

105sy02a-eve.doc
Spring, 2002
MW 5:30-8:15pm
MacQuarrie Hall 523
Adm. of Justice Dept.

Dr. C. Wong
Office: MH529, 924-2950
Office Hours: **M:** 11:45-12:30
W: 11:45-4:00pm

SYLLABUS

AJ 105 JUSTICE SYSTEMS RESEARCH

COURSES DESCRIPTION:

This course provides students with the major principles of research methods applied to the field of administration of justice. It discusses the relationships among theory, research and practice in the justice process. The course will introduce students to basic research designs, methods of inquiry, sampling, statistics, and ethical issues in research.

The course is divided into three major parts:

1. The first part covers: the beginning, stages of the research process: logic of research, choosing a research topic, developing hypotheses, defining variables, and choosing a research design.
2. The second part introduces students to the basic processes of scientific research: measuring variables and sampling techniques.
3. The third part discusses the various data collection methods, such as survey research, observations, experiments and document research.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To appreciate the need for knowledge based on scientific research data in the field of criminal justice.
2. To understand the logic and principles of research methods.
3. To understand advantages and limitations of various research methods in order to become an intelligent and critical reader of research reports.
4. To be able to evaluate and use research findings appropriately for improvements of justice systems and programs.
5. To develop a basic competency in research design, sampling, data collection and data analysis in order to provide empirical data for reports, planning, interventions and innovations in the field of administration of justice.

COURSE TEXTS:

REQUIRED: Fitzgerald, Jack and Steven M. Cox. **RESEARCH METHODS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE**.

RECOMMENDED: Maxfield and Babbie, **RESEARCH METHODS FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINOLOGY**.

GRADING SYSTEM:

1. **THREE EXAMINATION:**

There will be three required exams in this class. The exams will consist of true-false and multiple choice. All three exams must be taken in order to pass the course. The three examinations are weighted equally.

First Examination	1/3
Second Examination	1/3
Third Examination	1/3

