

POLS 3600
Criminal Justice Administration
Spring 2025

Dr. Richard L. Vining, Jr.
Office: Baldwin 380C
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Office hours: By appointment
Classroom: Baldwin 101D
Meetings: MWF 9:10-10:00 AM

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 textbooks are required:

G. Cole, C. Smith, and C. DeJong, *Criminal Justice in America*, 10th ed. (2021; ISBN 0357456335)

R. Vining and T. Wilhelm, *Administering Justice: Placing the Chief Justice in State Politics* (2023; ISBN 9780472056309) – available as a free e-book at Amazon, etc.

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. A 6-8 page (double-space) paper is due on April 18 (11:59 PM via ELC). A list of possible paper topics is located at www.stateofthejudiciary.com. See the ‘Educational Activities’ section for four potential writing prompts.

Grading. Midterm examination 30%; white paper 30%; final examination 40%

Grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

100-94	A	89-86	B+	79-76	C+	69-66	D+
93-90	A-	85-83	B	75-73	C	65-60	D
		82-80	B-	72-70	C-	59-00	F

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>. 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

Mon., Jan. 6: Introductory meeting

Wed., Jan. 8—Fri., Jan. 10: The Criminal Justice System
Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 1

Mon., Jan. 13—Wed., Jan. 15: Crime and Justice in America
Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 2

Fri., Jan. 17: CJ and the Rule of Law (Part I)
Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 3

NO CLASS MONDAY, JAN. 20: MLK, JR., DAY

Wed., Jan. 22: CJ and the Rule of Law (Part II)
Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 3

Fri., Jan. 24—Mon., Jan. 27: Police and Law Enforcement
Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 4

Wed., Jan. 29—Fri., Jan. 31: Contemporary Issues in Policing
Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 5

Mon., Feb. 3: Police and Constitutional Law
Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 6

Wed., Feb. 5—Wed., Feb. 12: Courts and Adjudication
Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 7

Fri., Feb. 14: Court Administration

G. Linhares. 2012. "Vision, Function, and the Kitchen Sink: The Evolving Role of the State Court Administrator." In Future Trends in State Courts 2012, pp. 20-25.

R. Vining and T. Wilhelm. 2023. "The Chief Justice as Administrator." Ch. 3 in Administering Justice: Placing the Chief Justice in State Politics, pp. 65-80.

Mon., Feb. 17: Chief Justices and Reform in the CJ System

R. Vining and T. Wilhelm. 2023. "The Chief Justice as Advocate." Ch. 4 in Administering Justice: Placing the Chief Justice in State Politics, pp. 80-110.

R. Vining and T. Wilhelm. 2023. "The Chief Justice as Politician." Ch. 5 in Administering Justice: Placing the Chief Justice in State Politics, pp. 111-130.

Skim the State of the Judiciary Archive at <http://www.stateofthefudiciary.com>

Wed., Feb. 19-Fri., Feb. 21: Pretrial Procedures, Plea Bargaining, and Criminal Trials
Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 8

Mon., Feb. 24: Accountability Courts

Wed., Feb. 26: Midterm exam

Fri., Feb. 28: Punishment and Sentencing I

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

NO CLASS MAR. 3-7; SPRING BREAK

Mon., Mar. 10-Fri., Mar. 14: Punishment and Sentencing II

Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 9 (cont.)

Mon., Mar. 17-Wed., Mar. 19: The Death Penalty

John J. Donohue III and Justin Wolfers. 2009. "Estimating the Impact of the Death Penalty on Murder." American Law and Economic Review 11: 249-309.

D. Jacobs, Z. Qian, J. Carmichael, and S. Kent. 2007. "Who Survives on Death Row? An Individual and Contextual Analysis." American Sociological Review 72: 610-32.

Fri., Mar. 21-Wed., Mar. 26: Corrections

Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 10

Fri., Mar. 28-Mon., Mar. 31: Incarceration and Prison Society

Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 11

Wed., Apr. 2: Community Corrections (Part I)

Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 12

Fri, Apr. 4: ELC: "Life on Parole" (PBS Frontline documentary) – online; Dr. Vining at MPSA meeting in Chicago

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WuaRIkHsQGY>

Mon., Apr. 7-Wed., Apr. 9: Community Corrections (Part II)

Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 12

Fri., Apr. 11-Wed., Apr. 16: Reentry into the Community

Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 13

Video (in classroom): Parole Board (Missouri)

Fri., Apr. 18: ELC: "Life after Lockup" (PBS NewsHour documentary) – online; research and writing day

https://youtu.be/Lp8SF2Ky_bM

* Research paper due April 18, 11:59 PM *

Mon., Apr. 21: Juvenile Justice

Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 14

Wed., Apr. 23-Fri., Apr. 25: Current Challenges in CJ
Cole, Smith, and Dejong, Criminal Justice in America, Ch. 15

Mon., Apr. 28: Review Session (Zoom)

Final exam on April 30 at 8:00am (3 hours)