This course examines the actors and institutions that make up the American criminal justice system. The role each will be discussed, as will the current and developing policies relevant to their activities and effectiveness. Political and constitutional questions central to criminal justice administration will be considered, as will their practical effects.

**Readings.** The following textbook is required:


**Examinations.** There will be a midterm examination and a final examination. No exceptions will be made for the scheduled examination times except in the case of a documented medical emergency. If you have additional needs or have permission from the Disability Resource Center for extra time on exams, please contact me privately and arrangements will be made.

**Paper.** Paper. A 6-8 page (double-space) paper is due on November 21 (11:59 PM via ELC). A list of possible paper topics is located at [www.stateofthejudiciary.com](http://www.stateofthejudiciary.com). See the ‘Educational Activities’ section for four potential writing prompts.

**Grading.**
Midterm examination 30%; State of the Judiciary paper 30%; final examination 40%

Grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

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<th>Grade</th>
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<td>A</td>
<td>100-94</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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**Academic Integrity.** Neither plagiarism nor cheating will be tolerated. Appropriate citations are expected and encouraged. All students are expected to behave in accordance with the guidelines of the UGA Honor Code. If you are unsure whether certain actions are acceptable, consult your instructor. Use of artificial intelligence (e.g., ChatGPT) to write class assignments will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade (F).

UGA Student Honor Code: "I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate academic dishonesty of others." A Culture of Honesty, the University's policy and procedures for handling cases of suspected dishonesty, can be found at www.uga.edu/ovpi.

**Attendance.** This course will not have a graded attendance component, but much of the lecture material will not appear in the readings. Everyone is encouraged to attend regularly. Students will be informed of any adjustments to regular course attendance by the instructor via ELC and/or e-mail.

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student’s legal name. I am eager to address you by your preferred name and/or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records.

In the absence of written authorization from the UGA Disability Resource Center, students may not make a visual or audio recording of any aspect of this course. Students who have a recording accommodation agree in writing that they:

- Will use the records only for personal academic use during the specific course.
- Understand that faculty members have copyright interest in their class lectures and that they agree not to infringe on this right in any way.
- Understand that the faculty member and students in the class have privacy rights and agree not to violate those rights by using recordings for any reason other than their own personal study.
- Will not release, digitally upload, broadcast, transcribe, or otherwise share all or any part of the recordings. They also agree that they will not profit financially and will not allow others to benefit personally or financially from lecture recordings or other course materials.
- Will erase/delete all recordings at the end of the semester.
- Understand that violation of these terms may subject them to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct or subject them to liability under copyright laws.

**Mental Health and Wellness Resources.**

- If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact Student Care and Outreach in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-7774 or visit [https://sco.uga.edu](https://sco.uga.edu). They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services.
• UGA has several resources for a student seeking mental health services (https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga) or crisis support (https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies).

• If you need help managing stress anxiety, relationships, etc., please visit BeWellUGA (https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga) for a list of FREE workshops, classes, mentoring, and health coaching led by licensed clinicians and health educators in the University Health Center.

• Additional resources can be accessed through the UGA App.
Course Outline

Thurs., Aug. 15: Introductory meeting

Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 1

Tues., Aug. 27—Thurs., Aug. 29: Crime and Justice in America
Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 2

Tues., Sept. 3—Thurs., Sept. 5: Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law
Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 3

Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 4

Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 5

Tues., Sept. 24: Police and Constitutional Law
Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 6

Thurs., Sept. 26—Tues., Oct. 1: Courts and Adjudication
Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 7

Thurs., Oct. 3: Court Administration

Tues., Oct. 8: Chief Justices and Reform in the CJ System
Skim the State of the Judiciary Archive at [http://www.stateofthejudiciary.com](http://www.stateofthejudiciary.com)

Thurs., October 10: MIDTERM EXAM

Tues., Oct. 15: Accountability Courts

Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 8

Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 9

Tues., Nov. 5—Thurs., Nov. 7: Corrections
Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 10
Tues., Nov. 12: Incarceration and Prison Society
Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 11

Thurs., Nov. 14: Community Corrections
Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 12

Tue., Nov. 19: *Parole Board: Missouri* screening and discussion

*State of the Judiciary paper due on November 21*

Thurs., Nov. 21: Reentry into the Community
Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 13

Tues., Nov. 26: Juvenile Justice
Cole and Smith, *Criminal Justice in America*, Ch. 15

Thurs., Nov. 28: No class, Thanksgiving

Tues., Dec. 3: No class, UGA on Friday schedule

Thurs., Dec. 5: Final exam 8-11 AM