COURSE TITLE: Law and Social Control

COURSE NUMBER: MAJ 6621

I. RATIONALE:

Criminal justice students should be aware of how criminal laws have been and will be affected by social policies.

II. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:
Students will develop an understanding of the interdependence of criminal law and social policy.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Examine how legislative bodies make law; how administrative agencies make law; the process of judicial lawmaking; and the social influences on the law making process.
A-2 Define the relationship between law and social change and explain how social policy become law.
A-3 Review how laws affect gender, race and social class.
A-4 Challenge the student to consider the legitimacy of the law as an instrument of social change.

GOAL B:
Students will develop an understanding of the underlying theories and the variety of approaches to the study of law and social policy.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Compare the contrast the consensus perspective and the conflict perspective.
B-2 Identify what sociological factors contribute to legal developments.
B-3 Compare and contrast the functionalist and conflict approach to law and social policy.

GOAL C:
Students will develop an understanding of how criminal events and issues are given social consideration.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

C-1 Define myths in law and social policy.
C-2 Explain what social factors and conditions may have led to the creation of the
myth.
C-3 Identify and explain the technique of myth characterization.
C-4 List solutions and/or consequences that will effectively address the myth.
C-5 Develop an understanding of political and societal issues within a legal framework.

GOAL D:
Students will develop advanced analytical, research and written communication skills.

Learning Outcomes: The student will

D-1 Prepare and submit a research paper written in APA style on a selected approved topic.
D-2 Prepare and submit several comparative analysis, outlines and summaries.
D-3 Prepare and submit several critical essays.