

**College of Micronesia – FSM**  
**P.O. Box 159**  
**Kolonia, Pohnpei**

## Course Outline Cover Page

Introduction to Criminal Justice  
**Course Title**

AJ151  
**Department and Number**

**Course Description:** This course is designed to give participating students a broad overview of the key elements of the criminal justice system. The course will provide students the basic skills and knowledge to allow them to perform duties within law enforcement and other justice sector organizations.

**Prepared by:** Donna Wrembeck

**State:** Pohnpei

	Hours per week	No. of weeks	Total Hours	Semester Credits
Lecture	3	16	48	3
Laboratory				
Workshop				
Total Semester Credits:				3

**Purpose of Course**

Degree Requirement  
Degree Elective  
Advanced Certificate  
Certificate  
Remedial  
Other

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**Prerequisite Course(s):** By admission.

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**Signature, Chairman, Curriculum Committee**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date Approved by Committee**

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**Signature, President, COM-FSM**

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**Date Approved by the President**

## **I. COURSE OBJECTIVES / LEARNING OUTCOMES**

### **A. General Outcomes**

This course will introduce students to the key elements of the criminal justice system, the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders and linkages with the Constitution. The course will also describe the administrative features of the justice system, including criteria for the establishment of probable cause, onus of proof, confessions, category of offenses, rules of evidence, exhibits procedures, types of courts and conduct of trials.

In addition to gaining knowledge of and being able to describe issues outlined above, students will possess the necessary skills to operationally apply the legislative and constitutional requirements of the criminal justice system in the performance of duties within key employment areas of the system, such as law enforcement, justice administration and corrections.

### **B. Specific Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course the students will be able to:

1. Identify and describe the key features of the criminal justice system.
2. Describe the role of key stakeholders within the Criminal Justice System.
3. Describe how the criminal justice system is administered.
4. Identify and describe the categories of offenses.
5. Describe the rules of evidence and testimony.

## **II. COURSE CONTENTS**

- Understanding the Criminal Justice System
- Who are the Key stakeholders in Justice System
- What are the roles and responsibilities of justice stakeholders
- Understanding the relationship between the Constitution and the Criminal Justice System
- How laws are created and administered
- Separation of Powers – how do the various branches of government relate to each other
- What are the duties of law enforcement personnel within the Criminal Justice System
- Understanding the difference between Statute and Case Laws
- Element which constitute Criminal Proceedings

- Identifying the various courts, trials and hearings
- Purpose of court rules and general court orders
- Classification of offenses – Misdemeanors and Felonies
- What are elements which are required to be proved for acts constituting an offense
- What is the Onus of Proof
- Establishing Probable Cause
- Elements which constitute defenses and culpability
- Admissibility of Confessions and requirements for issuing Miranda Warnings
- Hearsay provisions
- Rules governing Evidence and Exhibits
- Protection of individual rights of a person
- Requirements of Witness testimony

### III. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

A variety of assessment methods will be developed to assess the expected learning outcomes for course topics as described below:

#### **Learning Outcome 1 Identify and describe the key features of the criminal justice system.**

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|---------------------|---|
| Assessment Criteria | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Identify and describe the key stakeholders.</li> <li>1.2 Describe the purpose of the criminal justice system.</li> <li>1.3 Describe the operational aspects of the criminal justice system.</li> <li>1.4 Explain the relationship of the criminal justice system with the requirements of the Constitution.</li> <li>1.5 Identify and describe the processes involved in the creation and administration of laws.</li> <li>1.6 Explain the relationship between and effect of statute law and case law.</li> </ul> |
|---------------------|---|

Assessment Methods:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit tests involving:</li> <li>Multiple choice questions</li> <li>Short answer questions</li> <li>Research assignment and classroom presentation</li> </ul>
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#### **Learning Outcome 2 Describe the role of key stakeholders within the Criminal Justice System.**

Assessment Methods:	2.1 Describe what is meant by the separation of powers
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- 2.2 Describe the roles and functions of judicial officers
- 2.3 Describe the duties of law enforcement officers

Assessment Methods: Unit tests involving:  
Multiple choice questions  
Short answer questions

