

CCJ 3700 – Methods of Research in Criminal Justice

Course Description:

Evaluates the application of research methodologies as applied to the study of Public Safety Management. **Pre-req: STA2023**

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will understand criminal justice research statistics by:

- a. defining the nature of criminal justice research
- b. comparing testing hypotheses
- c. reviewing the stages of criminal justice research and data sources
- d. assessing the function of statistics and surveys

Competency 2: The student will analyze the organization of public safety data by:

- a. comparing distribution and frequency distributions of nominal data
- b. reviewing proportions and percentages, ratio and rates
- c. interpreting graphic presentations
- d. defining with decimal data, percentile ranks and cross tabulations

Competency 3: The student will be able to measure the central tendency by:

- a. defining central tendency
- b. exploring modes of measure
- c. describing data
- d. computing the mode, median and mean

Competency 4: The student will learn the measures of variability as it relates to crime statistics by:

- a. comparing and contrasting Uniform Crime Report (UCR) data
- b. reviewing National Crime Victimization Surveys (NCVS)
- c. analyzing the interpretation of crime data

Competency 5: The student will analyze probability and the normal curve by:

- a. computing probability and probability distributions for crime victimization
- b. examining the characteristics of perpetrators and victims
- c. examining the crime trends and causal effects

Competency 6: The student will analyze crime data relative to populations targeted for violent crime by:

- a. defining and discussing sample populations
- b. identifying targeted populations for criminality
- c. reviewing professional journals for crime analysis and interpretation
- d. gathering arrest data from samples of populations

Competency 7: The student will analyze crime-related research by:

- a. identifying the research hypothesis
- b. analyzing the sampling distribution
- c. analyzing levels of significance
- d. defining and discussing duration

Competency 8: The student will analyze crime data by:

- a. examining the calculation between crime victimization and demographics
- b. examining the methodologies of reporting U.S. crime statistics
- c. examining the cause and effect of terrorist related crime
- d. utilizing a regression model reference to the "aging-out" theory