



DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE
MCJ6100

"In God We Trust"

Spring Semester, 2016

- Room: On-line
- Instructor: Bruce Bayley, Ph.D., CFLE
Office: SS206
Phone: 801-626-8134 (Office), 801-626-6146 (CJ Department)
E-mail: Contact me via my Weber account and ALWAYS place MCJ6100 in the subject line or I won't get your message (bbayley@weber.edu) - ALL class correspondence will be done through your "weber.edu" account.
DO NOT use the Canvas system to communicate with me – I don't check it.
- Office Hours: M/W: 7:30-8:30 am, Tuesday: 11:00 am to Noon by appointment only via Google Hangouts – you must e-mail me at least 24 hours in advance to schedule your appointment – if you're unfamiliar with Hangouts, call 801-626-7777 for help.
- School Closure: In the event of a catastrophic event, such as an alien invasion, that closes WSU for an extended period of time, I will continue to provide instruction using the WSU Online Canvas course system and Chi Tester (unless, of course, I've been abducted, in which case you're on your own). Be sure to check Canvas and your university e-mail for updates and instructions.

*****IMPORTANT*****

This section of MCJ6100 will rely heavily on the use of technology. ALL students MUST have a Wildcat ID, access to WSU Online, and access to the Internet (either at home or on campus). ALL exams and quizzes will be taken via WSU Online and as such, the above requirements are MANDATORY. Please see the following locations for obtaining assistance with these requirements:

- 1) To obtain a Wildcat ID, go to: <https://portalapps.weber.edu/getwcid/>
- 2) To obtain access to WSU Online (you must have a Wildcat ID first), go to: <http://online.weber.edu/>
- 3) For a list of WSU computer labs, locations, and hours of operation, go to: <http://weber.edu/computerlabs/>

Catalog Description:

MCJ 6100. Contemporary Criminal Justice

Course provides an analysis of the policies and practices of agencies of the criminal justice system including the police, prosecution, courts and corrections. Additionally, the latest technology and developments in the field of criminal justice will be addressed.

Class format: On-line (Canvas & Chi Tester).

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Masters program.

Attendance: I do not take attendance in this course.

Required Readings:

Cole, G.F., Smith, C.E., & DeJong, C. (2014). *Criminal Justice in America (7th Ed.)*. United States: Wadsworth Publishing.

American Psychological Association. (2010). *APA Manual (6th Ed.)*. Washington, D.C.

Galvan, J.L. (2013). *Writing literature reviews: A guide for students of the social and behavioral sciences (5th Ed.)*, Pyrczak Publishing

Jordan, T. (2012). *The U.S. Constitution: And fascinating facts about it (8th Ed.)*, Oakhill Publishing.

Course Objectives:

1. Distinguish between the contemporary issues relevant to the current field of criminal justice.
2. Identify moderating and mitigating factors relevant to contemporary criminal justice
3. Analyze current research on a variety of contemporary issues relevant to the current field of criminal justice

Course Policies:

Students will demonstrate proficiency with the course material through the completion of 5 exams, 3 Web Forums, and 8 short quizzes from the Jordan text.

Rules Written in Stone:

- 1) Once an exam or assignment is late it CANNOT be made up. Due dates are due dates.....
- 2) If you cheat (even just a little), you fail the entire course (Final Grade = E).

University Student Code: The student code will be strictly enforced in this course and it is expected that each student is both aware of and familiar with its requirements and penalties. All aspects of your course work are covered by the University's student code and any violation(s) will be reported to the University. If you are unaware of the student code or need additional information, please use the following URL: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

Physical Impairments: If a student has any physical disability or other problems that will likely require some accommodation, these requirements must be made known to the instructor during the first week of the course. Any requests for special considerations relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking exams, etc., must be discussed with and approved by the instructor as soon as possible. For more information concerning the University's services to students with disabilities, please go to the following website: <http://departments.weber.edu/ssd/>.

Course Requirements:

Instead of a mid-term and final, we will have a series of five (5) exams (50 questions – see the course outline at the back of this syllabus for the dates of each exam). Each exam will test your knowledge of the assigned readings and lectures. Exams are not cumulative, but will instead focus on the material given after the last exam (or in the case of the first exam, all material given prior to the first exam). Exams will be written to test your understanding of the material, as well as your ability to apply concepts. The structure of each exam will most often be a combination of multiple choice and true/false questions, however, a few may also contain short essay questions.

