



**South Portland, Maine 04106**  
**Criminal Justice Department**

**Title:** Crisis Intervention for the Criminal Justice Practitioner

**Catalog Number:** CJUS-116

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Total Contact Hours:** 45

**Lecture (or Lab):** Lecture

**Instructor:** Dana Baldwin

**Contact Information:** [dbaldwin@smccme.edu](mailto:dbaldwin@smccme.edu)

**Office Hours – Location:** Howe Hall

Flexible and by appointment

### **Course Syllabus**

#### **Course Description**

This course was developed through collaboration between criminal justice and mental health practitioners. It is designed to educate students and those individuals currently working in the criminal justice field on issues related to the role of a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) member. The course will cover the legal aspects of mental health commitments; liability issues; mental disorders; indicators of mental illness; understanding mental illness; documentation of incidents; the interpersonal skills necessary to effectively work with the mentally ill, their families, and the mental health system; and intervention strategies for dealing with both low and high risk situations. Students will participate in role playing scenarios during this class.

**Prerequisites:** none

#### **Course Objectives**

After successfully completing the course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the origin and value of Crisis Intervention Team training.
2. Define mental illness.
3. Describe the causes, symptoms, behaviors and treatment for a number of mental illness diagnoses.
4. Examine the various perspectives and roles of individuals involved in a mental health crisis to include those individuals who manage or support someone with a severe and persistent mental illness.

5. Recognize psychotropic medications and have an understanding of use and treatment.
6. Apply de-escalation techniques and skills.
7. Explain the systems integrated response to a mental health incident.
8. Describe the process of redirecting individuals with mental illness and their families from the judicial system to the health care system.
9. Identify and explain the community resources and support services available to the criminal justice practitioner.
10. Describe and apply the law pertaining to protective custody.
11. Examine the interaction between officer safety tactics, use of force and de-escalation techniques.

### **Work Outside of the Classroom**

All students should be prepared to spend a minimum of two hours on out of class preparation for each hour of classroom instruction.

This preparation will include but not limited to review of lecture notes, completion of reading assignments, studying of course materials and completion of class projects/papers as assigned.

### **Outline of Instruction**

Introduction to Mental Illness

Personality Disorders

Trauma

Risk Assessment/ Suicide Prevention, Suicide

Consumer and Family Perspectives

De-escalation Skills and Role Play “Mental Judo”

Substance Abuse and Co-Occurring Disorders

Aging and Dementia

Children and Adolescents

Autism and Developmental Disorders

Community Resources

Legal Issues

Diversity

Psychiatric Medications and Toxicology

Proactive Self Care

## Text

No textbook is required for this course.

## Student Evaluation and Grading

Your final grade for this course will be based on the following:

Attendance 25%

Assignments / make up assignments for missing class 25%

Participation: mock scenarios / role playing / discussion 25%

Final Examination 25%

Attendance and active participation are heavily weighted in grading process. If a class is missed, the class materials (if applicable) will be sent and a summary will be required. Specific instructions will be provided. If you miss a class, be expected to complete a make up assignment. If you are unable to make class, please let me know ASAP via email.

### Course Grade:

A	93-100	A-	90-92.9		
B+	87-89.9	B	83-86.9	B-	80-82.9
C+	77-79.9	C	73-76.9	C-	70-72.9
D+	67-69.9	D	63-66.9	F	0-62.99

“I” Grade: A temporary grade of “I” may be given when a student has, *due to extraordinary circumstances*, failed to complete all required course work by the end of the semester. This assumes that the student has made a consistent and persistent effort up to the point the “circumstances” occurred and that most course work has been completed. The remaining work must be completed and a new grade submitted by the mid-point of the semester following receipt of the “I” grade. An “I” grade which is not changed during this period automatically becomes an “F”.

Grading will be determined through a specific point system that will be explained more in depth in class. For the Spring Semester of 2022, there are approximately 28 class days to attend in person. Below is the percent and maximum number of points for each area of evaluation.

Attendance	25%	300
Contribution	25%	300
Assignments	10%	120
Class Presentations	15%	180
Final	25%	300
<hr/>		
Total	100%	1200

## **Attendance Policy**

In order to meet the course goals and objectives students must be present in the classroom.

If you miss class (after 2 absences) but complete the make up summary assignment, you can still earn full credit for that day. You can still earn full credit up to 2 more absences. After a total of 4 absences, some points can be earned IF the make up assignment is completed.

Being late to class three times will constitute one absence. Late means arriving once the instructor has begun the class. The closed classroom door is a signal that the class has begun.

Deductions will be made beginning (Jan 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022) at 5 pm, the end of add/drop week.

