

**University of North Texas at Dallas**  
**Spring 2016**  
**SYLLABUS for Distance Learning**  
**CJUS 5000: Criminal Justice Policy**

<b>Department of</b>		<b>Criminal Justice</b>	<b>Division of</b>	<b>Liberal Arts and Sciences</b>
<b>Instructor Name:</b>	Richard N. Holden, Ph.D.			
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Virtual or by appointment			
<b>Classroom Location:</b>	Online			
<b>Class Meeting Days &amp; Times:</b>	Online			
<b>Course Catalog Description:</b>	Methods of policy formulation, implementation and analysis in the criminal justice setting. Selected topics developed for practical research and evaluation.			
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None			
<b>Required Text:</b>	Barkan & Bryjak, <i>Myths and Realities of Crime and Justice</i> Kelly, <i>Criminal Justice at the Crossroads</i> Strunsky, <i>The Humanity of Justice</i>			
<b>Access to Learning Resources:</b>	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: <a href="http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm">http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm</a> UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: <a href="mailto:1012mgr@fhg.follett.com">1012mgr@fhg.follett.com</a>			
<b>Course Goals or Overview:</b> The goals of this course are as follows -				
	The examination of the problems and issues involved in forming and implementing Criminal Justice policy in the United States.			
<b>Learning Objectives/Outcomes:</b> At the end of this course, students will be able to:				
1	Describe key components of crime control policy			
2	Identify institutionalized strengths and defects in the U.S. justice system			
3	Summarize key aspects of theories of crime causation			
4	Describe legal and social foundations for sentencing criminals			
5	Describe the legal process as it works in the U.S.			
6	Identify trends in crime control policy			

**Online/Hybrid Course Outline**

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Blackboard announcement. Additional readings and activities may be added; these will be noted in the Readings and Activities/Assignments sections.

TOPICS	TIMELINE
1. Criminal Justice Policy (Kelly-1) (Barkan-1, 2)	Jan 19 - 25
2. Crime control (Kelly-2) (Barkan-3, 4, 5)	Jan 22-31
3. Alternatives to crime control (Kelly-3) (Barkan-7, 8)	Jan 29 – Feb 7
4. Sentencing reform (Kelly-4) (Barkan- 10) (Strunsky 3, 4)	Feb 5 - 14
5. Diversion (Kelly-5) (Strunsky – 6,7)	Feb 12 - 21

6. Community Supervision (Kelly-6) (Barkan - 13)	Feb 19 - 28
7. Drug Control Policy (Kelly-7) (Strunsky - 8, 9)	Feb 26 – Mar 6
8. Cost Effectiveness (Kelly-8) (Barkan - 14)	Mar 4 - 11

**Course Evaluation Methods**

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

**Discussion Posts**

Each student will be required to post to (8) different discussion board postings during the semester. The discussion board topics will correspond with information from each selected readings. Each student will be required to post to the discussion question asked and then reply to (2) other student’s posts. **Postings will be graded according to the Critical Thinking Value and Written Communication Value in each posting.** Completion date will be posted on each discussion question located inside the Discussion Board link.

**Discussion Board Grading:**

- 0 - 100 points for posting to each discussion question.
- 0 - 800 total points for the (8) discussion questions can be earned.
- 0 - 15 total points for posting to 2 other student’s posts.

**Exercises - case studies, critiques, etc.**

Exercises will consist of a variety of case studies and video critiques. Grading guidelines are the same as for discussion board postings. This is a graduate level class. All assignments should reflect high order thinking and writing.

**Exams**

**Grading Matrix:**

Activities/Assignments	Value (percentages)
4 Exams (17% each)	68%
8 Discussions (2% each)	16%
8 Critiques (2% each)	16%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

Blackboard Posting Grading Rubric	Level - 3	Level - 2	Level - 1
	Exceptional	Effective	Acceptable
Critical Thinking Value of the students posting will be considered.	45-50 points	40-44 points	30-43 points
Written Communication Value of the students posting will be considered.	45-50 points	40-44 points	30-43 points

## **Grade Determination**

**A = 90% or better**

**B = 80 – 89 %**

**C = 70 – 79 %**

**D = 60 – 69 %**

**F = less than 60%**

## **University Policies and Procedures**

### **Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):**

#### Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at [UNTDisability@untDallas.edu](mailto:UNTDisability@untDallas.edu) or at Building 2, room 204.

#### **Blackboard Learn Accessibility Statement:**

The University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring the online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty, including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. Blackboard Learn course management system's accessibility statement is also provided: <http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx>

**NOTE:** Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

#### **Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:**

Student evaluation of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

**Assignment Policy:** (According to the instructor's discretion while working in concert with the division/program's guidelines).

**Exam Policy:** (Online exams and the ability to retake is solely at the instructor's discretion). **NOTE:** Online exams may be proctored on campus per instructor's discretion.

#### **Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic

Integrity at

[http://www.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page\\_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic\\_Integrity.pdf](http://www.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf) for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

**Web-based Plagiarism Detection:** Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

## **Classroom Policies**

### **Online Attendance and Participation:**

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Blackboard classroom and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. .

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Blackboard, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to <http://www.untDallas.edu/registrar> for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course

**Inclement Weather and Online Classes:** Online classes may or may not be effected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

### **Online "Netiquette:**

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights Responsibilities and Conduct at <http://www.untDallas.edu/osa/policies>. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

### **Diversity/Tolerance Policy:**

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions that violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

**Technology Requirements:** In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT

Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements.

Blackboard Learn 9.1 is the platform software for this course. Blackboard Learn supports major web browsers such as Windows Internet Explorer, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox, and Google Chrome. However, since the latter two are updated continually, some recent versions may not be compatible. If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Internet Explorer. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- <http://www.untDallas.edu/dlit/ecampus/requirements>
- [https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1\\_SP\\_12\\_and\\_SP\\_13/Student/040\\_Browser\\_Support\\_for\\_SP\\_13](https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_SP_12_and_SP_13/Student/040_Browser_Support_for_SP_13)
- [https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check\\_full.html](https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check_full.html)