Course Objective: This is one of four required lower division courses compromising the Systems and Practices preparation area of the Criminal Justice field of study group in Texas; it is particularly the basic course dedicated to the Law Enforcement area; all subsequent enforcement courses build upon its foundation. The purpose is to familiarize the student with the basic nature, systems and actual practices of law enforcement—particularly the police at the city and country level. They do most of the law enforcement work in America. This will be accomplished through meeting the following objectives comprising the content of the course.

- Familiarize the student with the basic nature of the police profession.
- Provide the student with a basic knowledge of police organization and function.
- Acquaint the student with the police service role.
- Give the student a basic knowledge of the various styles of policing which are practiced.
- Enable the student to understand the nature of police discretion.
- Cause the student to recognize police ethical considerations.
- Provide insight into the enormous gap between university preparation and the reality of policing.

Virtually all of the course content will be delivered through lecture—occasionally supplemented by video. No specific textbook is required. After the completion of each unit, announced examinations will be administered; some unannounced short quizzes may be given over limited specific topics. It is suggested that the new student review notes before each class. In this course, you will be given an initial comprehensive pre-test—ungraded—which will be retaken at the conclusion for part of your grade as well as a major homework assignment. You will not be formally graded on attendance; missing many classes and lectures will prevent your succeeding in the course. One examination or quiz may be made up at the end of the semester. Be aware that your instructor as a former street-level law enforcement officer, may employ rough language and hold or articulate views and attitudes which may be foreign to you. You will be exposed to this in class. You should not remain in the course if such is not acceptable or if you do not have a serious interest in learning about the realities of the enforcement side of criminal justice. Questions or objections should to be taken directly to your instructor for clarification or resolution. As a rule, your instructor will be available to you around the hours of the class-specific information and office location will be given to you during the first week. Also when it is necessary, you are welcome to call him on his mobile telephone (325-277-1422). He is there to help you.

Your course grade will be determined by the following experience-generated realistic percentages: A=85% or above; B=70-84%; C=60-69%; D=50-59% and below is failing. Good grades are relatively not difficult to earn by coming to class and investing some effort.