PROPOSAL TITLE: Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice

Sponsor(s): Dr. Joe Davey E-Mail: joedavey@aol.com Ext: 3662
Dr. Allan Oiao E-Mail: jiao@rowan.edu Ext: 3725
Dr. Cynthia Line E-Mail: line@rowan.edu Ext: 3722

DEPARTMENT: Law & Justice Studies

COLLEGE: Arts & Sciences

If Liberal Arts & Sciences CHECK: ___ History/Humanities ___ Math/Sciences ___ Social/Behavioral Sciences

___ UNDERGRADUATE ___ GRADUATE

THE ATTACHED NON-GEN-ED PROPOSAL IS BEST DESCRIBED BY THE ITEM(s) CHECKED.

___X___ New non-gen-ed course

___ Short-term non-gen-ed course

___ Minor curricular changes (fewer than three)

___ Existing non-gen-ed course

The following signatures REPRESENT APPROVAL.

Department Chair: __________________________ Date: 9/26/02

Department Curriculum Chair: __________________________ Date: 9/24/02

Academic Dean: __________________________ Date: 10/5/02

College Curriculum Chair: __________________________ Date: 12/9/02

College Curriculum Committee OPEN HEARING Date: 12/4/02

Approved ___ Not Approved ___

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Senate Curriculum Chair Signature: __________________________ Date: Senate Announcement/Vote: 6.26.03

Comments: __________________________

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/PROVOST Signature: __________________________ Date: 1/6/03

___ Approved – Not Approved due to the following: ___ Student Cr Hrs ___ Faculty Load Hrs ___ Equalized Cr Hrs

Date: 9/10/03 Course Description Received & Approved – Hegis Taxonomy & Course #: 2105510

Registrar: __________________________

NOTIFICATION FORWARD

___ SCC Chair ___ Academic Dean ___ Department Chair ___ Registrar ___ Sponsor(s)

CAP. O.R. 9/24/03
SCC#02-03-700

Course Proposal

1. Details
   a. Course Title: Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice
   b. Sponsors: Drs. Joe Davey, Allan Jiao, Cynthia Line
   c. Credit Hours: 3 s.h.
   d. Course Level: Graduate
   e. Curricular Effect: No effect on Undergraduate Curriculum. No effect on Graduate programs in other departments/colleges. Courses will be offered as required courses for graduate students in new Master’s Degrees Program in Criminal Justice.
   f. Prerequisites: Admission to the program.
   g. Suggested time and scale of implementation: Course would be initially offered the first semester the program starts (estimated to be Fall 2004) and would be offered once a year.
   h. Staffing and resources: Current faculty and new faculty positions for the new Master’s Degree Program in Criminal Justice.
   i. Library Impact: Current holdings will be sufficient.
   j. Short-term Evaluations: None

2. Rationale:
   a. It is imperative for students to understand the criminal justice system in its entirety. While most students entering the Master’s program will have degrees in criminal justice, many undergraduate programs allow for a disjointed study of the criminal justice system (e.g. students may focus mainly on policing versus corrections and courts). Many students may also come to the program from fields related to criminal justices, yet may not have had sufficient background preparation for a Master’s in criminal justice. Additionally, it is necessary that students both with degrees in criminal justice and degrees in other fields come to appreciate the interworking of the primary components of the criminal justice system and come to conceive of the criminal justice system as a whole instead of separate entities.
b. Many undergraduate programs focus on the development and current state of the criminal justice system, but graduate programs must allow for the students to develop in-depth understandings of current issues, problems, and so on. It is necessary that a person with a post-bachelor’s degree be able to discuss current issues based on solid understandings of contemporary research in the field, the ability to debate the research, to critically assess both the research and the applications of the research, and the ability to apply an advanced understanding of the research to issues, problems, and potential trends.

c. Criminal Justice is not a static field; new issues are continually emerging. In order to offer a quality graduate program, a course must be instituted to deal with emerging and changing issues in the field.

d. Many graduates of the Master’s program will work in the criminal justice field upon graduation (and we anticipate many students enrolled in the program will currently be working in the field). As such, it behooves us to offer the most up to date curriculum possible.

