

**Common Course Outline**  
**CRJU 258**  
**Social Justice in the Urban Community**  
**3 Credits**

**The Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

**CRJU 258 – 3 credits - Social Justice in the Urban Community** examines agencies and processes involved in criminal justice in the urban community. It also examines the role of the media in problem creation and problem resolution in the urban community and discusses continuing dynamics and the effects of discrimination and prejudice.

**3 Credits**

**Prerequisite: CRJU 101**

**Overall Course Objectives**

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

1. explain what social justice is and analyze its role in the criminal justice process;
2. explain social justice in relation to a variety of urban social problems;
3. explain how the law can contribute to attaining social justice;
4. describe the Criminal Justice System and its components in relation to other social institutions;
5. analyze criminal justice system practices that employ social exclusion and social justice; and
6. explain the impact media has on criminal justice practices in the urban setting.

**Major Topics**

- I. Social Justice
  - A. Urban Processes
  - B. Urban Problems
- II. Justice and the State
- III. Social Construction of Race
- IV. Social Construction of Gender
- V. Social Class and Stratification
- VI. Social Mobility
- VII. Theories
  - A. Morality
  - B. Psychological
  - C. Sociological
  - D. Economical
  - E. Religious

- VIII. Individual and Organizational Strategies for Achieving Social Justice
  - A. Police Practices and Social Justice
  - B. Court Procedures and Social Justice
  - C. Corrections and Social Justice
- IX. Contemporary Urban Social Movements
- X. Social Justice and Politics
- XI. Media and Social Justice

### **Course Requirements**

Students are required to utilize academically appropriate sources.

Grading/Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

1. At least 2 testing instruments including examinations and/or tests; specific number to be determined by the instructor;
2. Written assignments: The individual faculty member will determine specific number of written assignments; minimum of one such assignment such as:
  - Summaries of current events and their relation to course material;
  - Research project (topics may include any subject related to the course)

### **Other Course Information**

This course is a Criminal Justice Studies elective.