CRJU 117
Criminal Justice and Technology
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County
Common Course Outline

CRJU 117 – Criminal Justice and Technology: is a course in which students examine the various types of technology used in the criminal justice system, specifically within the law enforcement community. The course further examines how technology is affecting the discretion and decision-making process, on both the micro and macro levels, through each juncture within the system. Students explore the types and extent of computer crimes and how technology is applied to detection and prosecution.

Pre-requisites: ACLT 053 or (ESOL 052 and ESOL 054)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. distinguish the strengths and limitations related to the available databases;
2. identify the various systems used for identification;
3. describe the legalities related to the use of various identification systems;
4. analyze how the use of various monitoring systems has improved law enforcement's ability to effectively allocate resources and improve public safety;
5. summarize the current equipment used by law enforcement in vehicles, on person, at crime scenes, and in the crime laboratory;
6. hypothesize the impact of present technology trends on future practices;
7. describe how technology influences police practices and strategies;
8. examine the interplay between the use of technology and law enforcements' exercise of discretion;
9. explain how technology has improved law enforcement's dynamic understanding of crime incidents;
10. identify the current extent and trends of computer crime activity; and
11. present an overview of an emerging technology utilized by the Criminal Justice System.

Major Topics

I. Data
   a. National Crime Information Center (NCIC)
   b. Law Enforcement Portal (LEEP)
   c. National Data Exchange Portal (N-DEx)
   d. National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS)
   e. International Justice and Public Safety Networks (Nlets)
   f. Sex offender databases
II. Identification systems
   a. DNA (CODIS)

      b. FBI Next Generation Identification (NGI) System
      c. Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS)
      d. National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NABIN)
      e. Iris Detection
      f. Facial recognition – social media

III. Monitoring systems
      a. Drones
      b. Global Positioning Systems (GPS)
      c. Gunshot technology
      d. Surveillance cameras

IV. Police vehicle equipment
      a. Phones and Apps
      b. Report writing
      c. Ticket issue
      d. License plate scanning technology
      e. Radio – 911
      f. Dashboard cameras
      g. Speed guns

V. Robots
      a. Bomb squad
      b. Future – security, patrol, tickets

VI. Police equipment – carry
      a. Tasers
      b. Body cameras

VII. Technology – policing/planning
      a. Intelligence led policing – predicative software
      b. Crime mapping
      c. Analytic usage

VIII. Crime scene technology
      a. 3D scan imagery
      b. Alternate light source
      c. Collection techniques

IX. Crime Lab
      a. Tools/Computers
      b. Types of analysis
      c. Future training

X. Computer aided dispatch
      a. 911 dispatch center
      b. Communications
      c. Other technology

XI. Mobile command centers
      a. Set-ups
      b. Technology built-in and usage
      c. SWAT
      d. Future developments

XII. Computer Crimes and their Detection
      a. Theft of information and business fraud
      b. Employee access to classified and controlled information

     c. Child molestation and other sexual offenses
     d. Obscenity, defamation, and "hate" Crimes
     e. Cyber-terrorism
     f. Other computer-related crimes

Course Requirements

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- two testing instruments to include examinations and/or tests
- one research presentation (topics may include any subject related to the course)

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor.

Date Revised: 2/21/2023