

Syllabus
“Clashing Views in Crime and Constitutional Law”
ONLINE Spring 2016

Criminal Justice MCJ 6250

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Office Hours By Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed for students to understand, discuss and debate hotly contested criminal justice and social issues. These issues focus on important aspects of modern life and selected in an effort to engage students.

The challenge of this course will be for the students to resist embracing one side of the debate without considering the opposing arguments. Keeping an open mind may not change your views, but it will provide for greater insight into these critical issues.

“It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to
entertain a thought without accepting it.”
Aristotle

OBJECTIVES

Interpret the pros and cons of current controversial criminal justice legal issues

Appraise a current criminal justice legal issue and defend a position

Create and develop a review of a criminal justice legal issue

TEXTBOOK

***Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Constitutional Law*; 1e, Thomas J. Hickey, McGraw-Hill 2011. ISBN-13: 9780078050794**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Exams—There will be two exams during this course. Exams will consist of multiple choice and essay components. **Exams are to be taken at WSU testing centers.** Exams may be taken from the first day of the course but will expire on the due date listed in the syllabus. Students may take their textbook only for exams. **There are no provisions for taking an exam late.**

Quizzes—There will be one quiz for each of the ten issues covered during this semester. For example—Quiz One is based upon Issue Four of textbook. Course Schedule (see below) identifies which Ten Issues of the textbook will be covered. All quizzes are available from the first day of the semester until one week after the due date listed in the syllabus. Quizzes taken after the due date will lose five points. The quizzes consist of the same multiple choice questions that will be used for both exams. Student's **top five quiz scores** will be used to determine their grade. All quizzes will be taken online. Students will click onto the quiz for each module and take the quiz. All quizzes are timed and open book. Students will be allowed limited time per question---prepare well in advance as you will NOT have time to look up every answer in the textbook. To protect the integrity of both the quizzes and the exams, no reviews of either the quiz or the exam will be allowed. Quizzes may be taken on ANY computer—do NOT go to a testing center to complete a quiz.

Two Position Papers—There will be an assigned due date listed in the syllabus for all Position Papers to be completed. **Students will be assigned both a topic (Issue in the Textbook) and position** to defend for both Position Papers. An example would be the Issue on “Is Crime Beneficial to Society” and student will defend the “NO” position. Students will submit their position paper using the Assignment Icon on the homepage for this course. The Position Paper must be submitted online using Word doc or docx files. You must download the file when submitting the assignment. The Position Paper must be a minimum of 1000 words. Students are to use APA format for all citations in the body of the paper. In addition, there must be a bibliography page at the end of the paper with at least three sources listed. Students do not need to include an Abstract Page for their Position Paper but should provide a strong introductory and conclusion paragraphs. 30% of the grading will be related to formatting and 70% for content. **Position papers submitted late will lose five points per day late. No submittals after the fifth day past the due date.**

Research Paper—Students will prepare an APA formatted research paper on a subject contained in the textbook. Students must have the instructor approve their subject as it will then be listed in the grade book. **STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE THEIR SUBJECT APPROVED BY February 19th**
Papers will have a cover sheet, abstract paper and reference page in addition to the 5-7 pages required for the body of the research paper. Research paper projects will be submitted online using the icon on the homepage for this course. **RESEARCH**

PAPERS DUE April 20th—no late papers accepted The Canvas homepage has an Icon with information on how to complete the APA formatted paper along with the icon for submittal

Timelines— this course is designed to allow students to progress through it as quickly as they choose. Exams must be taken by the due date listed in the syllabus and must be taken at a WSU testing center. Quizzes are available for one week beyond the due date but students will lose five points for taking them after the due date listed in the syllabus. Position Papers must be completed by the due date listed in the syllabus. Again, **Position Papers may be completed sooner than the due date.**

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities in Room 181 of the Student Services Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

Plagiarism and/or cheating will not be tolerated. Consequences may include the failing of the class and/or being expelled from the university.

GRADING

Two Exams	200 Points @ 100 points each exam
Quizzes	100 Points
Two Position Papers	200 Points
Research Paper	100
TOTAL POINTS	600

Divide total points by 6 to determine your final grade

100 - 93 (A)	76.9-73 (C)
92.9 - 90 (A-)	72.9-70 (C-)
89.9 - 87 (B+)	69.9-67 (D+)
86.9 - 83 (B)	66.9-63 (D)
82.9 - 80 (B-)	62.9-60 (D-)
79.9 - 77 (C+)	59.9 - 0 (E)

