

## ***Comparative Justice Systems***

### **Course Syllabus**

The University of Texas at Dallas

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#### **Course Information**

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	CRIM 3319 Section .001
<i>Course Title</i>	Comparative Justice Systems
<i>Term</i>	Fall 2012
<i>Days &amp; Times</i>	M & W 11:30am – 12:45pm
<i>Location</i>	GR 3.302

#### **Professor Contact Information**

<i>Professor</i>	Mark Saber, M.S., M.A.
<i>Office Phone</i>	<b>Use eLearning Email</b>
<i>Other Phone</i>	<b>Use eLearning Email</b>
<i>Email Address</i>	<a href="mailto:mcs078000@utdallas.edu">mcs078000@utdallas.edu</a> (ONLY if eLearning is Down)
<i>Office Location</i>	Green Hall – GR 2.510
<i>Office Hours</i>	M & W 2:00pm – 3:00pm or by appointment
<i>Other Information</i>	ONLY email via eLearning

#### **Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

None

#### **Course Description**

Comparative Justice Systems (3 semester hours) is a survey of the differing policies, practices, and procedures of crime and justice cross nationally. This course is designed to present students with information regarding a variety of ways that justice systems are organized and practiced around the world. Often, practitioners and scholars fail to recognize alternative approaches that may have found success in foreign countries, which could potentially benefit the justice system of the United States. The social, cultural, and political background of different systems of justice will be introduced and discussed. The core of the course will explore the common, civil, socialist, and Islamic legal traditions, thus covering numerous foreign countries and varying systems of justice.

#### **Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

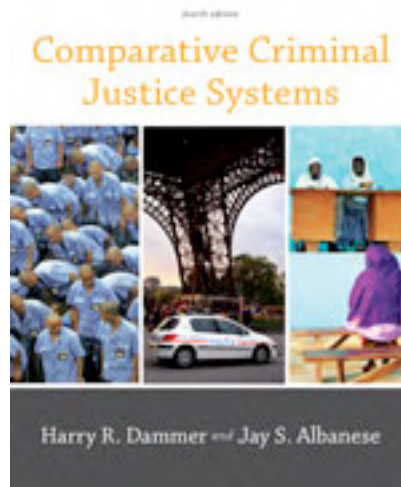
Upon the successful completion of this course, students will:

1. be able to identify and discuss each of the major legal traditions practiced across the globe.
2. be able to identify and discuss current events in justice systems in various countries.
3. be able to critique and evaluate competing perspectives on variations in the practice of justice.
4. be able to identify and discuss competing justice system practices (policing, courts, and corrections).

#### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

*Required Text* – **YOU MUST HAVE THE CORRECT EDITION**

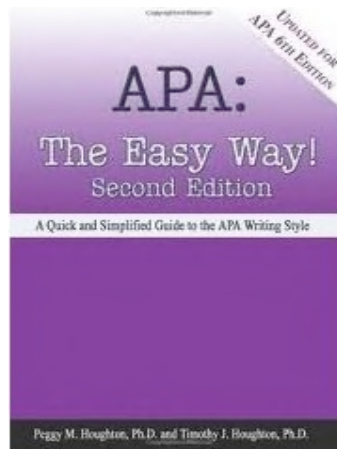
Dammer, H. R. and Albanese, J. S., (2011). *Comparative Criminal Justice Systems* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.



### **Suggested Course Materials**

#### *Suggested Readings/Texts/Materials*

Houghton, P.M., and Houghton, T.J. (2009). *APA: The easy way* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Flint, MI: Baker College.



### **Assignments & Academic Calendar**

#### *Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates*

##### *Exams*

All Exams (Exam 1, 2, and the Final) can be comprised of multiple choice, short answer, matching, and essay questions. See Exam dates in the schedule below. Exams 1 and 2 will be worth 20% of your overall grade. The comprehensive final will make up 15% of your overall grade.

##### *Group Project*

The group project will make up 45% of your grade (see handout for breakdown). Students will form groups of 6 students, create a paper of 5 – 6 pages (not including title page and reference list) following APA guidelines, and a present a PowerPoint presentation (lasting 5 – 6 minutes)

on your topic to the class. Topics for this assignment will deal with comparing (police, courts, or corrections) of one of the model nations with what is done in the United States.  
See class handout for additional details.

