

# CCJ-2910 DIRECTED RESEARCH SYLLABUS

{3 Credits}

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

An individualized study project which applies the objective approach in the observation and reporting of information relating to relevant criminal justice issues with a focus on understanding and interpreting data, as well as basic statistics. Documented research paper required, and must relate to criminal justice subject area in which internship is being done.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The student will be able to

1. Understand the basic elements of criminological and criminal justice literature search
2. Identify relevant sociological problems related to criminology and criminal justice
3. Conduct a basic review of the literature in the field
4. Produce a simple research proposal
5. Review and interpret relevant data
6. Produce a comprehensive report of a criminological phenomena or criminal justice practice
7. Explain in-depth the purpose, function(s), procedures, practices and/or programs of the criminal Justice subject area in which the student is performing an internship

## **TEXT:**

No text is required. Material will be derived from the student's individual library research of books, periodicals and professional journals, interviews and/or other relevant sources as they pertain to the internship agency

## **METHOD OF EVALUATION:**

Final Report = 100%

## **FINAL REPORT:**

The final product of this course will be the research paper. This report is to be typewritten and at least 20 pages in length, not including the title page nor the reference page. This report is to be on standard 8.5" by 11" paper and must be printed in standard size type (oversized print will not be acceptable). You must follow the prescribed format which is APA Style (American Psychological Association). Further, it must contain a minimum of 8 references which must include at least one (1) book other than a textbook, one (1) professional journal article, one (1) trade journal article, and one (1) web site.

This paper will be graded on spelling, grammar, and format, as well as on content.

The topic of your paper should pertain to a criminal justice subject area of interest to you. It might focus on a criminological theory relevant to the a criminal justice agency's function, the operations of the agency or of a program within the agency. It may focus on a current issue, such as habitual offender laws, that is of particular interest at this time. It may focus on a particular occupation within the criminal justice field, such as a crime scene technician or K-9 officer, or it might involve the in-depth study of a particular offender group, such as serial killers. In selecting your topic, keep your focus narrowed to a particular aspect or area that lends itself to formal research. Trying to cover too much or too many areas is frustrating and counter-productive. Your job is to select a topic, research that topic, and produce a comprehensive report on that topic.