

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRACTICE

POLS 4905 - Spring 2020

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This one-hour course introduces students to criminal justice agencies and occupations and considers current issues facing criminal justice professionals. Students will examine the work, culture, and work settings of various criminal justice practitioners, assess ethical issues in criminal justice practice, and learn new directions in the field.

This course is expected to help prepare each student for a career as a criminal justice professional. By the end of this course: 1) Students should have knowledge of existing careers in criminal justice and new directions in the field. 2) Students should possess an understanding of ethical issues that face criminal justice professionals. 3) Students will have strengthened communication skills used by criminal justice practitioners. 4) Students will have a better understanding of their own career interests.

REQUIREMENTS

All students are expected to attend class prepared. Please check email and ELC daily for announcements about speakers and class assignments. All readings will be uploaded to ELC.

To receive an “S” for this course:

1. We have just fourteen class meetings. You cannot have more than three absences (excused or unexcused). If you develop a serious health condition that affects your ability to attend, please set up an appointment with me to discuss these issues over the phone.
2. For each week, you will write a one- or two-page paper, reacting to the points raised during the talk by the speaker(s), videos, or other media. This paper will also be expected to address any readings, if assigned. I will collect these in hard copy form twice over the course of the semester: March 5th and April 23rd. I will inform you by the first week of April if your first set of papers did not meet the threshold for an “S”
3. Each week, I will be providing information on out-of-class lectures, events, and other media that relate to the field of criminal justice. You must attend two of these out-of-class talks/events over the course of the semester. The first out-of-class assignment should be completed by March 12th. You should take a date-stamped photo documenting your attendance and send to me via email the photo, along with a single paragraph, reacting to the points made by the speaker/event.
4. You will conduct a professional interview of a practitioner. These interviews will be

conducted in small groups (that I have assigned); each team will present information derived from your interview to the class. These presentations will be held during the final exam period for this class: April 30th, 3:30-6:30 pm. I will provide more information on the interview assignments by mid-February.

Academic honesty. All students are responsible for maintaining the highest standards of honesty and integrity in every phase of their academic careers. The penalties for academic dishonesty are severe and ignorance is not an acceptable defense. All academic work for this course must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

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Emergency preparedness

Please make yourself familiar with the nearest exit in the event of a fire and what to do in the event of a tornado warning. If you have concerns about other emergencies or if you have special circumstances that I need to know about in case of an emergency, please contact me via email at the start of the semester.

Disability

If you plan to request accommodations for a disability, please register with the Disability Resource Center, see <http://drc.uga.edu>.