A student who misses three classes in a row without notifying the instructor prior to the missed classes or during the period the student is absent will not be permitted to return to the course. Enrollment Services will be notified. It is then up to the student to go to Enrollment Services and formally withdraw from the course to prevent an adverse effect on the student's GPA.

## **Course Policies**

Computers:

The use of laptop computers is only permitted for note taking. Students will not use the Internet during class unless directed to do so by the instructor. Students found to be in violation of this policy will be prohibited from using the computer in class. The instructor will periodically check laptop note taking.

Cell phones:

Cell phones will be turned off or the ringer silenced during class. Any student wishing to use a cell phone must exit the classroom to do so.

Food/Beverages:

Beverages are permitted; eating of food is not permitted.

Student Code of Conduct:

All students are expected to be aware of and conform to the Student Code of Conduct. The Code can be found in the Student Handbook: The Compass.

## **Key to Success!!!**

All students are encouraged to periodically review and reflect on the "Key to Academic Success".

### **Key to Academic Success!!!**

1. I will attend class regularly and arrive to class on time.
2. I will treat others with courtesy, respect and how I would like to be treated.

3. I will bring all required materials to class (i.e. notebooks, workbook, textbook, assignments due).
4. I will be attentive in class.
5. I will participate in whole class and group discussions.
6. I will complete my assignments on time.
7. I will ask questions when I do not understand the material.
8. I will take notes in class.
9. I will study for quizzes and examinations.
10. I will be honest (avoiding plagiarism, cheating)
11. I will reflect on how I could make improvements to my learning.
12. I will seek out my advisor if I am having difficulty with my course(s).
13. I will recognize this course syllabus as a contract that I must abide by to ensure my academic success.

### **Other Important Information:**

#### **End-of-Course Evaluation**

In order to gain access to final course grades, students must complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal site. Students can access the course evaluation report beginning two weeks before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs 24 hours after the last day of classes each semester. Instructors will announce when the online course evaluation is available.

#### **ADA Syllabus Statement**

Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call 207-741-5798.

If you have a disabling condition and wish to request accommodations in order to have reasonable access to the programs and services offered by SMCC, you must register with the disability services coordinator, Mark Krogman, who can be reached at 741-5629. There will be some documentation for your teachers that must be supplied before accommodations can be given. Further information about services for students with disabilities and the accommodation process is available upon request at this number.

#### **SMCC Pay-for-Print Policy**

Students can print 100 pages per semester for free. If you print over 100 pages, you will be charged 10 cents per page to your Beacon Bucks account. Left-over pages will roll over to the following semester but will zero out at the end of the academic year. A pilot project tracking public printing has shown that this amount of free printing meets the needs of the vast majority of students. The College's pay-for-print system monitors printing on all public printers (i.e., those in general access labs, library printers, the LAC, and technology labs). Each time you log in to the system, the print station displays the remaining print quota. Once the printing quota has been exceeded, users will be charged \$0.10 per page on their Beacon Bucks accounts. Color printouts will be charged at 11-page units. This means each color printout will count as 11 pages toward the quota and cost \$1.10. Students can add money to their cards using a credit card online.

**Add-Drop Policy**

Students who drop a course during the one-week “add/drop” period in the fall and spring semesters and the first three days of summer sessions receive a 100% refund of the tuition and associated fees for that course. Please note any course that meets for less than the traditional semester length, i.e., 15 weeks, has a pro-rated add/drop period. There is no refund for non-attendance.

**Withdrawal Policy**

A student may withdraw from a course only during the semester in which s/he is registered for that course. The withdrawal period is the second through twelfth week of the fall and spring semesters and the second through ninth week of twelve-week summer courses. This period is pro-rated for shorter-length courses. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Enrollment Service Center (no phone calls, please). The designation “W” will appear on the transcript after a student has officially withdrawn. A course withdrawal is an uncompleted course and may adversely affect financial aid eligibility. Failure to attend or ceasing to attend class does not constitute withdrawal from the course. There is no refund associated with a withdrawal.

**Plagiarism Statement**

Adherence to ethical academic standards is obligatory. Cheating is a serious offense, whether it consists of taking credit for work done by another person or doing work for which another person will receive credit. Taking and using the ideas or writings of another person without clearly and fully crediting the source is plagiarism and violates the academic code as well as the Student Code of Conduct. If it is suspected that a student in any course in which s/he is enrolled has knowingly committed such a violation, the faculty member should refer the matter to the College’s Disciplinary Officer and appropriate action will be taken under the Student Code of Conduct. Sanctions may include suspension from the course and a failing grade in the course. Students have the right to appeal these actions to the Disciplinary Committee under the terms outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.