by the teacher and school administrators.*