

**University of North Texas at Dallas
Spring 2015 Syllabus**

CJUS 2600D “Diversity Issues in Criminal Justice” (3HR-Internet Based)

Department of Liberal Arts & Life Sciences		Division of Criminal Justice	
Instructor Name:	Spencer Wayne Ellison		
Office Location:	None		
Office Phone:	501-247-5289		
Email Address:	spencer.ellison@untDallas.edu		
Office Hours:	Monday, Wednesday, & Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.		
Virtual Office Hours:	<i>By appointment</i>		
Classroom Location:	Internet Based Course		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Internet		
Course Catalog Description:	This course critically examines race, gender and other diversity issues within the U.S. Criminal Justice System. Topics of emphasis include the importance of diversity issues in the development, organization and operation of the criminal justice system.		
Prerequisites:	none		
Co-requisites:			
Required Text:	The Color of Justice; Race, Ethnicity, and Crime in America, 5th edition, by Samuel Walker, Cassia Spohn, and Miriam DeLone. Published by Cengage Publisher. ISBN: 978-1-111-34692-8.		
Recommended Text and References:	None		
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@fheg.follett.com		
Course Goals or Overview:			
	The goal of this course is for students to understand how class, race and gender play in the development of our criminal justice system from past years to today’s criminal justice system.		
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will			
1	Recognize and understand the basic theories related to the study of race, class, gender and crime.		
2	Examine the various perspectives relevant to the death penalty and the racial and ethnic makeup of persons in the prison population.		
3	Examine the nature of drug crime disparity and criminal records when considering class, gender, and race are involved.		
4	Identify and understand class and economic inequality and privilege when considering who commits major crimes in American society.		
5	Understand the police role, the courts, punishment, sentencing and imprisonment when class,		

	gender and race are involved.
6	Examine crimes by minority youth and racial disparities in the juvenile justice system.
7	Examine victimology & patterns of victimization; understand the law making process & the administration of criminal law.

Course Outline

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

Course Schedule	TIMELINE
Information Quiz Due	Week #1
Unit #1 Quiz #1 Assignment Over Chapter's 1-2-3	Week #2-3-4
Unit #2 Quiz #2 Over Chapter's 4-5-6	Week #5-6-7
Mid-Term Survey Due	Week #8
Unit #3 Quiz #3 Over Chapter's 7-8-9	Week #9-10-11
Practical Exercise Due	Week #12
Unit #4 Quiz #4 Over Chapter's 10-11	Week #13-14-15
End Semester Survey Due and No Final Exam	Week #16

Course Evaluation Methods: A student's final grade will be calculated from the following means.

- four examinations given over material covered in the required textbook
- one information quiz
- four discussion board postings
- one practical exercise

Unit Quiz Policy: Quizzes must be taken as scheduled. Unit Quizzes will be timed and you will have 1 hour to complete each quiz. No makeup quiz will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). Quizzes will be a combination of multiple choice, true false, and short answer questions broken down into two parts. Part I will be multiple choice and true / false questions. Part II will be fill-in the blank questions that will be submitted separately from part 1 to the assignment link. Each quiz will be worth up to 100 points toward a student's final grade in the course. If a student gets locked out of Part I of a quiz he or she must send me a message stating why you were locked out and I will unlock the quiz so that the student may take it over. I will only unlock one quiz during the semester and the unlocked quiz must be taken before the unit assignment closing date.

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Point Value	Total Points
4 unit quizzes	0 – 100 points each	400
4 discussion board questions	0 – 25 points each	100
Information quiz	0 – 100 points	100
Practical Exercise	0 – 100 points	100
Total:	Total earned points will be divided by 7 to get a final average.	700

Final Grading:

90 – 100 = A 60 – 69 = D
 80 – 89 = B Below 60 = F
 70 – 79 = C

Practical Exercise (Reaction Paper) Assignment:

There will be one (1) practical exercise assignments in the course. The exercise will be worth from 0 – 100 points toward the student's final grade in the course.

Grading Rubric

Practical Exercise Assignment Rubric	Excellent (88-100 points)	Good (75 – 87 points)	Acceptable (62 – 74 points)	Poor (51-61 points)	Non acceptable (0-50 points)
Comprehension	Reflects complete understanding of project	Reflects a good understanding of project	Reflects a poor understanding of project	Reflects no understanding of project	Minimal or no effort in submitting assignment
Content	Contains all required elements of the assignment	Contains at least 80% of the required elements of the assignment	Contains at least 60% of the required elements of the assignment	Contains less than 60% of the required elements of the assignments	Minimal or no effort in submitting assignment
Organization	The document is clearly organized	The document is somewhat organized	The document is unorganized but can be read	This document is unorganized	Minimal or no effort in submitting assignment

Information Quiz:

The information quiz will come from all the material inside the Your Professor Link, the Start Here Link, and the Course Information Link. The quiz will consist of 20 questions worth 5 points each for up to 100 points toward a student's final grade in the course. The quiz will be timed and you will have 1 hour to take the quiz.

Discussion Board Postings:

Each student will be required to post to (4) different discussion board postings during the semester. The discussion board topics will correspond with information from each selected chapter in the textbook. Each student will be required to post to the discussion question asked and then reply to (3) other student's posts. **Postings will be graded according to the Critical Thinking Value and Written Communication Value in each posting.** The (4) discussion board postings will count up to (25) points each (for a total of 0 – 100 total points) toward a student's final grade. A completion date will be posted on each discussion question located inside the Discussion Board link.

Discussion Board Grading: Discussion board activities and any other grading activities will be graded within 48 hours after the closing of each unit. Instructor will also respond to student Blackboard questions within 24 hours of student posting in the Blackboard's messaging tool.

Discussion Board Grading:

- 0 - 25 points for posting to each discussion question.
- 0 - 100 total points for the (4) discussion questions can be earned.
- 0 -10 total points for posting to each discussion board question.
- 0 - 15 total points for posting to 3 other student's posts. (0-5 points each)

Criteria	No Points	Novice	Competent	Proficient
Critical Thinking	0 Points Does not post or respond with, "I agree/disagree".	8.5 Points Posts reflects little or no analysis, only repeats what has already been said; Uses personal experiences, but no references from reading; Does not answer all components of the question	10 Points Posts demonstrate understanding and analysis of the concepts; Specific examples and references and how they relate to the discussion is included. All components of the question is answered	12.5Points Posts demonstrate superior understanding and analysis of concepts; Substantive comments to advance discussion is used; Includes articles or other research to support point of view
Participation	0 Points Does not post or respond to any students	8.5 Points Post to (1) student	10 Points Post to (2) students	12.5 Points Post to (3) students

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. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 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. 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:

Any out of class assignments must be on required date if any or given.

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

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.unt.edu/unt-allas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf> for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:

On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.

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 UNT Dallas Campuses 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. Online 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 throughout the semester. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed assignments. Online attendance and participation in all class modules 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 course work. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in course if approved by the instructor. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the course notes.

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 Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.

Optional Policies:

- *Grade of Incomplete, "I"*