

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY - - DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
SYLLABUS (FALL 2011 - - Section 002): JUST 1000- - THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

COURSE INFORMATION:

Class Meeting Days/Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 pm to 1:45pm (Section 002)
Class Location: Rivers West 105-A
Instructor: Dr. John Johnson Kerbs, Associate Professor
Instructor's E-mail Address: kerbsj@ecu.edu
Office: 330 Rivers West Building
Office Phone: 1-252-328-5546
Cell Phone: 1-850-212-3319
Office Hours: Tuesdays from 2:00pm to 7:00pm, or by appointment.

COURSE CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

Roles, problem areas, and suggested program changes for police and law enforcement, detention services, courts, community correctional services, and correctional institutions.

GENERAL PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

This course provides students with a comprehensive and critical understanding of historical and contemporary issues facing the three main components of America's criminal justice system: 1) law enforcement; 2) courts; and 3) corrections. Additionally, this course provides an overview of the relationships between agencies in each of the three components. Finally, students will learn about the roles and responsibilities of criminal justice practitioners, problem areas facing each component of the criminal justice system, and interventions used by law enforcement, court-related personnel, and correctional staff/agencies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Given the wide scope of materials examined within this course, students will be able to critique and describe:

- 1) Historical issues concerning crime and criminal justice;
 - 2) Information regarding the nature and extent of crime;
 - 3) Key concepts required to understand crime and victimization;
 - 4) Substantive and procedural aspects of criminal law;
 - 5) Historical issues concerning law enforcement;
 - 6) The organization, role, and function of law enforcement;
 - 7) Contemporary issues facing law enforcement in America;
 - 8) The "Rule of Law" as it affects law enforcement activities in the United States;
 - 9) The courts and the judiciary;
 - 10) Issues pertaining to the prosecution and the defense of juveniles and adults;
 - 11) Pretrial procedures;
 - 12) Criminal trials for adults and adjudicatory hearings for juveniles;
 - 13) Punishment and sentencing for community-based sanctions, jails, and prisons;
 - 14) Correctional history, correctional institutions, and correctional populations; and
 - 15) Incarceration and decarceration (i.e., living in and leaving prison).
-

CONTINUITY OF INSTRUCTION STATEMENT:

In the event that ECU classes are suspended due to a pandemic, inclement weather conditions, or other catastrophe, I will strive to continue to provide instruction to those who are able to participate. In the case of suspension of face-to-face classes, you will receive an email from me as well as a Blackboard announcement that details how we will communicate, where you can locate course information, and what you can expect during this time period. I realize that some of you who are directly affected by the event will not be able to participate, but I will provide instruction to those who are able to receive information via the internet: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/eai/continuity.cfm> See academic regulations at: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/ugcat/regulations.cfm>

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

_____ I will teach this course through a series of Power-Point lectures that will complement: 1) required weekly readings from a textbook; 2) class handouts; and 3) other materials.

REQUIRED READING MATERIALS:

_____ Reading is required for each and every week of the semester as outlined in this syllabus. You are required to buy the textbook:

Siegel, L. (2010). *Introduction to Criminal Justice (Twelfth Edition)*. Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth.

Note: Four copies of this textbook are available via short-term reserve at the Joyner Library's reserve desk. If you cannot immediately purchase this textbook due to financial reasons, you may use a copy on reserve to xerox as needed. If one or more of the reserve copies is/are damaged or pages are cut out of any copy, they will be permanently removed from the reserve desk for the remainder of the semester. Thus, please keep all books in good condition.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS:

None.

EXAMINATIONS:

There will be three exams for this course. Each examination is worth 25% of your final grade. The format of these exams will include the following: 1) true/false questions; 2) multiple-choice questions; 3) fill-in-the-blank questions; and 4) short-answer/essay questions. All exams will cover both lecture material and required readings. Please keep the following in mind:

- 1) No make-up exams will be given without a documented emergency (e.g., hospitalization, family death). The student must contact the instructor prior to the exam or as soon as practical thereafter if s/he is unable to take the exam as scheduled due to a *documented* emergency. Without a documented emergency, the student will receive a zero for the missed exam.

