A. Course Description

Credits: 3

Lab Hours/ Weeks: 

Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/ Week :

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

As an introduction to the field of criminal justice, this course provides students with a brief but comprehensive overview of criminal justice institutions in American society. Students learn about the role of the criminal justice system in maintaining social order. The course also examines the duties and functions of criminal justice practitioners, including police officers, prosecutors, judges and correctional officials from the initial violation of the criminal law, to the punishment and release of convicted offenders.

B. Course Effective Dates: 08/01/1998 - 09/05/1999 09/06/1999 - 05/06/2002 05/06/2002 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Understand the various components of the criminal justice system including their origins, development, structure, functions, goals.
2. Classify, examine, and evaluate crime and criminal justice system response.
3. Describe the current and historical relationship between the criminal justice system and the process of justice administration.
4. Identify the roles and responsibilities of local, state, and federal agencies in the criminal justice system.
5. Demonstrate written and oral communication skills.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
2. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
3. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.

G. Special Information

None