New Course Request

Indiana University

IUSB Campus

Check Appropriate Boxes:

- Undergraduate credit [x]
- Graduate credit [ ]
- Professional credit [ ]

1. School/Division: CLAS / CRIMINAL JUSTICE
2. Academic Subject Code: CJUS

3. Course Number: P290 (must be cleared with University Enrollment Services)
4. Instructor: Xu

5. Course Title: The Nature of Inquiry
   Recommended Abbreviation (Optional): (Limited to 32 Characters including spaces)

6. First time this course is to be offered (Semester/Year): F 08

7. Credit Hours: Fixed at 3 or Variable from _______ to _______

8. Is this course to be graded S-F (only)? Yes [x] No [ ]

9. Is variable title approval being requested? Yes [ ] No [x]

10. Course description (not to exceed 50 words) for Bulletin publication:

    Introduction to research methodology, nature of scientific inquiry, research design, basic research methods, and presentation of research findings.

11. Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at 3 or Variable from _______ to _______

12. Non-Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at _______ or Variable from _______ to _______

13. Estimated enrollment: 40 of which 0 percent are expected to be graduate students.

14. Frequency of scheduling: F, SP Will this course be required for majors? Yes

15. Justification for new course: Elimination of SPEA

16. Are the necessary reading materials currently available in the appropriate library?

17. Please append a complete outline of the proposed course, and indicate instructor (if known), textbooks, and other materials.

18. If this course overlaps with existing courses, please explain with which courses it overlaps and whether this overlap is necessary, desirable, or unimportant.

19. A copy of every new course proposal must be submitted to departments, schools, or divisions in which there may be overlap of the new course with existing courses or areas of strong concern, with instructions that they send comments directly to the originating Curriculum Committee. Please append a list of departments, schools, or divisions thus consulted.

Submitted by:

Barbara Poct Date 12-17-07
Department Chairman/Division Director

Approved by:

Dean Date 11-8-08
Associate Chairman

Dean of Graduate School (when required) Date
Chancellor/Vice-President Date

University Enrollment Services Date

After School/Division approval, forward the last copy (without attachments) to University Enrollment Services for initial processing, and the remaining four copies and attachments to the Campus Chancellor or Vice-President.

UPS 724
University Enrollment Services Final—White; Chancellor/Vice-President—Blue; School/Division—Yellow; Department/Division—Pink; University Enrollment Services Advance—White
P290: The Nature of Inquiry
Fall 2008

Instructor: Dr. Qiang Xu
Office: Welkamp 2221
Office Phone: 574-520-4592
Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday 9:00-11:00am
or by appointment
E-mail: qiaxu@iusb.edu

Course Description
This course examines basic concepts of research in criminal justice. It introduces research techniques necessary for systematic analysis of the criminal justice system, offender behavior, crime trends and program effectiveness.

Course Objectives
1. Develop an understanding of the meaning of research terminology commonly used in reports and professional articles
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the scientific method of both qualitative and quantitative research as well as specific research designs
3. Gain awareness of the ethical issues in criminal justice research.
4. Be familiar with existing sources of criminal justice data and how to evaluate and use the data in research.
5. Be familiar with the process of empirical research and develop the ability to critically evaluate the existing research.

Required Textbooks:

IUSB Email Account Requirements: IUSB issued email address is an official means of communication between students and faculty. You will also need this email account to access the Oncourse website where you can access the course learning material and your grade progress.

Grading:
Your course grade will be determined by performance on two exams (60%), class involvement (10%), including participation in class discussions and practices, and three research projects (30%). Exams will include multiple choice or essay questions. The content will be based on lecture materials, reading assignments, and class discussions.

Research Project:
The research project will be submitted in the form of three small papers (10% each). The due dates of the small papers are outlined in the following course calendar.

1. Introduction of your research topic and review of literature.

In this part, you will select a research area in criminal justice, such as juvenile delinquency, court, policing, victimization, violence, etc. Within that area, you are going to narrow your focus and select a specific research question such as teenager drug use, mandatory sentencing and its effects, racial profiling, sexual victimization, domestic violence, etc. Once you have decided your research question, you will start a library research to find out what have been done in the topic of your interest.

2. Describe your methodology.

As the lecture moves on, you will get to know how to describe the methodology of your research. This paper will include descriptions of the data collection procedure, key variables and basic descriptive statistics of your variables. You may also describe what kind of analytic techniques you are going to use to answer your research question.

3. Critical evaluation of your research design.

In this paper you will provide a critical evaluation of your project, including but not limited to ethnic issues involved in the research, limitations of data and research techniques, recommendations for future research or a better research design.

Each paper is about 3-5 pages and should include all necessary components outlined above. The paper should be typed, double-spaced using appropriate grammar, one inch margins on all sides, and 12 point font. References and citations should follow the APA style. Late submission will result in a lower grade.

Final course grades are assigned as follows: below 60% = F, 60-62 = D-, 63-66 = D, 67-69 = D+, 70-72 = C-, 73-76 = C, 77-79 = C+, 80-82 = B-, 83-86 = B, 87-89 = B+, 90-92 = A-, 93-96 = A, 97-100 = A+

Academic Honesty:

Students are expected to maintain the highest level of integrity in their academic work. IU South Bend has specific requirements for record-keeping and for notification of the student and academic dean. It is the responsibility of the student to know of the prohibited actions such as cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, academic, and personal misconduct, and thus, to avoid them. All students are held to the standards outlined in the code. Please reference the entire code for a complete listing (Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct). Any violation may result in serious academic penalty, ranging from receiving a warning, to failing the assignment, to failing the course, to expulsion from the University.

