WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE TITLE: Victims of Crime

COURSE NUMBER: CRJ 474

I. RATIONALE:

In recent years, there has been an emphasis on the victims of crime by the various criminal justice agencies with a movement toward the return to a “victim justice” system. The perspective of the victims is essential in any discussion on crime.

II. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A:
Student will develop an understanding of the concepts of victimology and be able to view a criminal action from the perspective of the victim.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Define victimology as a new social science.
A-2 Review the highlights in the brief history of victimology and victim assistance.
A-3 Identify the role and function of victimologist in the criminal justice system.
A-4 Discuss the incidence of crime victimization.
A-5 Conduct research on patterns of victimization.

GOAL B:
Students will develop a knowledge and understanding of the victim as an active participant in a criminal action.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Discuss victim facilitation of crime.
B-2 Discuss victim precipitated crimes.
B-3 Discuss victim provocation of crime.
B-4 Debate the issue of shared responsibility for crime.
B-5 Review the perspectives of victim blaming and victim defending.
GOAL C:
Students will gain an appreciation and understanding of the actions and reactions of the criminal justice system toward the victims of crime.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

C-1 Define the issues involved in the concept of individuals being “twice victimized” by their treatment in the criminal justice system.
C-2 Review the relationships of victims and law enforcement.
C-3 Review the relationships of victims and the courts.
C-4 Review the treatment of crime victims by prosecutors and defense attorneys.
C-5 Review the relationships of victims to the correctional system and probation and parole.

GOAL D:
Students will learn that not all crime victims have the same experiences; rather, victims must be treated differently based upon their victimization.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

D-1 Discuss the special needs and responses of victims of child abuse.
D-2 Discuss the special needs and responses of victims of domestic violence.
D-3 Discuss the special needs and responses of victims of sexual assault.
D-4 Discuss the special needs and responses of victims of violence.
D-5 Discuss the special needs and responses of survivors of murder.
D-6 Discuss the role of the victims assistance advocates office.
D-7 Review victim assistance programs.

GOAL E:
Students will conduct a review of the various ways that victims can be made whole after their ordeal as a crime victim.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

E-1 Review the issues involved in victim restitution.
E-2 Discuss restorative justice.
E-3 Review compensation programs.
E-4 Identify available recovery through civil judicial process.
E-5 Review the role of the government in the debate of victim compensation.
E-6 Review non monetary recovery programs.
E-7 Discuss the alternative programs for victims that gain new rights for victims at the expense of the offender, the system, and the other citizens.

GOAL F:
Student will use appropriate written and oral skills.

Learning Outcomes: The student will:
F-1 Prepare written reports.
F-2 Engage in oral presentations.
F-3 Present written assignments using APA style.