

RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

Program in Criminal Justice

“Police”

Fall 2015

Beck Auditorium

T/Th 5:00 to 6:20 P.M.

Jay Kohl

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COURSE SYLLABUS

Learning Goals – Program in Criminal Justice:

A Statement of Principles

The Program Committee for the Program in Criminal Justice at Rutgers University in New Brunswick has adopted a series of learning goals for students who complete the major. These goals represent the consensus of the faculty regarding the concepts a student should grasp and the skills a student should acquire in the course of completing the major. These goals guide the choices faculty make about the structure of the curriculum and the requirements for our majors. Moreover, they guide faculty and instructors preparing course material and teaching courses.

The Program in Criminal Justice will provide students with a rich understanding of crime and criminal justice in the United States and abroad through an interdisciplinary approach that blends a strong liberal arts educational experience with pre-professional instruction in the field of criminal justice. Graduates of the program will be well-informed citizens on the topic of crime and justice, and qualified for graduate study or for employment as practitioners in a variety of legal, policymaking, and law enforcement fields.

Criminal justice majors graduating from a research university should be able to use critical thinking, factual inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to individual and group behavior. In addition, students should have an understanding of the legal, political and policymaking processes that affect criminal justice systems in the United States and elsewhere in the world. Finally, students should be familiar with the institutional structures and latest developments in the field in order to engage in meaningful debate about current public policy issues.

Learning Goals for Criminal Justice Majors

1. Competence:

- a) Theory. Students who complete the major in criminal justice should understand and be able to articulate, both orally and in writing, the core theoretical concepts that form the foundation of analysis and research in criminology and criminal justice today. Core concepts are derived

from explanations of crime from a variety of perspectives, including biogenic, psychological, and sociological approaches. There are myriad theories of crime that are informed by these perspectives, including, classical, control, critical, ecology, labeling, learning, strain, and trait-based approaches. Theoretical literacy should extend to multicultural and international understanding.

- b) **Institutions.** Students who complete the major in criminal justice should understand the special role of three types of institutions: Police, Corrections, and Courts. In addition, students should know how institutional forms vary across jurisdictions and how these institutions interact with and influence each other.
 - c) **Research Methods.** Students who complete the criminal justice major should be familiar with the tools, techniques, and data sources necessary for empirical analysis. Students should understand the various ways that empirical analysis is used in the scientific approach: for description, for developing, and for testing theories. They should be able to analyze data using computer applications and should be familiar with basic statistical techniques and regression analysis. They should be able to read and assess research from a wide range of sources, including general interest, academic, and government publications.
- 2. Critical Thinking:** Upon completion of the major students should be able to apply their understanding of core concepts and quantitative tools to analyze and research real world problems, and evaluate alternative policy proposals on a range of criminal justice issues, from micro-level analyses relevant to particular cases to management concerns to macro-level analyses of legislative and other broad-scale policies. Accomplishment of this goal will require that students can apply their literacy and numeracy skills to different institutional structures, within the U.S. and across countries.
- 3. Scholarship:** Qualified majors should have an opportunity through such avenues as advanced coursework, internships, and faculty interactions to conduct independent research on matters of central relevance to the field of criminal justice.

Course 202 Information - Police

Required Textbook: Dempsey and Frost, An Introduction to Policing (7th. Edition), Copyright – 2014, Thomson and Wadsworth

Course Description:

This course will provide students with an in-depth examination of policing, from its very beginning to the present day. To enhance the learning experience, students will also receive personal perspectives from the instructor and guest speakers who are current practitioners in law enforcement, private security, the practice of law, specialists who work with or against law enforcement and others such as community activists who can contribute to a better understanding of policing. The specific dates of the guest speakers' presentations have not yet been identified. However, the following course schedule is dynamic and provides time for multiple presentations, special/additional reading assignments and other updates.

Course Objectives:

We will not engage in an in-depth discussion of the textbook and handout assignments. While the classroom lectures and discussions will often parallel the readings, students will still be expected to read and understand the assignments. A combination of textbook readings, outside

reading assignments, lectures, current events, classroom discussions and presentations from guest speakers will all provide students with a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by modern police departments. Exam and quiz questions will focus on information from all the above.

Course Requirements:

Examinations: There will be two examinations during the session, a mid-term and a final. Examinations will be based on assigned readings, class lectures and discussions, and guest speaker presentations. The midterm examination will be based on the material covered during the first half of the semester. The final examination will be based upon everything covered after the mid-term examination and the earlier materials that are again reinforced after the mid-term.

Quizzes: There will be two quizzes during the session, and they will be based on the reading assignments, the lectures and from information provided by guest speakers. Each quiz will consist of multiple choice questions.

