

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2015
SYLLABUS

| CJUS 2100: Crime and Justice in the U.S. 3 Hrs | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Department of | Criminal Justice | Division of | Liberal Arts and Sciences |
| Instructor Name: | Richard Holden | | |
| Office Location: | UNT Dallas, 3 rd floor, Office #317 | | |
| Office Phone: | 972-338-1836 | | |
| Email Address: | richard.holden@untdallas.edu | | |
| Office Hours: | Virtual on-line | | |
| Virtual Office Hours: | May contact by e-mail or via Blackboard. | | |
| Classroom Location: | TBA | | |
| Class Meeting Days & Times: | On-line via Blackboard | | |
| Course Catalog Description: | This course examines the societal responses to people and organizations that violate criminal codes; discusses the history, development, organization and philosophy of the justice process; and analyzes the complex interrelationships between the major components of the criminal justice system (police, courts and corrections). Satisfies the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement of the University Core Curriculum. (Same as SOCI 2100D) | | |
| Prerequisites: | None | | |
| Co-requisites: | | | |
| Required Text: | Gaines and Miller | Criminal Justice in Action | 8th ISBN-13: 978-1305261075 |
| Recommended Text and References: | | | |
| Access to Learning Resources: | UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com | | |
| Course Goals or Overview: | | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop and understanding of and appreciation for the institutions of justice, the relationships between those institutions, and the philosophical and theoretical foundations which provide the framework for criminal justice in the United States. Emphasis will be on the personnel engaged in justice delivery as well as critical issues confronting the CJ system today. | | |
| Learning Objectives/Outcomes: | | | |
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be able to describe the problems associated with defining justice. 2. Be able to define key terms and phrases related to law and its administration. 3. Be able to distinguish between levels of criminal activity and punishment. 4. Identifies the various roles and duties of criminal justice personnel. 5. Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of history on the evolution of justice. 6. Be able to identify the social and political issues that drive the justice system. 7. Demonstrate an understanding of the competing philosophies of justice. 8. Be able to appreciate the impact of the media on perceptions of criminal justice. 9. Demonstrate an understanding of the problems inherent in administering justice. | | |

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by the instructor during class sessions

| Module | Reading Assignment | Graded |
|--------|--------------------|--|
| 1 | Text – part I | Exam 1, Critique, Case Study, Discussion |
| 2 | Text – part II | Exam 2, Critique, Case Study, Discussion |
| 3 | Text – part III | Exam 3, Critique, Case Study, Discussion |
| 4 | Text – part iv | Exam 4, Critique, Case Study, Discussion |
| 5 | Text – part v | Exam 5, Critique, Case Study, Discussion |

University Policies and Procedures:

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call 972-780-3632.

The Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the department will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so does not fundamentally alter the course. If you have a disability, it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Student Life and to inform me of your need for an accommodation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed. Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNTD Policy 7.004, [Disability Accommodations for Students](#), and by visiting Student Life, building 2, Suite 200. 972-780-3632, studentlife@unt.edu.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. 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 the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Exam Policy:

The exam policy for this course is semi-flexible. Once the exam is activated, students have until the end of the module time period to access and complete the test. Once the module closes there will be no further access to that exam.

There will be a quiz over each part of the text. Each quiz (100 points) is worth 10% of the total grade (50% cumulative). Exams will be a combination of multiple choice, multiple answer, matching, and true – false. There will not be a final exam; exam 5 fulfills that role.

Discussion Board: Each student will be required to post to the discussion board. The discussion board topics will be over issues related to criminal justice. Each student will be required to post to the discussion question asked and then reply to two other student's posts. Postings will be graded according to the Critical Thinking Value and Written Communication Value in each posting. The discussion board postings will count (5% each) (25% cumulative) toward a student's final grade in the course. It is recommended that students formulate their discussions in a word processor to check for thoroughness and accuracy prior to posting on the Discussion Board.

Discussion Board Rubric

| Posting | Substance | Grammar |
|----------|----------------------|---------------|
| Original | 35% | 15% |
| Response | 20% each (x 2 = 40%) | 5% (x 2= 10%) |

Critiques: There will be a series of videos. Each video will require a critique by the students. The critiques will include questions about the videos' content and an individual assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the video. There will be 5 videos and critiques. Each will be worth 5% of the total grade. Critiques will be essay exam format with individually graded questions.

Grading Matrix

| Instrument | Value (points or percentages) | Total |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 5 Discussion Board Questions @ 100 points each | 500 points = 3% each | 15% |
| Exam #1 - 5 | 500 points = 10% each | 50% |
| Critiques 1-5 | 500 points = 3% each | 15% |
| Case Studies 1-5 | 500 points = 4% each | 20% |
| | | |
| Total: | Total points 1500 | 100% |

| <u>GRADE</u> | <u>%</u> |
|--------------|-----------------|
| A | 90 – 100 |
| B | 80 – 89 |
| C | 70 – 79 |
| D | 60 – 69 |
| F | 0 – 59 |

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of conduct and Academic Dishonesty 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 Conduct at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html for complete provisions of this code.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. 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 which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities as the instructor deems appropriate.

Optional Policies:

- Grade of Incomplete, "I" given only in cases of documented personal or family crisis.