COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide an opportunity for the student to observe the criminal justice system in operation. The student will be expected to compare classroom theory with the day to day operation of the different components of the criminal justice system. The student will be required to spend a total 100 clock hours, spread over the semester, observing the different components of the criminal justice system.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. The student gains a greater understanding of the purpose and function of the criminal justice system in today’s society.
2. The student will be able to compare classroom theory to the daily operations of the different components of the criminal justice system.
3. The student will understand the roles of the criminal justice professional as they relate to the administration of justice.
4. The student will identify the skills necessary to become a professional in criminal justice.
5. The student will observe and conduct research on the duties and responsibilities of the different components of the criminal justice system.

TEXT:

There is no required text for this course

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Student Interview Project: 20%
Student Research Project: 20%
Classroom: 30%
Field Work: 30%
VERIFICATION OF HOURS:

The student must submit a schedule to the professor reflecting the hours spent on internship activities. The student must submit a daily activities form for each day involved in a Field Work assignment explained below. These forms can be found on the Field Studies Web Site.

STUDENT INTERVIEW PROJECT:

Each student selects six criminal justice officials and arranges to conduct an interview and writes a one page typed report on each interviewee. Attached to the Report should be a list of the questions asked and the answers given. Questions and interviewee should be pre-approved by instructor. The list of interview options can be found on the Field Studies Web Site.

STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT:

Each student selects one criminal justice agency and researches its role, organization, history, structure, and job descriptions and writes a report. The report is to be three pages typed, and standard APA format. Agency should be pre-approved by instructor.

CLASSROOM:

There will be a 3 hour initial classroom orientation and introduction session. There will be three additional class sessions for agency presentations: one class session for police, one class session for corrections, and one class session for courts. Speakers from various agencies will be scheduled to make presentations, including question and answers, on the role of their agency.

FIELD WORK:

Each student will be required to complete field work throughout the semester which will include the following observations:

- Police Ride Along (12 hours)
- Visit to the HCSO Jail (6 hours)
- Visit to the Circuit Court (4 hours)
- Visit to the County Court (4 hours)
- Visit to the Federal Court (4 hours)
- Visit to the Salvation Army Probation Unit (6 hours)