Methods of Instruction:

Although the textbook will be a source of examination questions, a significant number of the midterm and final examination questions will come from the outside reading assignments, class lectures and the guest speakers. Class discussions and guest speakers will provide information not found in the textbooks. Class lectures will not involve a chapter-by-chapter tour of the textbook. While I use PowerPoint slides as an outline to assist me in making daily presentations, the slides are not the basis of the quizzes and tests. The PowerPoints are simply my outline of the readings and other information that I share with the class. I do not provide the PowerPoint presentations to the class; you should feel free to make your own outline. Students are expected to come to class prepared to engage in an open discussion on the covered topics. The only opportunity for consideration of extra credit will come from participation in class.

Note: No extra credit assignments will be authorized to improve a final grade.

Grading:

The course grade will be determined using the following weighting scale:

Mid-Term Examination:	35%
Quizzes (2):	15% each
Final Examination:	35%

Grading Scale:

The following grading scale will be utilized:

90-100	A
87-89	B+
80-86	B
77-79	C+
70-76	C
65-69	D
0-64	F

Class Attendance and Conduct:

- Students are encouraged and expected to attend every class. Students who miss a class are responsible for obtaining class notes from their fellow students. **I will not provide class notes to students who miss a class and do not provide copies of PowerPoint presentations.**
- Students are expected to keep up with the reading material assigned for each class. All students are strongly encouraged to ask questions and contribute to the class discussions.
- Students are expected to arrive for class on time and conduct themselves appropriately. Cell phones and pagers must be turned off during class.
- Rutgers University has a well-defined academic integrity policy, which will be *strictly enforced* in this class. All students should review the policy, which can be found at <http://TeachX.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>.

Office Hours:

I will be available to meet with students before and after class, by appointment and will also make time to meet with any student who would like to discuss this course, law enforcement career opportunities, or any other matter related to this course. My goal is to provide quality academic instruction to you and, when my personal and professional experiences are relevant, to share with you lessons I have learned during my years of public safety service. My obligation to the students in this class is not limited to the course material. I welcome the opportunity to provide whatever assistance and/or guidance I am capable of providing.

COURSE SCHEDULE¹

Sept. 1	Introductions, background discussion and syllabus review. Reading Assignment: Part I - Chapter 1.
Sept. 3	Lecture and review of text. Reading Assignment: Part I - Chapter 2
Sept. 8	No class – Monday classes this date
Sept 10	Lecture and review of text Reading Assignment – Chapter 3 and 4 and Handout: Reading Assignment: Fixing Broken Windows
Sept. 15	Lecture, textbook, handout review Reading Assignment: Chapter 5
Sept. 17	Lecture, textbook, handout and; discussion/presentation. Reading Assignment: – Chapter 6.
Sept. 22	Textbook review and discussion and Quiz I Reading Assignment Chapter 7 and Public Safety handout
Sept. 24	Textbook and handout review Reading Assignment: Chapter 8

¹ The course, quiz, test and reading schedule are subject to change. The pace of instruction and availability of guest presenters will likely call for some modifications. Students will be informed of any changes and are expected to update their syllabus.

Sept. 29	Guest Speaker (to be announced) or Lecture Reading Assignment Chapter 9
Oct. 1	Guest Speaker (to be announced) or Lecture Reading Assignment Chapter 10
Oct. 6	Textbook review and discussion, Assignment: Review through Chapter 10
Oct. 8	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment: Chapter 11
Oct. 13	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment: Chapter 12
Oct. 15	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment: Chapter 13
Oct. 20	Mid Term Exam
Oct. 22	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment: <i>Foreseeing One's Duty to Protect</i>
Oct.27	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment: Chapter 14
Oct. 29	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment: Chapter 15
Nov. 3	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment: Chapter 16
Nov. 5	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment: Handout to be assigned
Nov. 10	Textbook, handout reviews and discussion Reading Assignment: Handout to be assigned
Nov. 11	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment: Handout to be assigned
Nov. 17	Textbook, handout review and Quiz II Reading Assignment: Handout to be assigned
Nov. 19	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment and/or handout to be assigned
Nov. 24	Textbook and handout review and discussion Reading Assignment: Handout to be assigned
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Holiday

- Dec. 1 Textbook and handout review and discussion
Reading Assignment and/or handout to be assigned
- Dec. 3 Textbook and handout review and discussion
Reading Assignment and/or handout to be assigned
- Dec. 8 Textbook and handout review and discussion
Last class prior to review
- Dec. 10 Final Exam review and discussion. This class will provide students with an opportunity to ask questions prior to the final exam. The final exam will cover all readings, presentations and class room discussions that were covered during the second half of semester
- Dec. 18 Final exam (12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.)**