



Governing Iowa's Public Universities

In accordance with [Board of Regents policy 3.20](#), the following required information is available below:

Fall 2026

I. Course title and number as designated in the institutional course catalog

CRIM 2022 Criminal Justice Systems, 01

II. A course description including learning objectives that students are expected to achieve by the end of the course

A. Course Description:

1. History, development, and day-to-day operation of the criminal justice system within our society. Emphasis is placed on interrelationships between specific stages in the crime-control process, the three major components of the criminal justice system (police, courts, and corrections), and current issues/problems that the criminal justice system faces.

B. Course Level Learning Objectives:

1. illustrate how social norms help us define crime.
2. define crime and explain how it is classified.
3. describe the consequences of crime for the offender and the victim.
4. outline the basic structure of the criminal justice system.
5. describe key models of the workings of the criminal justice system.
6. describe how criminal justice is influenced by public opinion, the media, politics, and policy.
7. review the challenges to the criminal justice system today.

III. A general outline of the topics to be covered throughout the course:

This course examines the history, evolution, and daily functions of the criminal justice system in American society. Special emphasis is placed on the relationships among the various stages of the crime-control process, specifically law enforcement, courts, and corrections, and the contemporary issues and challenges facing the system today.

IV. List of required textbooks, readings, and other materials necessary for the course

Required readings for this course consist of instructor-created presentations that correspond to weekly topics, along with current news articles related to issues and developments in criminal justice. These materials are designed to supplement class discussions and provide real-world context for the concepts being studied.

V. General description of the types of assessments used in the course (e.g., exams, papers, projects, experiential learning):

Discussions, journal entries, midterm exam, and final exam.