All exams are given via Chi Tester and can be taken from any computer with Internet access. Once you start the exam, you'll have 75 minutes to complete the 50 questions. You may use your PowerPoint slides, hand written notes, and text.

Remember, exams are designed to assess what you've learned, not how fast you can find information.

Remember:

- a. Once you start an exam, you cannot stop or pause the clock.
- b. All exams are individual assignments – in other words, you CANNOT take an exam with someone else.
- c. Copying or distributing any portion of an exam or quiz will result in a failing grade for the class and may lead to your termination from the graduate program.
- d. Please use the following numbers for Technical Assistance (do NOT contact me with technical problems)
*Chi Tester Support: 801-626-6477
*WSU On-line Help Desk: 801-626-7777
- e. It is HIGHLY recommended to take all exams/quizzes at a university computer lab (WSU, University of Utah, Utah State, etc...). If there is a problem with a university system/computer that interferes with the successful completion of the exam/quiz, you must have someone from the lab e-mail me within 12 hours of the problem to have the exam reset. If you have a problem with your own computer or Internet service, you must notify me immediately and provide official documentation of the problem to me within 24 hours of the problem. Without official documentation from a computer technician or Internet Service Provider, your exam/quiz will not be reset.
- f. Question Challenges: if you wish to challenge an exam question, you must do so within one week (7 days) of the exam deactivating (one (1) day for Exam 5 so I can submit Final Grades on time). To challenge an exam question, e-mail me the exam number, the question number, which answer you feel is correct, and where in the book (page and paragraph number) or slides (chapter and slide number) your supporting information can be found. Challenges cannot be submitted until the exam has deactivated. DO NOT COPY AND PASTE EXAM QUESTIONS OR ANSWERS INTO YOUR CHALLENGE – doing so the first time will nullify your challenge, a second offense will result in a failing grade (E).

1. **Exams** (65% of your final grade) Address course objectives 1 – 3 (5 exams, 100 points each, 500 points total). Five (5) exams will be given. Each exam will test your knowledge of the assigned readings and PowerPoint lectures.

Exams will activated from 6 am on Monday of the week assigned until 11:55 pm on Sunday of the week they deactivate (see the Course Schedule at the end of the syllabus and the Exam Schedule in Canvas).

**Note: Exam 5 ends at 11:55 pm on FRIDAY, April 22
NOT Sunday, April 24.**

**Once you begin, you'll have 75 minutes
to complete your exam.**

When you submit your exam you will immediately know your score, but will not have access to the questions you missed until after the exam deactivates.

2. **Web Forums** (30% of your final grade) Address course objectives 1 - 3 (3 assignments, 100 points each, 300 points total). Throughout the semester there will be five Web Forum assignments (located within the corresponding Module – for example, Web Forum 1 will be in Module 1). Each of these assignments will cover a different topic and **CANNOT be made up if missed**. To complete each assignment, you should:
- Post an initial reply written in essay format (introduction, body, conclusion) to my comment/question (minimum of 1000 words, 70% of final score). Remember, these are to be empirically based arguments focusing on fact, not just personal opinion or experience, and must be written in APA format. **All initial replies are due by 11:55 pm Wednesday of the week due.**
 - Post two (2) follow-up replies to two of your classmates' initial posts. Note: Your follow-up replies must critically analyze or critique your classmates' posts. Do not simply say something like "I agree" or "Good post." Both follow-up replies must be a minimum of 300 words each (30% of final score). Remember, these are to be empirically based arguments focusing on fact, not just personal opinion or experience and must be written in essay and APA format. **All follow-up replies are due by 11:55 pm Sunday of the week due.**

As with all work, be sure to use proper grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. All posts should be written in essay format with a strong introduction stating your position, post body where you defend your position, and a strong conclusion. Remember, this is a graduate level course and as such, your posts must utilize expanded thought and detail.

Note: Web Forum 5 initial replies are due on Wednesday, April 20 at 11:55 pm and your two follow-up responses are due on FRIDAY, April 22 by 11:55 pm.