3. Essence of Course

a. Objectives

   1. To understand the criminal justice system both in terms of the uniqueness of each component (law enforcement, courts, and corrections) and in terms of the complementary nature of the whole.
   2. To understand advances and emerging issues in each component of the criminal justice system and in the system as a whole.
   3. To understand research related to contemporary issues and to be able to see the practical applications of said research.
   4. To be able to critically assess both the research in the field and the issues facing the criminal justice system.

b. Illustrative Topical Outline

   1. Overview of the criminal justice system

      a. What are the purposes of the criminal justice system? How are the purposes reflected in or not reflected in the current criminal justice system?
      b. What are the primary components of the criminal justice system and how do they impact one another and the system as a whole (what is the integrated nature of the system?)?
2. Contemporary issues in the criminal justice system as a whole. Topics may include:
   a. Treatment of minorities (racial, ethnic, religious, gender/sexual orientation)
   b. Philosophical debates regarding the appropriateness of political involvement in the criminal justice system
   c. Assessments as to what “progress” or “success” means in the criminal justice system
   d. Criminal Justice as a part of the global economy and/or as a part of global relations
   e. The criminal justice system and “new” crimes (e.g. hacking, domestic terrorism, stalking) – how the system should respond, how it does respond, how successful responses are, etc.
   f. Ethics in the criminal justice system.

3. Contemporary Issues in Law Enforcement (first component of the system). Topic may include:
   a. The role of law enforcement in a democratic society.
   b. How law enforcement fit into the criminal justice system as a whole.
   c. Contemporary Issues:
      1. Profiling by federal, state, and local law enforcement
      2. High Speed Pursuits
      3. Police and Lethal Force
      4. Recent Supreme Court rulings regarding law enforcement (e.g. traffic stops, probable cause)

4. Contemporary Issues in the Criminal Courts (second component of the system). Topics may include:
   a. The role of criminal courts in a democratic society.
   b. How criminal courts fit into the criminal justice system as a whole.
   c. Contemporary Issues:
      1. Influence of socio-economic indicators in the courtroom.
      2. Availability of “justice”.
      3. Role of politics in the achievement of “justice”.
      4. Role of special interests in the court system (e.g. victims, politicians, citizens).
      5. Role of the media in the criminal courts
      6. Recent Supreme Court rulings on the courts (e.g. admissibility of testimony, broadcast coverage of trials)
5. Contemporary Issues in Corrections (third component of the system). Topics may include:

   a. The role of punishment in a democratic society.
   b. How correctional and rehabilitation systems fit into the criminal justice system as a whole.
   c. Contemporary Issues:
      1. Influence of socio-economic factors in the correctional system.
      2. Role of politics in correctional debates.
      3. Dealing with offenders with special needs (children, mentally ill, drug addicted).
      4. The debate over the privatization of prisons.
      5. Truth in sentencing.
      6. Alternative sentencing options.

6. Possible Texts:


c. Course Processes and Pedagogy

   The course will be largely a seminar course, with some materials directly presented by the professor. Students will participate regularly in a seminar style and will take part in panel discussions.

d. Evaluation and Grading of Students:

   Students will be required to submit extensive critiques on current issues, demonstrating: the ability to find and review research articles, the ability to think critically about research, the ability to apply research to abstract and practical debates, and an ability to communicate research and critical analysis both in writing and orally. Other activities may also be included per each professor.
e. Course Evaluation:

The course will be evaluated using the Student Instructional Reports (SIRs) currently used by the department.
SUPPORT A NEW COURSE or NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL

The purpose of this form is to provide a channel of communication between the library and faculty designing new courses/programs. The information will be used to assess the resources available in the library, and to identify resources the library should acquire to support the course/program. The information will also provide rationale for institutional support for library acquisitions.

This form should be completed in a coordinated effort between the course sponsor(s) and the academic department liaison librarian.

- The sponsor(s) complete parts A & D
  If assistance is required to complete parts A & D, please notify the liaison librarian.

- Forward this form to the librarian who will complete parts B, C, & E

This form must be completed and attached to the original curriculum proposal before being approved by the Senate Curriculum Committee

A. College: LAS  Department: Law and Justice

   Proposed by:  Date: 4/1/2003

   Course Title: Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice

   Anticipated Date for Course/Program Offering: Fall 2003

B. Describe the resources available in the library to support this course/program, including reference, monographic, electronic databases, audio-visual materials, etc. A summary statement is sufficient.

