



## CRIJ 1301 | Introduction to Criminal Justice

**Course Syllabus:** Spring 2026 - 2<sup>nd</sup> 8 Weeks

*"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed."*

**Instructor: Elizabeth A. Bailey, M.S.**

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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Online
	8-11	8-11	8-12	By Appointment	By Appointment

*This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.*

**Course Description:** 3 credit hours.

Topics for this course shall include the history and philosophy of criminal justice and ethical considerations; crime defined: its nature and impact; overview of criminal justice system; law enforcement; court system; prosecution and defense; trial processes; corrections.

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Describe and explain the history, philosophy and ethical considerations of criminal justice; define the nature and impact of crime on society and how it is integrated in to the criminal justice system; distinguish between the civil and criminal courts; and interpret the relationship between the components of the criminal justice system.

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

Assignment	20%
Exam/Test	40%
Journal	15%
Quiz	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Required Instructional Materials:** You have already paid for eBook access embedded into Blackboard. If you prefer a paper copy, the bookstore can provide a textbook for an additional fee.

**Inclusive Access:** Criminal Justice: Brief Intro eBook

**Publisher:** Pearson

**ISBN Number:** 9780135186268

**Optional Instructional Materials:** None

**Minimum Technology Requirements:** Daily high-speed internet access, Internet Browser

**Required Computer Literacy Skills:** Basic computer usage skills, Email skills

**Course Structure and Overview:**

All quizzes/assignments/journals/exams/projects are completed individually and submitted electronically through Blackboard. Each assignment is worth a set number of points. Please pay careful attention to the due dates. Late work will NOT be accepted. ‘Forced Completion’ Blackboard modules may be utilized during this course; students must open the contents in order before the following content becomes available.

**Communications:**

Email: Please check your NTCC email every day. Email is the official form of communication used here at NTCC. All emailed questions to the instructor will be responded to within 24 hours (Monday-Friday), but usually within a few hours when possible.

Announcements: These can be found in Blackboard under the course link on your Blackboard homepage.

Blackboard Messages: These can be found in Blackboard under the Messages link in your Blackboard course.

**TEAMS: This is the quickest method of communication.**

**Institutional/Course Policy:**

All courses require timely completion of assignments. Many assignments are due weekly. Thus, keeping up with the schedule is essential to your success. Your personal schedule must allow you to keep up with the due dates for the readings and other assignments. Late work is not allowed in this course- plan your schedule carefully. Blackboard will be used for file submission.

**Late Work Policy:**

The word “assignments” refers to all work (assignments, quizzes, exams, journals, projects) that is submitted via Blackboard or presented in class. Students are to submit assignments on or before the stated due date/time. Late work is not accepted.

**Attendance Policy:**

Students are expected to participate regularly (daily/weekly) and complete all assigned work. **Excessive absences (two consecutive weeks of no participation or no show in class) may result in the student having their grade average reduced.**

**Important Spring 2026 Dates:**

The final day to withdraw with a grade of “W” (8 WK Course): 4/30

Last Class Day (8 WK Course): 5/7

Final Examinations: 5/8-14

Religious Holy Days: Refer to the Northeast Texas Community College Student Handbook.

**Withdrawal Policy/Date:**

It is your responsibility to drop a course or withdraw from the college. If you stop attending the course without withdrawing, you will still receive a grade, whether passing or failing.

**Alternate Operations During Campus Closure/Alternate Course Delivery Requirements:**

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information. Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

**NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:**

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects. Plagiarism technology will be utilized during this course and student work is subject to independent verification via Turn-It-In technology. The instructor reserves the right to award the grade of zero for any student work that shows plagiarism.

**Statement Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology:**

Absent a clear statement from a course instructor, use of or consultation with generative AI shall be treated analogously to assistance from another person (collusion). Generative AI is a subset of AI that utilizes machine learning models to create new, original content, such as images, text, or music, based on patterns and structures learned from existing data (Cornell, Center for Teaching Innovation). Unauthorized use of generative AI tools to complete an assignment or exam is not permitted. Students should acknowledge the use of generative AI and default to disclosing such assistance when in doubt. Individual course instructors may set their own policies regulating the use of generative AI tools in their courses, including allowing or disallowing some or all uses of such tools. Students who are unsure of policies regarding generative AI tools are encouraged to ask their instructors for clarification. (Adapted from the Stanford University Office of Community Standards-- accessed August 31, 2023)

**ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on

the NTCC website.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

**Tentative Course Timeline: The instructor reserves the right to adjust at any point in the term. All Blackboard modules will open on their respective Monday and close on the following Sunday at 11:59pm, with the exception of the final exam.**

<b>CRIJ 1301 – Introduction to Criminal Justice</b>		
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
<b>Start Course Here</b>	Syllabus Acknowledgement and Honor Statement	Monday, March 23 @ 11:59 PM
<b>Week 1</b> March 23	Chapter 1: What is Criminal Justice? Journal #1   Careers Chapter 1 Quiz	Sunday, March 29 @ 11:59p
	Chapter 2: The Crime Picture Journal #2   Dark Figure of Crime Chapter 2 Quiz	
<b>Week 2</b> March 30	Chapter 3: Criminal Law Journal #3   Crime Categorizing Chapter 3 Quiz	Sunday, April 5 @ 11:59p
	Chapter 4: Policing – Purpose and Organization Journal #4   Police Purpose and Mission Chapter 4 Quiz	
<b>Week 3</b> April 6	Chapter 5: Policing: Legal Aspects Journal #5   Which Branch? Due Process of Law (Assign) Chapter 5 Quiz	Sunday, April 12 @ 11:59p
	Chapter 6: Policing – Issues and Challenges Journal #6   Qualified Immunity	

	Chapter 6 Quiz	
<b>Week 4</b> <b>April 13</b>	Chapter 7: The Courts Journal # 7   Landmark Court Decisions Chapter 7 Quiz	<b>Sunday, April 19 @ 11:59p</b>
	<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>	
<b>Week 5</b> April 20	Chapter 8: The Courtroom Workgroup and the Criminal Trial Journal # 8   Attorney Chapter 8 Quiz	<b>Sunday, April 26 @ 11:59p</b>
	Chapter 9: Sentencing Journal #9   Death Penalty Chapter 9 Quiz	
<b>Week 6</b> <b>April 27</b>	Chapter 10: Probation, Parole, and Reentry Life on Parole (Assign) Journal # 10   Recidivism Rates Chapter 10 Quiz	<b>Sunday, May 3 @ 11:59p</b>
	Chapter 11: Prisons and Jails Billions Behind Bars (Assign) Journal # 11   Private Prisons Chapter 11 Quiz	
<b>Week 7</b> <b>May 4</b>	Chapter 12: Prison Life Journal # 12   Prisoner Rights Chapter 12 Quiz	<b>Sunday, May 10 @ 11:59p</b>
	Chapter 13: Juvenile Justice Preferential Treatment (Assign) Chapter 13 Quiz	
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	
	<b>Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59p</b>	