#### Week 1

- 8/27: Syllabus  
Group Project – Discussion and Group sign up  
APA Slides and Paper Guidelines
- 8/29: Group Project – Topic Sign up  
Systems of Justice Slides  
Chapter 1 – Introduction

#### Week 2

- 9/3: No Class – Labor Day
- 9/5: Group Project – Topic Sign up  
Chapter 1 - Introduction  
Chapter 2 – Measuring and Comparing Crime in and Across Nations

#### Week 3

- 9/10: Group Project Sign up  
Chapter 2 – Measuring and Comparing Crime in and Across Nations  
Chapter 3 – Families of Law
- 9/12: Group Project – Topic Sign up  
Chapter 3 – Families of Law

#### Week 4

- 9/17: Last chance to change Group Project Topic  
Chapter 4 – Six Model Nations
- 9/19: Chapter 4 – Six Model Nations

#### Week 5:

- 9/24: Movie
- 9/26: Movie  
Exam 1 Review

#### Week 6:

- 10/1: Exam 1 – Chapters 1 -4, System of Justice Slides, and Movie
- 10/3: Exam 1 Return  
Chapter 5 – Law Enforcement Functions, Organization, and Current Issues

#### Week 7:

- 10/8: Chapter 5 – Law Enforcement: Functions, Organization, and Current Issues  
Chapter 6 – Criminal Procedure
- 10/10: Chapter 6 – Criminal Procedure

Week 8:

10/15: Chapter 7 – The Courts and Legal Professionals

10/17: Chapter 7 – The Courts and Legal Professionals

Week 9:

10/22: Chapter 8 – After Conviction: The Sentencing Process

10/24: Chapter 8 – After Conviction: The Sentencing Process

Chapter 9 – After Conviction: The Problem of Prison

\*\*\*\*\*Skip Chapters 10 and 11\*\*\*\*\*

Week 10:

10/29: Movie

10/31: Movie

Week 11:

11/5: Chapter 9 – After Conviction: The Problem of Prison

Chapter 12 – Juvenile Justice in international Perspective

11/7: Exam 2 Review

Week 12:

11/12: Exam 2 – Chapters 5 – 9 and 12, System of Justice Slides, and Movie

11/14: Library Day - No Class - ASC

Week 13:

11/19: No Class – Fall Break

11/21: No Class – Fall Break

Week 14:

11/26: Exam 2 Return

Group Paper and PowerPoint Due

11/28: Group Presentations

Week 15:

12/3: Group Presentations

12/5: Group Presentations

Week 16:

12/10: Final Exam Review

12/12: Final Exam Review

Final Exam

12/17 – Comprehensive Final – All chapters and Systems of Justice Slides

## Grading Policy

Exam 1 – 20%

Exam 2 – 20%

Group Project – 45%

Final – 15%

## Grading Scale

98-100 = A+	88-89 = B+	78-79 = C+	68-69 = D+	59 and below = F
93-97 = A	83-87 = B	73-77 = C	63-67 = D	
90-92 = A-	80-82 = B-	70-72 = C-	60-62 = D-	

## Course Policies

### *Make-up Grades*

No make-up grades will be given unless DIRE circumstances arise (e.g. hospitalization, military deployment, and etc.) PROOF WILL BE REQUIRED AS NOTED BY UTD GUIDELINES

### *Extra Credit*

Any opportunities will be discussed in class. No individual extra credit will be given.

### *Late Work*

Late assignments will not be accepted for any reason. Ample time will be given for students to complete assignments early if time becomes an issue. If you have ANY doubt that you will be able to make the assignment deadline, you should submit your work early!

### *Class Attendance*

**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:** Material on exams will not only come from the text, but class lectures as well. Not all materials covered are in the Text. You will probably not be able to pass if you do not attend regularly.

### *Classroom Citizenship*

Please maintain class decorum and be respectful toward other students in the class. If you have a doubt or misunderstanding regarding course work, feel free to voice it in class but remember that, everyone in class is here to learn and frequent “disturbances” not pertinent to class work might be severely dealt with!

## Field Trip Policies / Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities

*Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website address [http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel\\_Risk\\_Activities.htm](http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm). Additional information is available from the office of the school dean. Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.*

## Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained

in the UTD printed publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Series 50000, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391) and online at <http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html>

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

### **Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic Dishonesty, any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe the copyright owner's rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act. As a UT Dallas student, you are required to follow the institution's copyright policy (Policy Memorandum 84-I.3-46). For more information about the fair use exemption, see <http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copypol2.htm>

### **Email Use**

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the

identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

### **Withdrawal from Class**

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

### **Student Grievance Procedures**

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of **F**.

### **Disability Services**

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities equal educational opportunities. Disability Services provides students with a documented letter to present to the faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. This letter should be presented to the instructor in each course at the beginning of the semester and accommodations needed should be discussed at that time. It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for accommodation. If accommodations are granted for testing accommodations, the student should remind the instructor five days before the exam of any testing accommodations that will be needed. Disability Services is located in Room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may reach Disability Services at (972) 883-2098.

Guidelines for documentation are located on the Disability Services website at <http://www.utdallas.edu/disability/documentation/index.html>

## **Religious Holy Days**

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

***These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.***