C. List key periodicals available in the library to support this course/program.

D. List specific resources that should be acquired to support this course.

E. Librarian comments and recommendations:
Rowan University
LIBRARY RESOURCES
To
SUPPORT A NEW COURSE or NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL

College: LAS  Dept.: Law & Justice

Proposed by: Dr. Cynthia Line  Date: May 7, 2003

Course Titles: Research Methods I & II
Contemporary Developments in Theory
Law and Society
Criminal Justice Policy Analysis
Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice

Anticipated Date for Course/Program Offering: Fall 2004 (Master’s Program)

Part B: Resources available in Campbell Library

Campbell Library has a core collection of monographs in the following Library of Congress subject categories (number of titles held indicated in parentheses): Administration of Criminal Justice (91); Capital Punishment (29); Courts (5); Crime (32); Criminals (10); Criminology (71); Criminal Investigation (52); Criminal Justice (91); Criminal Law (25); Criminal Procedure (4); Corrections (41); Correctional Psychology; Forensic Sciences (10); Forensic Psychology (45); Imprisonment (8); Juvenile Delinquency (109); Justice (59); Law (25); Law Enforcement 24; Punishment (38); Prisons (34); Police (67).

The library subscribes to a university press approval plan and receives all new monographs in law and justice studies, crime, criminology, law (other than legal textbooks and practitioner’s tools), the social sciences, and psychology.

Part C: List key periodical resources

Campbell Library is fortunate to have extensive access to online serials databases in a large number of disciplines, including Academic Search Premier (Ebsco Publishing), Criminal Justice Abstracts, Lexis-Nexis, and Elsevier’s SciDirect database. Academic Search Premier provides almost 2,000 periodicals, many full-text, covering a broad spectrum of academic disciplines, including law and justice. Elsevier provides access to over 1,300 full-text journals, including several that cover forensic sciences, pathology, medicine, criminology, psychology, and the social sciences.
In addition, the library also subscribes to ABI-Inform, a major business database, the Applied Science and Technology database and the General Science Full-Text database.

The Library subscribes to 37 print journals under the HEGIS area “Law and Justice.” For periodicals not available in the library or through our online database services, an interlibrary loan and document service is available for faculty and students.

Part D: List resources that should be acquire

The Law and Justice Department is recommending one additional print title: “Police Practice and Research.” The library will acquire this periodical.

Proquest - UMI provides a specialized database of approximately 150 journals in criminal studies, to which we do not currently subscribe. Comparing the coverage of this database with Academic Search Premier, to which we do subscribe, reveals that Premier provides an overlap of approximately 35 percent. Proquest – UMI does provide a number of important periodicals, however, that are not covered in Premier. We therefore would recommend either purchase of the Proquest database or subscribing to the individual titles in paper.

Part E: Librarian remarks

Based on the strength of our online database services and the adequacy of our print holdings, the library supports this proposal. It should be noted, however, that additional resources will be needed to strengthen monographic holdings and for the possible purchase of the Proquest – UMI database.

(Remarks prepared by Gregory Potter, Associate Dean of the Library.)
Course Title: Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice

Course Description: This is a graduate level course focusing on understanding the criminal justice system both in terms of the uniqueness of each component (law enforcement, courts, and corrections) and in terms of the complementary nature of the whole, advances and emerging issues in each component of the criminal justice system and in the system as a whole, research related to contemporary issues and to be able to see the practical applications of said research, and a critical assessment of both the research in the field and the issues facing the criminal justice system.

Course Pre Requisites: Admission to the program.

HEGIS #: To be assigned.
Course Proposal

1. Details
   a. Course Title: Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice
   b. Sponsors: Drs. Joe Davey, Allan Jiao, Cynthia Line
   c. Credit Hours: 3 s.h.
   d. Course Level: Graduate
   e. Curricular Effect: No effect on Undergraduate Curriculum. No effect on Graduate programs in other departments/colleges. Courses will be offered as required courses for graduate students in new Master’s Degrees Program in Criminal Justice.
   f. Prerequisites: Admission to the program.
   g. Suggested time and scale of implementation: Course would be initially offered in Spring 2001 and would be offered once a year.
   h. Staffing and resources: Current faculty and new faculty positions for the new Master’s Degree Program in Criminal Justice.
   i. Library Impact: Current holdings will be sufficient.
   j. Short-term Evaluations: None

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e. Course Evaluation:

The course will be evaluated using evaluation methods currently in place in the undergraduate curriculum.
College: LAS

Dept.: Law & Justice

Proposed by: Dr. Cynthia Line

Date: May 7, 2003

Course Titles: Research Methods I & II
Contemporary Developments in Theory
Law and Society
Criminal Justice Policy Analysis
Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice

Anticipated Date for Course/Program Offering: Fall 2004 (Master’s Program)

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