

CRIM 3303.001.16F: Advanced Criminal Justice
Fall 2016
Tuesday and Thursday 10:00am-11:15am
Mike G. Huskey, M.S.

Course Information

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Advanced Criminal Justice
Fall 2016
Tuesday and Thursday 10:00am – 11:15am
GR 2.302

Instructor Contact Information

Mike Huskey
Email: michael.huskey@utd.edu
Note: Please include “CRIM 3303 in your email subject line”
Office: TBD
Office Hours:
Tuesday 11:15am-12:15pm
By appointment

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

See handbook

Course Description

This is an advanced undergraduate elective course on the American criminal justice system, with a focus on the historical development of the modern criminal justice agencies and on the current role of those agencies. Discussions will center on the philosophical foundations around the modern criminal justice system as well as the current incarnations of the agencies that make up the criminal justice system. Students will learn about the current criminal justice agencies and their relationship with one another, including the policing, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice systems. Students will also learn how to critically assess the information that is used to make decisions about criminal justice policy, in an effort to expand knowledge about the ways in which criminal justice policy affects the other social justice systems. We will emphasize the interconnectedness that occurs between agencies and the systemic way in which the criminal justice system operates.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

1. To learn the foundations of the American criminal justice system, including the philosophical tenets inherent within the criminal justice system;
 2. To recognize the historical significance of the foundations of the American criminal justice system and identify the way that this history has helped shaped the current incarnation;
 3. To understand the main components of the criminal justice system, both individually and within the context of the relationship between them;
 4. To critically assess the state of the American criminal justice system;
 5. To evaluate the information used within the criminal justice system in order to assess the efficacy of the changes made within the system based on said information;
 6. To understand the relationship between the criminal justice system and the other social welfare systems which comprise society, both in terms of the positive and negative aspects of that relationship.
 7. This course is NOT a repeat of CRIM 1301 and should not be treated as such
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Required Textbooks and Materials

Bohm, R. M., & Walker, J. T. (2012). Demystifying crime and criminal justice (2nd ed.). Oxford University Press.

Suggested Course Materials

Various additional readings to be discussed throughout the semester

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Assignments:

Exams

200 points

There will be two exams in this class. The dates are listed below and on the schedule. Each exam is worth 100 points. Exams may consist of any/all of the following: multiple choice questions, short answers, and essay questions.

Midterm
Final Exam

10/6/2016
TBD

In-Class Assignments**100 points**

There will be 6 in-class quizzes throughout the semester. These quizzes may consist of multiple choice questions. The purpose of these quizzes is to allow an avenue to express conceptual understanding of the current course material as well as introduce you to the types of questions you will see on Exams. The quizzes will be graded out of 20, with the lowest score dropped (i.e. only 5 quizzes are counted towards your final grade)

Contemporary Issues Paper**200 points**

Each student is required to write a formal writing paper on the contemporary issue of their choice. The paper is due on November 17, 2016. This paper should meet the following requirements:

1. It is an issue that the criminal justice/social justice community has dealt with in the last ten years
2. There is available scholarly research on the topic
3. The topic can be succinctly covered in a 5-7 page research paper
4. The topic has not yet been resolved and there is on-going debate about the best way for the criminal justice to handle the situation

This paper will consist of both a literature review and a critical analysis of which side of the debate you feel is the best way to handle the situation. More information will be available on e-Learning.

In Class Presentation**100 points**

You will be required to do a 10 minute in-class presentation on your paper topic. This is a FORMAL presentation where you will teach the class something new that you have learned. The idea is not only to impart new knowledge to the class but also ensure that your colleagues understand your topic almost as well as you do. All information from the presentations are fair game to be tested on the in-class exams.

The in-class presentations will begin on September 13, 2016. Presentation dates will be assigned on September 8, 2016. Please think about your topic before then. Please note that the final paper is not due until November 17, 2016.

More information about the presentation, including instructions and grading information, will be available on e-Learning.

Schedule

Please see the attached class schedule for a list of the assigned readings and due dates.

Grading Policy

Grades will be calculated out of 600 points.

588 – 600	98-100	A+
558 – 587	93-97.9	A
540 – 557	90-92.9	A-
522 – 539	87-89.9	B+
498 – 521	83-86.9	B
480 – 497	80-82.9	B-
462 – 479	77-79.9	C+
438 – 461	73-76.9	C
420 – 437	70-72.9	C-
402 – 419	67-79.9	D+
378 – 401	63-66.9	D
360 – 377	60-62.9	D-
359 or less	0-59.9	F

Please note:

- I will **NOT** curve nor barter your grade at the end of the semester
- It is highly encouraged that you keep all of your graded work and keep track of your grades throughout the semester
- Students have 1 week from the date that graded work is returned in order to inquire about or appeal a grade. An appeal does not automatically ensure that a grade will be changed and the authority/decision to do so lies with the instructor

Course & Instructor Policies

Make Up Exams:

Make up exams will only be allowed with University approved documentation and if the professor is notified within 24 hours of the missed exam. In the case that it is known that an exam will be missed ahead of time, the student is responsible for taking the exam before the appointed time, as set by the instructor. Please note that going on a vacation is not a reason to be allowed to take a make-up or take an exam early.

Extra Credit:

There **may be** an extra credit assignment given to earn extra points for the semester. This will be up to the professor to decide and, if given, will be available to the entire class.

There will be no individual extra credit opportunities given in this class.

Late Work:

The same policies for make-up exams apply for late work. In the case of university approved absences, in class assignments can be made up. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the professor to determine if an assignment was missed and to obtain/complete the assignment. In these circumstances, the assignment must be completed within 1 week after the missed class date.

