

**RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE**

**CRMJ – 101 INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**I. Basic Course Information**

- A. Course Number and Title: CRMJ-101, Introduction to Criminal Justice
- B. New or Modified Course: Modified
- C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Spring Year: 2017
- D. Effective Term: Fall 2017
- E. Sponsoring Department: Business and Public Service
- F. Semester Credit Hours: 3.0
- G. Weekly Contact Hours: Lecture: 3.0  
Laboratory: N/A  
Out of class student work per week: 6.0 hours
- H. Prerequisites/Co-requisites: None
- I. Laboratory Fees: None
- J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair at time of approval: Anne Marie Anderson, annemarie.anderson@raritanval.edu

**II. Catalog Description**

This course surveys the criminal justice system's adjudication process through an examination of the police, courts, and corrections components. Explores in-depth the mechanics of the criminal justice system and its inherent problems. Current efforts to improve the administration of justice are also reviewed.

### **III. Statement of Course Need**

- A. This course is a foundation course for the Associate of Arts degree in the Criminal Justice Program and is a prelude to additional courses that deal with specific concerns of the criminal justice system.
- B. This course does not have a lab component.
- C. This course generally transfers as a Criminal Justice course or free elective.

### **IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum**

- A. Free elective
- B. This course meets a program requirement for the Criminal Justice AA degree
- C. To see transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org); b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

### **V. Outline of Course Content**

- A. Crime in America
- B. Policing
- C. Adjudication
- D. Corrections
- E. The Juvenile Justice System

### **VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes**

#### **A. General Education Learning Outcomes:**

**At the completion of the course, students will be able to:**

1. Communicate in writing and/or speech material that reflects an understanding of issues related to the administration of justice. (GE-NJ 1)
2. Identify how social and political factors affect the process and outcomes of the criminal justice system. (GE-NJ 5)

#### **B. Course Learning Outcomes:**

**At the completion of the course, students will be able to:**

1. Explain the basic components of the criminal justice system and the interrelationship among the police, courts, and corrections.
2. Explain the role of each component of the criminal justice system in the adjudication of justice.

3. Identify the historical origins of the American criminal justice system.

**C. Assessment Instruments**

- A. Examination/quizzes
- B. Research papers
- C. Class participation
- D. Written assignments

**VII. Grade Determinants**

- A. Examination/quizzes
- B. Research paper or writing assignment
- C. Class participation
- D. Written assignments

Modes of teaching and learning used in this course:

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small-group work
- C. guest speakers
- D. field trips
- E. role play/scenarios

**VIII. Texts and Materials**

**Required text:** Criminal Justice: A brief Introduction, by Frank J. Schmalleger, published by Pearson. Latest edition.

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

**IX. Resources**

N/A

**X. Honors Options [if relevant]**

N/A