**Synopsis**

The gold standard for introductory criminal justice texts. Best-selling and time-tested, Criminal Justice Today: An Introductory Text for the 21st Century, continues to lead the field as the gold-standard for introductory criminal justice texts. Its comprehensive coverage focuses on the crime picture in America and on the three traditional elements of the criminal justice system: police, courts, and corrections. Building upon the theme of individual freedom versus personal security, it challenges students to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the American justice system as it adapts to the needs of a complex and rapidly changing society. An instructor and student favorite, the Fourteenth Edition continues its tradition of thorough analysis of today’s issues in an easy-to-read format. Criminal Justice Today, 14/e is also available via REVEL, an interactive learning environment that enables students to read, practice, and study in one continuous experience. Learn more.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

Relatively up to date (September 11 and law enforcement reactions, USA PATRIOT Act, etc.), and very informative, this textbook provides an excellent survey of the Criminal Justice System. The prose is streamlined, clear, and somewhat non-biased. Minor corrections may need to be made (e.g. the textbook states that the majority of female sexual assault victims do not know their attacker. . .), but these flaws are minor for a textbook of this scope. The book is extensively source documented, making it perfect for anyone interested in expanding their knowledge of the Criminal Justice System. The CD-ROM and online tools are comprehensive, and give the reader/student a
more intimate view of the author's vision.

The book arrived in ok condition, not damaged but I don’t expect pristine condition when buying used. The problem is the seller ‘overstockbook’. They sent me the instructor’s edition instead of the student one, but I didn’t think to double check the isbn number as there was nothing stating this on the book cover (the number on the back had a sticker from that seller over it anyway). There should have been a label on the front of the book but somehow there wasn’t one there (it had been removed). So when I tried to start a trade in through it was rejected because the isbn number did not match what I purchased. Since this was just past the return policy date I am unable to get it exchanged or anything. The seller never responded to me directly, even after sending them multiple messages explaining the issue. Also wouldn’t help is any way shape or form. So buyer beware, double check the isbn number on your book, especially if you intend to resell it or trade it in.

My advice: if you are planning to use this for a class, and you want to access the supplemental website materials, do NOT purchase from .com !!!! I purchased this for an Intro to Criminal Justice college course. Is selling the book withOUT the access code, but advertise it as "MyCrimeKit.com series". When I first contacted customer service about the missing code, they insisted that the book was "defective" and they sent me a new book. Guess what? the second book arrived and is also missing the access code. Says they will give me a refund and now I have to purchase the book from the publisher. Aggravation!!

This is the best book I have read on Criminal Justice. It is fun to read and easy to enjoy. I advise anybody that is interested on the field of criminal justice to begin with this book.

I purchased this text for consideration in one of my intro to criminal justice classes. If you are looking for the basics and the same old same old in a CJ text, you won’t be disappointed. For years criminal justice education has been changing and unfortunately this author and others like him are resistant to that change. There needs to be a more creative way to teach criminal just at the intro level than by pumping students full of facts when they cannot think for themselves. Many of us are looking for something that will enhance problem solving and original thinking. This old method of "I tell you, now tell me back" is not education. There needs to be something better than this!

Eh...it’s okay for a textbook, but Schmalleger’s style gets a little personal and biased sometimes, I
was kind of surprised. Several times he puts things as fact in the textbook that are really matters of opinion, or don't present all sides of an issue. Almost everything of use you get from this book is vocabulary, anyways - and all of the vocabulary from Intro to Criminal Justice type classes is on dozens of different Quizlet flash card sites, just Google them. Most of the notes I took were from my teacher's Powerpoints, and were far more useful.

So much information. I'd say that this book is my go-to for initial criminal justice inquiries (in an academic context). It's an exhaustive source for nearly anything imaginable in criminal justice. It's just a great resource.

I just started teaching a new criminal justice survey course where this text is required for the students. After reading it I have to say it is one of the best course-books on the subject that I have read or taught from. Comprehensive at 750+ pages including many full color plates and an interactive CD-ROM. Topics include everything conventional (civics, criminal law & criminal procedure) as well as many current event criminal justice concepts including law enforcement cultural approaches to alternative religions like Santeria, the arrest of celebrities such as Courtney Love, and even distinguishing placement in the criminal justice hierarchy for "bounty hunters" such as Duane "Dog" Chapman. I love it! Informative and instructional. Again, one of the best. Five stars.

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