**Learning Outcome 3 Describe how the criminal justice system is administered.**

- Assessment Criteria:
- 3.1 Describe the various elements of Criminal Proceedings
  - 3.2 Describe the various types of courts
  - 3.3 Describe issues impacting on the administration of Juvenile Justice
  - 3.4 Describe the purpose of Court rules and General Court orders
  - 3.5 Describe the various types of trials and hearings

Assessment Methods: Unit tests involving:  
Multiple choice questions  
Short answer questions

**Learning Outcome 4 Identify and describe the categories of offences.**

- Assessment Criteria:
- 4.1 Define the types of offenses – Misdemeanors / Felony
  - 4.2 Define the elements of an offense.
  - 4.3 Describe acts constituting criminal offenses.

Assessment Methods: Unit tests involving:  
Multiple choice questions  
Short answer questions

**Learning Outcome 5 Describe the rules of evidence and testimony.**

- Assessment Criteria:
- 5.1 Define the meaning of Onus of proof
  - 5.2 Describe the requirements for establishing probable cause
  - 5.3 Describe elements constituting defenses and culpability
  - 5.4 Describe requirements for the admissibility of confessions
  - 5.5 Describe the requirements relating to Miranda warnings
  - 5.6 Describe issues as they relate to individual rights
  - 5.7 Define hearsay
  - 5.8 Describe the rules governing witness testimony
  - 5.9 Describe the requirements relating to the presentation of evidence and exhibits

Assessment Methods: Unit tests involving:  
Multiple choice questions  
Short answer questions  
Research assignment and classroom presentation.

#### IV. TEXTBOOKS

Schmallegger, Frank. *Criminal Justice: a Brief Introduction* (6<sup>th</sup> Edition), Prentice Hall, 2005, ISBN 0130887293. \$50.00

#### V. REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

The following supplies and equipment will be required for this course.

##### Instructor:

- a. Classroom with whiteboard or chalkboard
- b. Textbook
- c. *Blacks Law Dictionary (8<sup>th</sup> Edition) Standard Edition*, Garner, Bryan A.
- d. Student workbook as developed for this course
- e. A copy of the approved selected readings book prepared by the Instructor
- f. FSM National Constitution and relevant State Constitution
- g. Pohnpei State Statutory provisions
- h. Appropriate handouts notes as developed by the instructor for this course

##### Students:

- a. Textbook
- b. Student workbook
- c. Selected readings book
- d. College ruled note sheets, pencil or pen

#### VI. REFERENCE MATERIALS

Selected readings will be obtained from the following texts to supplement the Student's Textbook. A book of selected readings will be compiled by the instructor.

Additional selected readings (to those listed below) may be identified and drawn from other relevant contemporary criminal justice texts during the development of the course curriculum.

Schmallegger, Frank. *Criminal Justice Today: An Introductory Text for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (9<sup>th</sup> Edition), ISBN 0131719505

Berger, Ronald J., *Crime, Justice and Society – An Introduction to Criminology* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition), ISBN 1588262588

#### VII. INSTRUCTIONAL COSTS

No additional equipment or materials will be required for this course which will incur further instructional costs.

## VIII. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

The following approaches to instruction will be adopted:

1. Computer aided lectures
2. Lecture and class discussions
3. Scenario exercises
4. Group discussions
5. Problem solving exercises (group and individual)
6. Written examinations
7. Assignment exercises
8. Completion of Workbook assessments

## IX. EVALUATION

There is no credit-by-examination for the course.

Percentage and letter grades will constitute research papers, lesson quizzes, unit tests, a mid-term cumulative examination, and a final cumulative examination. When borderline cases present themselves the instructor may take into account class participation and exceptional attendance if appropriate.

Final Grade for this course will be based on meeting the course requirements at the following percentage rates:

90%-100%	A
80% - 89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

## X. ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance in this class will strictly adhere to the College of Micronesia – FSM attendance policy. Copies of the policy will be given to the students in writing on the first day of class.

## XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students will be required to acknowledge and adhere to the College of Micronesia-FSM *Academic Honesty Policy*. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarism, and facilitating academic dishonesty will be liable to dismissal or suspension from the College. A copy of the policy will be given to students in writing on the first day of class.