Disability Statement: If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. Contact the Director of Disabled Student Services (Administration Building, room 149, telephone number 520-4832), as soon as possible to work out the details. Once the Director has provided you with a letter attesting to your needs for modification, bring the letter to me. For more information,
please visit the web site for Office of Disabled Student Services
www.iusb.edu/~sbdss/services.shtml

Accommodations For Religious Observances Statement: If any student will require academic accommodations for a religious observance, please provide me with a written request to consider a reasonable modification for that observance by the end of the second week of the course. Contact me after class, during my office hours, or by individual appointment to discuss the issue. If after discussion we reach no consensus, either party or both should seek the advice of the Department Chair or the Dean, and if no consensus is reached, then the advice of the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs ("VCAA"). Either the instructor or the student may appeal the VCAA’s decision to the Office of Affirmative Action within ten business days of the determination.

Make-up Exam Policy:
Exams may be “made-up” with a written explanation. You need to have extraordinary handicap and provide necessary documentations to justify your absence from the exam.

Attendance and Participation
Please make efforts to attend each lecture and class practice. Previous statistics suggest that participation is positively related to final course grade. Missing class more than 3 times (excused plus non-excused) will receive no credit for class involvement.
When voicing your opinions on relevant topics please keep an open mind and be respectful to other class participants.

Cell phones and pagers should be turned off before entering the classroom.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Week 1. Jan. 9, 11. Introduction
Required Readings: Ch. 1.

Required Readings: Ch. 4.

Required Readings: Ch. 8.

Required Readings: Ch. 5.

Week 5. Feb 6, 8. Survey Research and Other Ways of Asking Questions
Required Readings: Ch. 9.
1st paper due on Feb. 8.

Week 6. Feb 13, 15. Measuring Crime
Required Reading: Ch. 6.

Week 7. Feb 20, 22. Experimental and Quasi-experimental Designs
Required Reading: Ch. 7.
Week 8 Feb 27. Review and Practices.
Mar. 1. 1st Exam

Week 9. Mar. 6, 8. Field Research
Required Reading: Ch. 10.

Week 10. Mar. 13, 15. Spring Break

Week 11. Mar. 20, 22. Agency Records, Content Analysis, & Secondary Data
Required Reading: Ch. 11.

Week 12. Mar. 27, 29. Ethics and Criminal Justice Research
Required Reading: Ch. 3.
2nd Paper Due: Mar 29.

Required Reading: Ch. 12.

Week 14. April 10, 12. Interpreting Data
Required Reading: Ch. 13.

Week 15. April 17, 19. Introduction to Statistical Techniques

3rd Paper Due: Apr. 24

Final Exam: May 1st
Undergraduate Program

Courses

Criminal Justice Course Descriptions
Approved Optional Courses for Majors

Criminal Justice Course Descriptions

Please note: these may vary as courses may be added and courses may no longer be offered

P100 Introduction to Criminal Justice (3 cr.) S&H Historical and philosophical background, structure, functions, and operation of the criminal justice system in the United States. Introduction to and principles of formal behavior control. I Sem., II Sem., SS.

P150 Introductory Topics in Criminal Justice (3 cr.) S&H Introduction to a specific topic related to crime and justice. Topics vary each semester: see listing in the online Schedule of Classes. May be repeated with different topics for a maximum of 6 credit hours. Credit will not count toward requirements of the major or minor.

P200 Theories of Crime and Deviance (3 cr.) S&H Critical examination of biological, psychological, and sociological theories of crime and deviance. Examination of individual, group, and societal reactions to norm-violating behaviors. I Sem., II Sem., SS.

P202 Alternative Social Control Systems (3 cr.) S&H Structure and operation of institutions, such as family, religion, education, and mass media, that create norms and socialize individuals. Interaction of these with one another and with the criminal justice system. I Sem., II Sem.

P210 Service Learning Experience in Criminal Justice (1 cr.) C: Enrollment in an approved criminal justice course and approval of instructor. Students work with community groups related to criminal justice issues. Requirements typically include training, weekly meetings with a community group, related readings, and written reflective statements. Credit will not count towards requirement of major or minor. Students may complete no more than a maximum of 6 credit hours for any combination of P210, P281, and P481.

P250 Issues in Criminal Justice (3 cr.) S&H Thorough review and analysis of issues currently facing the criminal justice system. Topics vary each semester: see listing in the online Schedule of Classes. May be repeated with different topics for a maximum of 6 credits.

P281 Internship Transfer Hours in Criminal Justice (1-3 cr.) This course is designed for students who want to transfer internship credit hours completed at another institution. Students currently enrolled at IU Bloomington cannot register for this class. Credit will not count toward requirements of the major, certificate, or minor. Students may complete no more than a maximum of 6 credit hours for any combination of P210, P281, and P481.

P290 The Nature of Inquiry (3 cr.) Introduction to research methodology, nature of scientific inquiry, research design, basic research methods, and presentation of research findings. I Sem., II Sem.

K300 Techniques of Data Analysis (3 cr.) N&M CJUS K300 is the second half of a research methods-data analysis sequence. It covers the properties of single variables, the measurement of association between pairs of variables, and statistical inference. Additional topics, such as the analyses of qualitative and aggregated data, address specific criminal justice concerns. Credit given for only one of the following: CJUS K300, Sociology S371,