Special Assignments:

None

Class Attendance:

Class attendance is expected. In order to ensure participation, class attendance will be taken. Please show respect to the professor, the guest speakers, and your fellow students by being on time! If you are not in class, you will not be able to participate or prepare well for your exams. Students who do not sign in on the attendance sheet will be counted absent for that day – NO EXCEPTIONS. Another classmate may NOT sign in for you – this will be considered an act of academic dishonesty and will immediately be referred to Judicial Affairs. In the case of an absence, the student is responsible for missed materials.

Please Note: I do **NOT** hand out my class notes nor do I post notes/PowerPoint slides so it is imperative that you attend every class possible.

Classroom Citizenship:

In addition to the policies on student conduct and discipline, please note that I have the following policies:

1. Cell phones must be turned off or at the very least be on silent. If you are expecting a call, please be courteous and leave your phone on silent and then step politely out of the room to answer it. Furthermore, I do not expect students to be texting during class. If I see this, you will be asked to leave the class and will not receive credit for any assignments for that class period.
2. Do not under any circumstances engage in academic dishonesty. I will refer all questions of academic dishonesty directly to disciplinary proceedings.
3. Taking pictures of the lecture materials does not constitute taking notes and will not be permitted.
4. No recording devices are allowed in the classroom, unless first approved by the instructor.
5. Sleeping during class will not be tolerated. If a student is found sleeping, you will be asked to leave the classroom immediately and will be required to meet with the professor prior to re-entering the classroom.
6. Students are expected to display tolerance for others' views and statements given in class. When disagreement occurs, students are to act considerately. All comments and language should be respectful and appropriate for a college community. Abusive language towards one another or cursing is prohibited. If you feel you cannot act respectfully or appropriately, please exit the classroom and return only when your emotions and language are under control.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Instructor.

Course Schedule

Week One: 8/23 and 8/25

Topic: Introduction/Syllabus and The Myth of Accurate Crime Measurement

Readings: Get textbook and Read through Chapter 1

Week Two: 8/30 and 9/1

Topic: The Myth That Criminals Are Fundamentally Different than Non-Criminals and The Myth of Rational Choice as an Explanation of Criminal Behavior

Readings: Read through Chapters 2 and 3.

Week Three: 9/6 and 9/8

Topic: The Myth that Violent Juveniles Will Become Adult Criminals and The Myth of Black Crime

Readings: Read through Chapters 4 and 5

Quiz 1 on 9/6 (Ch.1-4)

Week Four: 9/13 and 9/15

Topic: The Myth that Mental Illness Causes Crime and Myths About Drug Legalization or Decriminalization

Readings: Read through Chapter 6 and 7

Presentations Begin (1-3)

Week Five: 9/20 and 9/22

Topic: The Myth About Drug Use and Violent Offending and The Myth that White Collar Crime is Only About Financial Loss

Readings: Read through Chapters 8 and 9

Quiz 2 on 9/20 (Ch. 5-8)

Presentations Begin (1-4)

Week Six: 9/27 and 9/29

Topic: The Myth that Current Gun Control Policies Reduce Crime and The Myth that Sex Offenders Are Beyond Redemption

Readings: Read through Chapters 10 and 11

Presentations (5-8)

Week Seven: 10/4 and 10/6

Topic: Demystifying Terrorism and The Myth That the Role of the Police is to Fight Crime

Readings: Read through Chapters 13 and 14

Quiz 3 on 10/4 (Ch. 9-11 and 13)

We **WILL NOT** have class on 10/6. It is highly encouraged that you use this day to work on your paper/presentation (or study for the midterm which is next week)

Week Eight: 10/11 and 10/13

Topic: Midterm Exam and The Myth that Science Solves Crime

Exam & Readings: The Midterm Exam will be administered on 10/11. Study chapters 1-11 and 13 and corresponding lecture material

Readings: Read through Chapter 15 for 10/13

Presentations (9-12) on 10/13

Week Nine: 10/18 and 10/20

Topic: The Myth That Police Use of Force is Widespread and The Myths of Racial Profiling

Readings: Read through Chapters 17 and 18

Quiz 4 on 10/20 (Chapters 14, 15, 17, and 18)

Presentations (12-15)

Week Ten: 10/25 and 10/27

Topic: The Myth That the Best Police Response to Domestic Violence is to Arrest the Offender and The Myth That the Exclusionary Rule Allows Many Criminals to Escape Justice

Readings: Read through Chapters 19 and 20

Presentations (15-18)

Week Eleven: 11/1 and 11/3

Topic: Labeling Theories and Conflict Criminology

Readings: Read through Chapters 21 and 22

Quiz 5 on 11/3 (Ch. 19-22)

Presentations (19-22)

Week Twelve: 11/8 and 11/10

Topic: The Myth that the Death Penalty is Administered Fairly and The Myth of Prisons as Country Clubs

Readings: Read through Chapters 23 and 25

Presentations (23-26)

Week Thirteen: 11/15 and 11/17

Topic: The Myth that Correctional Rehabilitation Does Not Work and The Myth that Rehabilitation is the Focus of Community Corrections

Readings: Read through Chapters 28 and 29

Quiz 6 on 11/17 (Chapters 23, 25, 28, and 29)

PAPERS DUE 11/17

(Presentations 27-30)

Week Fourteen: 11/22 and 11/24. No class Fall and Thanksgiving Break (Have fun!)

Week Fifteen 11/29 and 12/1

Topic: Finishing up Presentations

Presentations (31-35 on 11/29) and (36-40 on 12/1)

Week Sixteen 12/6

Topic: Movie

FINAL EXAM: TBA