

**University of North Texas at Dallas
 SPRING 2015
 SYLLABUS**

**CJUS 4250D: LAW AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS (3 Hrs)
 CLASS #14565 SECTION 090**

Department of	Liberal Arts and Life Sciences	Division of	Criminal Justice
Instructor Name:	<i>James Williams, J.D.</i>		
Office Location:	<i>Adjunct Office</i>		
Office Phone:	<i>To Be Determined</i>		
Email Address:	james.williams@untdallas.edu		
Office Hours:	To Be Determined and By Appointment		
Virtual Office Hours:	<i>Available by Text and Email</i>		
Classroom Location:	DAL2 – Room 303		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	MONDAY: 7pm-9:50pm		
Course Catalog Description:	CJUS 4250D. LAW AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS. This course examines how the Constitution, criminal statutory framework and judicial interpretation impact the criminal justice system and criminal justice policy in the United States.		
Prerequisites:	Prerequisite(s):		
Co-requisites:	None		
Required Text:	Ismail, K. U.S Criminal Justice Policy: A Contemporary Reader: 1st Edition. Jones & Bartlett Learning		
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;		
Course Goals or Overview:	The goal of this course is for students to understand how constitutional issues and judicial interpretation impact social problems in the United States.		
Learning Objectives/Outcomes:	At the end of this course, the student will be able to:		
1	Identify who participates in the policy process;		
2	Discuss how policy is made ;		
3	Understand the constraints/opportunities of the policy process;		
4	Link the aforementioned objectives to to broader institutional, cultural, and global trends.		

Course Outline

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

TOPICS	TIMELINE
First day of class; discuss syllabus and course expectations;	Mon. – January 26, 2015
Ch. 2 -	Mon. – February 2, 2015
Ch. 3	Mon. – February 9, 2015
Ch. 4 Exam 1 Review: Chapters 2, 3 and 4 Discuss Requirements for PRESENTATION/PAPER	Mon. – February 16, 2015
EXAM 1 Chapters 2, 3 and 4	Mon. – February 23, 2015
Ch. 7	Mon. – February 26, 2015
Ch. 9 Ch. 10 Exam 2 Review: Chapters 7, 9, and 10	Mon. – March 2, 2015
EXAM 2: CHAPTERS 7, 9, and 10	Mon. – March 9, 2015
SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES	Mon. – March 16, 2015
Presentations	Mon. – March 23, 2015
Ch. 11 Presentations	Mon. – March 30, 2015
Ch. 11 Presentations	Mon. – April 6, 2015
Ch. 14 Presentations	Mon. – April 13, 2015
Ch. 14 Presentations	Mon. – April 20, 2015
Ch. 15 Presentations	Mon. – April 27, 2015
Ch. 15. – Exam Review: Chapters 11, 14 and 15	Mon. – May 4, 2015
FINAL EXAM CHAPTERS 11, 14 and 15	Mon. – May 11, 2015 FINAL EXAM TIME: 7:30pm-9:30pm

Course Evaluation Methods

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

Exams – Three (3) exams will be given. Each exam is worth 25% of your final grade for a total of 75%.

Presentation/Paper – You will be to give a presentation and write a paper that will constitute 15% of your final grade. A handout will be given in class with information on possible topics as well as requirements.

Class Participation – Class Participation points constitute 10% of your grade. Participation means being prepared to answer when called on by the instructor to answer questions relevant to the chapters and/or topics discussed in class. Class Participation also means contributing to class discussions. Points will be deducted for students who are disruptive to the class. Students who do not participate in class discussions and/or students who are not prepared to answer questions when called upon by instructor will not receive class participation points.

***I will deduct 5 (five) points from your paper grade if you turn in your paper late.**

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total
EXAM 1	25% of Final Grade	25%
EXAM 2	25% of Final Grade	25%
PRESENTATION/PAPER	15% of Final Grade	15%
FINAL EXAM/EXAM 3	25% of Final Grade	25%
CLASS PARTICIPATION	10% of Final Grade	10%
Total:		100%

Grade Determination:

- A = 90% or better
- B = 80 – 89%
- C = 70 – 79%
- D = 60 – 69%
- F = less than 60%

Incompletes:

Pursuant to University policy, incompletes will not be given unless ALL of the following conditions have been met:

- (1) the student has completed 3/4 of the class*
- (2) the student is currently passing the course, and*
- (3) the request for an incomplete is pursuant to a University-recognized reason (medical emergency or military deployment).*

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. For more information, you may visit the Office of Disability Accommodation/Student Development Office, Suite 115 or call 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) 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 the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

Please see the Course Evaluations section above for my policy related to assignments in this course.

Exam Policy:

The exams will consist of descriptive essays, listing, and/or short answer questions. There will be no make-up Exams. Students who miss an exam or who do not take an Exam at the scheduled time will score a grade of 0.

NO CELL PHONES WILL BE PERMITTED DURING THE EXAMS. YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO A 5-POINT DEDUCTION ON YOUR EXAM FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS RULE. THIS INCLUDES A RINGING OR AUDIBLY VIBRATING CELL PHONE OR THE USE OF TEXT MESSAGING. *As a courtesy, please do not bring food or drink to class during exams. During exams, ALL ITEMS other than what is needed to take the exam (Green Book, and a pen or pencil) must be under your desk. You must provide your own Green Book.*

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.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call the UNT Dallas main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance 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 class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

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.

Use of Cell Phones, Laptops & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom:

I do not prohibit the use of electronics in the classroom as a general rule. I trust that most students are using these devices to further their education and for educational purposes during class. However, if it comes to my attention that these devices are creating a distraction to you or to other students, I reserve the right to change this policy by communicating such a change in class.

Food & Drink in the Classroom:

I do not prohibit food or drink the classroom during classes, but as a courtesy to your fellow test takers, please do not bring food or drink during exams. If this becomes a distraction, I reserve the right to change this policy by communicating such a change in class.

Disruptions:

I reserve the right to ask anyone who is creating a disruption during class to leave the room. Please be respectful of your fellow students. Come to class on time and stay until class ends. Students constantly coming into and leaving the classroom during class create a distracting environment for the other students as well as the instructor.