SCHEDULE

Quiz	Issue	ISSUE DISCUSSION	Due Date
Number	Number		Quiz
1	4	Should Non-Citizen Terrorists Have Right to Writ of Habeas Corpus?	1/15
2	7	Should Bill of Rights Fully Bind State Proceedings?	1/22
3	8	Should States Be Permitted to Abolish Exclusionary Rule?	1/29
4	9	Does the Bill of Rights Guarantee Right to Privacy?	2/5
5	11	Does a Constitutional Right to Privacy Protect Homosexual Rights to Intimacy?	2/12
		EXAM ONE-- Issues 4, 7, 8, 9, 11	2/19
		Research Subject Approval Due Submit on Chi tester	2/19
		Position Paper One Due—Five point penalty per day late	2/26
6	12	Is the Right to Bear Arms Unconnected With Service in Militia?	3/4
7	13	Does Confining Sex Offenders Indefinitely to Mental Hospitals Constitutional?	3/11
8	14	Is Death Penalty Unconstitutional for Juvenile Offenders?	3/18
9	15	Does Constitution Require Public Institutions/Facilities be Racially Integrated?	3/25
10	19	Should Flag Burning Be Protected by First	4/1

		Amendment	
		EXAM TWO—Issues 12, 13, 14, 15, 19	4/8
		Position Paper Two Due—Five point penalty per day late	4/15
		Research Paper Due—No late papers accepted	4/20

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q. How do I contact the instructor?

A. You may contact me by either email (preferred) or by phone. PLEASE use the email system on the homepage of this online course. This allows me to file all emails by the course you are taking. Do not use your Weber Wildcat email for questions. My phone number(s) and email address are listed on the Instructor Information Icon on the homepage. I will respond quickly to all email inquiries by students. Typically within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends.

Q. What is the workload expectation of this online course?

A. This course is designed to occupy approximately the same amount of time you would spend in completing a traditional three-credit hour course on campus. Counting the time to prepare for weekly written assignments, attend class, prepare for exams, this course should take about the same number of hours—136.

Q. May I move through the course at a faster pace than the schedule identifies?

A. Yes

All assignments will be available for students from the first day of the semester. **Quizzes are available for one week after the due date posted in the syllabus. Quizzes taken the week after the due date will be considered late and penalized five (5) points. Exams will also be available the first day of the semester but they will be dropped the day after the due date. There are no provisions for taking an Exam late.** The Position Paper assignment component is due on the due date listed in the syllabus but may be completed earlier. **Position Papers submitted late will be penalized five points per day. Students will not be allowed to submit their Position Paper five days after the due date.**

Q. What are the quizzes like?

A. There will be Ten (10) quizzes available in the course. Each quiz contains multiple choice questions and chi tester will randomly select the questions each week for students. The quizzes will be automatically scored at the conclusion of the quiz. All of the information for the quizzes is taken from the text. There are a maximum number of one-hundred points (100 points) possible for the quizzes. Student's top five quiz scores will be used for the final grade. Your grade sheet will adjust your total quiz points at the end of the semester. All quizzes must be taken on or before the due date for full credit.

Quizzes taken the week after the due date will be penalized five (5) points. There is no review available for quizzes after student completes the quiz.

Q. What are the exams like?

A. The exams consist of multiple choice and essay questions randomly selected by the chi tester program. Like the quizzes, all questions are taken from the textbook. See the syllabus schedule for when the exams are to be taken and what Issues will be covered. All quizzes and exams are timed and open book. There is no review available for exams.

Q. May I take the exams or quizzes late?

A. Quizzes may be taken up to one week after the scheduled due date for that quiz. However, late quizzes will lose five (5) points. **Exams must be taken as scheduled.** Re-scheduling will only be allowed for documented emergencies. Remember, this is an online course which allows you to take both exams and quizzes based on your personal schedule.

Q. May I review my course progress regularly?

A. Yes, you can check your scores regularly on the online grade book for this course.

Q. How do I complete the Position Papers?

A. Go to the homepage for this course and click onto the Assignment Icon for specific directions. If you have any questions after reading the information, email the instructor. Remember, you will be assigned both an Issue and a Position for you to defend in your position papers.

Q. Tell me more about the Research Paper.

A. Your research paper must be completed using APA format. The instructions for subject and content are included in the syllabus. Research papers will be scored awarding 70% of your score for content, grammar and spelling, and 30% for proper APA format. Remember to cite all information from your references in the body of your research paper in addition to citing all references/sources on your last page.

Q. What if I need help with this course?

A. You may always contact me personally by email for assistance. You may always contact our Online Learning staff (801) 626-6499 for assistance. If you are having technical problems with User Id or Passwords--contact the help desk at 626-7777. Assistance is also provided with online tutorials to assist students.