GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DIVISION OF LIBERAL ARTS

COURSE SYLLABUS

Index Number: CJUS 490
Course Title: Senior Seminar in Criminal Justice
Professor: Jagan Lingamneni
e-mail: j-lingamneni@govst.edu
Credit Hours: 2.0
Trimester: Spring/Summer 2006 - Block 3
Day/Time: Friday, 9:30am-5:00pm
(June 2 thru June 23, 2006 – 4 WEEKS ONLY)
Office: E-2550 – Phone: (708) 534-4585

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

A writing intensive outcomes-assessment of the concepts, issues, methodologies, policies and practices learned about the criminal justice system/subsystems and processes. Also provides an opportunity to explore the career alternatives and readiness skills. Students will complete an independent research project on a selected topic in the CJ field of study.

PREREQUISITES:


RESTRICTIONS:

Open only to students with 24 hours of upper division credit in criminal justice or final trimester of enrollment prior to graduation.

RATIONALE:

This course shall serve as an integrating academic experience for graduating seniors. As the capstone course in the curricular sequence it is designed to serve as an in-depth exploration of the concepts, critical issues and policies of criminal justice in contemporary society. It will focus on an assessment of the past and present state-of-the-field. It will also provide a future outlook...
about the definitions; nature and extent of traditional and nontraditional crimes. Law making; law enforcement; prosecution, courts and the judiciary; corrections; and juvenile justice are also examined. Special attention will be given to the interdependence of each of the component subsystems in the functioning of the system and processes of criminal justice.

**INTENDED AUDIENCE:** Graduating Criminal Justice Seniors.

**EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES:**

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Illustrate the ability to conduct job-specific Web Searches and research related to three alternate career choices.
2. Distinguish between "good" and "bad" letters of introduction, cover letters, applications, resumes.
3. Articulate the steps necessary to prepare for a Personnel Officer Interview.
4. Evidence an understanding of the critique process following a Personnel Officer Interview.
5. Conduct independent research with 10 personal interviews on the selected topic/career choice topic in the CJ field to demonstrate their analytical skills.
6. Prepare the senior project and future career research paper to do a synthesis and integration of relevant literature and present their findings.

**INSTRUCTIONAL MODALITIES/ACTIVITIES:**

The course will consist of lecture, discussion, analysis of Internet search findings, and a series of writing assignments (letters of introduction, cover letters, applications, resume). An independent research project to be completed and a final project paper will be required.

**TEXT REQUIRED:**


**TOPICAL OUTLINE/COURSE CONTENT:**

- How do I find the position in Criminal Justice that I want?
- If I withhold information, that's not the same as lying, is it?
- Tricks of the Trade: Use of the Internet
- Letter of Introduction, Application Process, & Resume
- The Interview Process
- Putting Your Best Foot Forward: Dress for Success
- Personnel Officer Interview
- Municipal & County Criminal Justice
CJUS 490

- State Criminal Justice
- Security Policing, Counter-terrorism and CJ Technology
- The Feds
- The Oral Interview
- Career Paths & Prospects in Criminal Justice
- The Future of Criminal Justice

EVALUATION:

Assessment of the student's comprehension will be based on:

- Web Searches (10 points)
- Draft cover letters, applications, resume (20 points)
- Evidence of preparation leading to the Mock Personnel Officer Interview (10 points)
- Mock Personnel Officer Interview and critique from the Personnel Officer (20 points)
- Research Project and Paper (30 points)
- Class Participation (10 points)

GRADING is based on the following point spread:

   A = 90-100 points
   B = 80-89 points
   C = 70-79 points
   D = 60-69 points
   F = 60 points

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students who have a disability or special needs and require accommodation in order to have equal access to the classroom, must register with the designated staff member in the Division of Student Development. Please go to Room B1201 or call (708) 534-4090 and ask for the Coordinator of Disability Services. Students will be required to provide documentation of any disability when an accommodation is requested.

ACADEMIC HONESTY/NO PLAGIRISM:

Students are expected to fulfill academic requirements in an ethical and honest manner. This expectation pertains to the following: use and acknowledgement of the ideas and work of others, submission of work to fulfill course requirements, sharing of work with other students, and appropriate behavior during examinations. These ethical considerations are not intended to discourage people from studying together or from engaging in group projects. The university policy on academic honesty appears in the appendix of the Governors State University Catalog.
GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
"Senior Seminar in Criminal Justice"

CJUS 490
Friday, 9:30am-5:00pm

Dr. Jagan Lingamneni

Spring/Summer 2006

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Meeting Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>M&amp;R (2005)</th>
<th>News Articles, Writing &amp; Internet Search Assignments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 6/2</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Course Objectives</td>
<td>Foreword, Preface and Chs. 1-4</td>
<td>Secure e-mail account Personal Essay (3-5 pages) Send e-mail to Instructor <a href="http://www.1-2">www.1-2</a></td>
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<td>Finding Info About CJ Jobs &amp; Integrity Issues</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Careers in the Law</td>
<td>Chs. 5-9</td>
<td><a href="http://www.3-5">www.3-5</a> Job searches on 3 Career Alternatives on 3 Career Choices</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Job Application &amp; Resume</td>
<td>and Chs. 15-26</td>
<td>Mini Essays 1, 2, 3 Proposal &amp; Draft Questionnaire for the Senior Project</td>
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<td>&amp; Careers in Local Law Enforcement</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cover Letter &amp; Letter Introduction</td>
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<td>&amp; Careers in Corrections &amp; Probation</td>
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<td>Careers in Juvenile Justice</td>
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<td>Friday 6/9</td>
<td>Plan A - Careers in Federal Services</td>
<td>Chs. 10-14</td>
<td><a href="http://www.6-9">www.6-9</a> Cover Letter, Resume, Completed Job Application for the first Career Choice</td>
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<td>Putting Your Best Foot Forward</td>
<td>Chs. 27-30</td>
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<td>Careers in Security Policing, Counter Terrorism, CJ Technology, &amp; Careers in CJ Research</td>
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<td>Shifting to Plan B &amp; Careers in Local Service</td>
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<td>Friday 6/16</td>
<td>Mock Personnel Officer Interview I*</td>
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<td>Personnel Folder</td>
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<td>Friday 6/23</td>
<td>Post-Personnel Officer Interview Critique</td>
<td>HANDOUTS</td>
<td>Completion of Senior Project Research</td>
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<td>The Future of Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Chs. 31-33</td>
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<td>Ch. 35</td>
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<td>Tuesday 6/27</td>
<td>4pm Deadline</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Senior Seminar Portfolio/ Research Project Paper Due</td>
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*Scheduling change may be necessary contingent on availability of Interviewers*