

## **DCJ 710 Leading Criminal Justice Organizations**

### **(3 credit hours)**

### **Course Syllabus**

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### **Course Description**

Professionals leading various criminal justice organizations are tasked with unprecedented challenges in leadership. Skills such as critical thinking, situational awareness, team management, conflict resolution, and relationship building are essential for success. Modern criminal justice leaders must be more accountable, open, and adaptable to workforce and societal changes. This course prepares current and future criminal justice leaders to understand the evolving needs, demands, and complexities of leading criminal justice organizations in today's diverse and dynamic environment.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Evaluate and apply contemporary leadership theories and models to effectively lead and manage criminal justice organizations, taking into account the evolving nature of the field.
2. Develop the ability to lead in a diverse and inclusive manner, addressing the challenges and opportunities of a changing workforce within the criminal justice sector.
3. Acquire skills in conflict resolution, team management, and effective communication to promote a harmonious work environment and enhance organizational performance in the criminal justice sector.
4. Build and maintain positive relationships with internal and external stakeholders, including employees, community members, and partner organizations, to enhance the responsiveness and effectiveness of criminal justice organizations.

## Required Textbook(s) and Resources

### Included Resources:

All required resources are included as links within the course.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the [Tiffin University Library](#).

## Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).
2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays**.
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays**.

## Learning Activities

For most weeks, you will participate in a forum in response to a given prompt. You must also reply to your peers. Your posts and responses should follow the submission requirements provided per forum. Your posts should be:

- Be substantive enough to fully explore the question posed, while being well constructed and free of “filler” language and wordiness,
- Use, and properly cite, outside sources that support your position. Your initial forum post must be written in APA 7 style, including appropriate in-text citations and a reference list. However, due to platform formatting constraints, the following modifications are acceptable:

- **Indentation and double spacing** are not required.
- **Font, margins, and hanging indents** will not be evaluated.

Your **initial post** should reflect the tone and structure of scholarly writing, including:

- Clear argumentation and evidence-based support
- Proper in-text citations in APA 7 format
- A reference list at the end, also in APA 7 format (without indentation or spacing requirements)

Your **responses to peers** should maintain a **professional and respectful tone**, but APA style is **not required** for replies, other than in-text citations and reference list.

You must also include your “Design Statement” that outlines your process for researching and constructing your posts.

While **Saturday** assignments may vary, they will generally serve to deepen your understanding and build **connections** with the week’s learning topics. Examples of possible Saturday activities include:

- Summarizing themes in your peers’ Wednesday Position Posts
- Explaining how peers’ Wednesday Position Posts affect your own thinking about the topic.
- Critiquing and refining your original Post in response to new information (additional readings, etc.).
- *Note: since Saturday activities will vary, be sure to read directions carefully.*

By **Sunday** of each week, you will have a “summative” assignment due where you will **apply** what you learned. This could be an exam, a paper, a presentation, an infographic, etc. Be sure to read directions carefully for the assignment.

Finally, you will be writing a **reflection**, due each **Sunday**, that reflects on your learning. This kind of writing often asks you to think about your own thinking (metacognition) and will include a prompt to which you must respond. It is **not** writing about your feelings. Reflection is often the best way we learn something, so do your best to analyze your own thought processes.

## **Key Assessment (Taskstream Submission)**

This TU course features a “Key Assessment” that provides you the opportunity to demonstrate your program’s core competencies. It also shows how the course fits within the broader curriculum. For this course, the Key Assessment is Activity 7.2: Final Research Paper.

## Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
<b>Forums</b> Activity 1.1 (n/a) Activity 1.2 (40)	<b>Forums</b> Activity 2.1 (50)	<b>Forums</b> Activity 3.1 (50)	<b>Forums</b> Activity 4.1 (50)	<b>Forums</b> Activity 5.1 (50)	<b>Forums</b> Activity 6.1 (50)	<b>Forums</b> Activity 7.1 (50)	<b>340</b>
<b>Assignments</b> Activity 1.3 (40) Activity 1.4 (50)	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 2.2 (50) Activity 2.3 (50)	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 3.2 (100)	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 4.2 (80)	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 5.2 (80)	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 6.2 (100)	<b>Assignments</b> Activity 7.2 (110)	<b>660</b>
<b>130</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>1000</b>

## Doctoral Grading Scale

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89%

C: 70-79%

F: <69%

## Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

### Start Here

- ☐ MON: Activity 1.1: Course Anticipation - Introductory Post

### Week 1 – Principle-Centered Leadership in Criminal Justice

- ☐ WED: Activity 1.1: Course Anticipation – Follow-Up Post
- ☐ WED: Activity 1.2: About Your Final Paper – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 1.2: About Your Final Paper – Follow-Up Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 1.3: Principle-Centered Leadership
- ☐ SUN: Activity 1.4: Final Paper Proposal

### Week 2 – Generational Attributes and Values in Leadership

- ☐ WED: Activity 2.1: Generational Cohorts – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 2.2: Annotated Bibliography (Final Paper)
- ☐ SUN: Activity 2.3: Generational Differences Observation

Need Help? Get Help!

See [Where and How to Get Technical Support at Tiffin University](#).

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General Questions/Comments/Feedback:

<mailto:online@tiffin.edu>

## **Week 3 – Transformational Leadership in Criminal Justice**

- ☐ WED: Activity 3.1: Transformational Leadership – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 3.1: Transformational Leadership – Follow-Up Post
- ☐ SUN: Activity 3.2: Smithville Continuity Planning

## **Week 4 – Communication Styles and Conflict Resolution**

- ☐ WED: Activity 4.1: Chain of Command Analysis – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 4.1: Chain of Command Analysis – Follow-Up Post
- ☐ SUN: Activity 4.2: Chain of Command Communication

## **Week 5 – Leadership Theories – Trait, Behavioral, and Contingency**

- ☐ WED: Activity 5.1: Integrative Leadership Theories – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 5.1: Integrative Leadership Theories – Follow-Up Post
- ☐ SUN: Activity 5.2: Leadership Practices Today

## **Week 6 – Leadership, Chain of Command, and Empowerment**

- ☐ WED: Activity 6.1: Empowerment – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 6.1: Empowerment – Follow-Up Post
- ☐ SUN: Activity 6.2: ARP Literature Review Portion

## **Week 7 – Facilitating Change and Course Wrap-Up**

- ☐ SUN: Activity 7.1: Course Reflection – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 7.1: Course Reflection – Follow-Up Post
- ☐ SUN: Activity 7.2: Final Research Paper

## **Tips for Success**

Online learning requires self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery. Your course is a place for you to grow as you benefit from the expertise, experience, and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge and understanding.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

## **For More Information:**

Be sure to review the [Support, Policies, and Procedures](#) addendum.