3. **Jordan Text Quizzes** (5% of your final grade) Address course objective 2 (8 assignments, 5 points each, 40 points total). During the semester there will be eight (8) quizzes on your readings from *The U.S. Constitution: And fascinating facts about it*. Each quiz will consist of five multiple choice or true/false questions, and will activate on the first day of the semester and deactivate on the same day/time as Exam 5 (you have the entire semester to complete all eight (8) quizzes). Quizzes are open book and can be taken as many times as you'd like during the activation period (only your highest score will count towards your final grade).

Once you start a quiz, you have 1 minute to complete it.

Quiz 1: Pages 25-30 (Fascinating Facts About the Constitution)

Quiz 2: Pages 31-36 (The U.S. Constitution)

Quiz 3: Pages 37-44 (The U.S. Constitution)

Quiz 4: Pages 45-50 (Amendments to the U.S. Constitution)

Quiz 5: Pages 51-58 (Amendments to the U.S. Constitution)

Quiz 6: Pages 59-63 (The Declaration of Independence)

Quiz 7: Pages 77-80 (Fascinating Facts About the Supreme Court)

Quiz 8: Pages 81-86 (20 Landmark Cases in Supreme Court History)

Lectures:

Each chapter will have two files associated with it. First is the chapter "Lecture File" you are to view by simply clicking on the chapter link (For example, Chapter 1 Lecture). Second will be a PDF file of my PowerPoint slides with blanks in each slide that will be filled in as you view the Lecture File (For example, Chapter 1 Fill-in). Your completed PDF file will not be collected, but serve as your lecture notes for each chapter (Remember, exam questions will come from your readings and your lecture notes). To accommodate students with slow Internet speed, there is NO audio to the Lecture Files.

Grading Scale: Be sure to review your Canvas gradebook on a regular basis. Any corrections to your gradebook must be made before Exam 5 deactivates – after that, any errors or omissions become permanent and will be used to calculate your final grade.

A = 94 - 100	B+ = 87 - 89.9	C+ = 77 - 79.9	D+ = 67 - 69.9	F = 59.9 or less
A- = 90 - 93.9	B = 83 - 86.9	C = 73 - 76.9	D = 63 - 66.9	
	B- = 80 - 82.9	C- = 70 - 72.9	D- = 60 - 62.9	

Rounding on the Final Grade: If you have completed all course assignments and are less than one percentage point away from a higher grade, I will use the following rounding criteria to determine your final grade: 0.5% or higher will be rounded up, <0.5% will not (for example, 89.5 = A-; 89.4 = B+).

Course Schedule

(Subject to change – Be sure to check WSU Online at least 3 times per week and ALWAYS before class for any changes to this course or its requirements)

Readings and Due Dates

Course Materials

Week 1 – Canvas familiarization

Syllabus Quiz (you must receive 100% before you'll have access to the Course Page)

Exam Schedule (from your Cole, Smith, & DeJong readings)

Exam 1

The Criminal Justice System

Chapter 1

Crime and Crime Causation

Chapter 2

Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law

Chapter 3

Exam 1: Chapters 1-3 (1/11 – 1/31)

Exam 2

Police	Chapter 4
Police: Contemporary Issues and Challenges	Chapter 5
Police and Law	Chapter 6

Exam 2: Chapters 4-6 (2/1 – 2/21)

SPRING BREAK: 3/7 – 3/11

Exam 3

Courts and Adjudication	Chapter 7
Pretrial Procedures, Plea Bargaining and the Criminal Trial	Chapter 8
Punishment and Sentencing	Chapter 9

Exam 3: Chapters 7-9 (2/22 – 3/20)

Exam 4

Corrections	Chapter 10
Incarceration and Prison Society	Chapter 11
Probation and Intermediate Sanctions	Chapter 12

Exam 4: Chapters 10-12 (3/21 – 4/10)

Exam 5

Reentry Into the Community	Chapter 13
Technology and Criminal Justice	Chapter 14
Juvenile Justice	Chapter 15

Exam 5: Chapter 13-15 (4/10 – 4/22)

Web Forum Schedule

Web Forum 1	(1/11 – 2/14)
Web Forum 2	(2/15 – 3/20)
Web Forum 3	(3/21 – 4/22)

REMEMBER:

Canvas can only show ONE Web Forum due date and as such, only shows the due date for your follow-up replies (Sunday – except Web Forum 5), NOT the due date for your initial post (Wednesday).
