

POLS 3600: Criminal Justice Administration – Spring 2017

Instructor: Ethan Boldt

Class time: 12:30-1:45 Tues & Thursday

Classroom: Amos Hall B002

Office hours: Fridays 1:00pm-2:00pm or by appointment.

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Course Description: This course examines the people and institutions that make up the American criminal justice system. Specifically, it gives a broad overview of its three major components: law enforcement, courts, and corrections. Individual topics surveyed include the police, arrest, prosecution, plea-bargaining, trials, sentencing, probation, intermediate sanctions, corrections, reentry, challenges in criminal justice, and juvenile justice.

Required Text: George F. Cole, Christopher E. Smith, and Christina DeJong, *Criminal Justice in America*, 8th ed., Wadsworth Cengage. ISBN: 978-1-305-26106-8 (unfortunately, edition matters)

Optional Text: Amy Bach, *Ordinary Injustice: How America Holds Court*, Holt Paperbacks. ISBN: 978-0-8050-9227-1

Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities that have been certified by the UGA Disabilities Services office will be accommodated according to university policy. If you have documentation for accommodations from Disabilities Services, please present it to me as soon as possible. All information as well as documentation is considered confidential. For more information, contact Disabilities Services at 706-542-8719. If you cannot access the classroom or my office, please notify me as soon as possible so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Academic Honesty: All course work must meet the standards put forth in the University of Georgia's Student Honor Code. See the Academic Honesty Policy for details on what is expected of you. Be aware that under no circumstances will cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty be tolerated in this class.

Class Conduct: Criminal justice is now a nationally controversial political issue. People hold strong opinions across a wide range of topics. This course is designed to incorporate multiple viewpoints and interpretations of the justice process. However, when expressing their own views, students must practice the respect, decency, and patience necessary to excel as a criminal justice professional (or any other type of occupation). The instructor reserves the right to penalize students for failing to meet this important responsibility.

Grading

Participation: 10%

Exam 1: 30%

Exam 2: 30%

Quizzes 1 & 2: 15% each (30% total)

Extra Credit: 5% possible

A:	94-100	C:	74-77
A-:	90-93	C-:	70-73
B+:	88-89	D+:	68-69
B:	84-87	D:	64-67
B-:	80-83	D-:	60-63
C+:	78-79	F:	< 60

Course Requirements and Evaluation

Participation: Though much of the class will revolve around lecture, students will be rewarded for participating in discussions, in-class activities, and by answering questions. This class does not have an attendance policy and attendance will not be taken. It is entirely a student's decision to attend class on a given day. However, habitual absences may count against your participation score, as you cannot participate while you are absent.

Exams: The two exams will combine multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and essay questions. Neither will be cumulative. Exam 1 will cover all material leading up to the exam, including all material covered in Quiz 1. Exam 2 will cover all material following Exam 1, including the material covered in Quiz 2. Make-ups will only be given in accordance with university policy and in the case of a legitimate, documented, medical excuse.

Quizzes: The two quizzes will have multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. Quiz 2 will only cover the material after Exam 1 takes place (non-cumulative). Make-ups will only be given in accordance with university policy and in the case of a legitimate, documented, medical excuse.

Extra Credit Podcasts: Extra credit podcasts will be offered most weeks throughout the semester. Students who are interested in receiving extra credit are encouraged to engage with this material. Students will not be penalized in any way for choosing not to do so; however, this is the course's only guaranteed extra credit opportunity. If a podcast is assigned under this category, students will answer questions through a short comprehension quiz during class time. Students who successfully answer the questions will be given extra credit. Students who complete all assignments will receive 5% added to their final grade in the course. Partial extra credit grades will be given in proportion to the number

of assignments completed (e.x. if a student does half of the assignments they get 2.5% added). No make-ups will be given for extra credit assignments.

Schedule

Dates are subject to adjustment by the instructor. All textbook readings should be done prior to date listed.

Week One: August 14, 16

Syllabus and introduction

Extra credit assignment

Thursday: *Criminal* "Episode 31: American Dream"

Week Two: August 21, 23

Chapter One: The Criminal Justice System

Extra credit assignment

Thursday: *Planet Money* "The (Legal) Marijuana Business"

Week Three: August 28 (NO CLASS THURSDAY AUGUST 30th)

Chapter Two: Crime and Causation (Note: skip the section on Causes of Crime)

Extra credit assignment

Tuesday: *Radiolab* "Darkode"

Week Four: September 4, 6

Chapter Three: Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law

Extra credit assignment

Tuesday: *Freakonomics Radio* "What's More Dangerous: Marijuana or Alcohol?"

Week Five: September 11, 13

Tuesday: Leftovers

Thursday, September 13th: Quiz One (covers ch. 1-3)

Extra credit assignment

Tuesday: *Snap Judgment* "The Incident at Poison Spider Mesa"

Week Six: September 18, 20

Chapter Four: Police

Extra credit assignment

Tuesday: *99 Percent Invisible* “The Blazer Experiment”

Week Seven: September 25, 27

Chapter 5: Policing, Contemporary Issues and Challenges & Chapter 6: Police and Law

Extra credit assignment

Tuesday: *Radiolab* “Eye in the Sky”

Week Eight: October 2, 4

Tuesday: Leftovers, Review for Exam One

Thursday, October 4th: Exam One (covers ch. 1-6)

Extra credit assignment

None

Week Nine: October 9, 11

Chapter 7: Courts and Adjudication

Extra credit assignment

Tuesday: *This American Life* “If You Cannot Afford an Attorney, Some Random Dude Will Be Appointed to You”

Week Ten: October 16, 18

Chapter 8: Pretrial procedures, plea bargaining, and the criminal trial

Extra credit assignment(s)

Thursday: *Radiolab* “The Buried Bodies Case”

Week Eleven: October 23, 25

Chapter 9: Punishment and Sentencing

Extra credit assignment(s)

Thursday: *Snap Judgment* “Get Right with your God”

Week Twelve: October 30, November 1

Tuesday: Leftovers

Thursday November 1: Quiz Two (covers ch. 7-9)

Extra credit assignment

Tuesday: *Planet Money* "Episode 711: Hooked on Heroin"

Week Thirteen: November 6, 8

Chapter 10: Corrections

Extra credit assignment

To be announced

Week Fourteen: November 13, 15

Chapter 11: Incarceration and Prison Society

Extra credit assignment

To be announced

Week Fifteen: November 20, 22 (NO CLASS THANKSGIVING BREAK)

Week Sixteen: November 27, 29

Chapter 12 & 13: Probation, Intermediate Sanctions, and Reentry into Community

Thursday: Exam 2 review

Extra Credit Assignment:

To be announced

Exam 2 will take place during the final exam period.