- 2) All exams will cover lectures, handouts, and readings required through the week of the examination. For example, the first examination will cover all readings/lectures ***including*** those materials that are due during the week of the first exam.
 - 3) ***You must arrive on time for all examinations.*** If you arrive after the examination begins (but prior to the first person leaving the exam), you will automatically receive a ten-point reduction in your total exam score. If you arrive after the first person leaves any given examination, then you will receive an automatic “F” (i.e., a zero) for the examination due to problems with security that are created by people arriving after others have left the test.
 - 3) Examinations are ***not*** cumulative.
 - 4) **All make-up exams will consist of essay questions. All make-up exams should be scheduled within one (1) week of the missed test.**
-

QUIZZES:

To encourage attendance and the completion of all assigned readings each week, I will give a series of 6 random (unscheduled) quizzes. I will only count your four (4) highest quiz scores towards your grade (i.e., you get to drop two quiz scores). Each quiz, typically given at the start of class, is worth a maximum of 5 points towards your final grade. If you do not arrive on time for class, you will not be allowed to take the quiz (i.e., you will get a “zero” for a grade on a missed quiz) ***and there will be no make-up quizzes.*** All quizzes are unannounced, in-class, closed-book, and focused on the readings due for the week of the quiz. Statistically, each quiz counts for 5% of your total course grade (20% for all 4 quizzes combined).

OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:

Students will not be penalized for missing a class or examination due to the observance of a religious holiday. If any schedule conflict exists, a written statement ***must be submitted to the instructor prior to the end of the second class meeting.***

MANDATORY ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

Please understand that, as your professor, I am professionally invested in seeing you succeed in this course and in your college careers. Students that attend classes learn more and they are also less likely to drop out of college. Hence, I strongly suggest that you attend all classes.

To encourage attendance, participation, and the completion of all assigned readings each week, I will take attendance and give students grades for participation. Attendance and participation are worth 5% of your final course grade. Attendance, class discussions, participation, activities and exercises are not assigned a letter grade, but are computed in the instructor’s rating of the student. The instructor’s rating will also be computed on the basis of class attendance. ***If you miss 3 classes, your end-of-semester grade will decrease by 3 points. If you miss 4 classes, your term grade will drop by 4 points (5 days/5 points). IF YOU MISS 6 CLASSES, YOU WILL FAIL THE COURSE FOR THE TERM. If you have an excused absence with proper documentation, you have one week from the date of absence to provide proper documentation to the professor. Should you fail to provide documentation within one week, your absence will be considered unexcused and irrevocable (i.e., the professor will not be able to review documentation at the end of the semester). Participation in on-going class discussions is mandatory.***

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

It is important that students conduct themselves in a manner that is conducive to a productive learning environment. Accordingly, all students are responsible for the following:

- 1) You should be in class prior to 12:30 p.m. (i.e., before class begins). If you arrive late, you may join the class, but please enter quietly. If you disrupt the class upon entering, you will be asked to leave. **If you arrive after attendance, please see the instructor after class to assure that you are documented as attending the class (i.e., it is your responsibility to make sure you are not listed as absent).**
- 2) You must complete the assigned weekly readings before class meets on Tuesdays so that you can answer questions in class and participate in discussions as needed. Additionally, failure to complete the weekly readings will severely hurt your performance on the unscheduled quizzes.
- 3) All students should avoid engaging in disruptive activities (e.g., carry on private conversations, checking email, surfing the net, etc) during class. Students who disrupt class will be asked to leave and may be removed from the course by the instructor following appropriate notice. Students removed from this course under this policy will receive a grade of “drop” according to university policy and are eligible for a tuition refund as specified in ECU’s refund tuition policy.
- 4) ***Students attending JUST1000 should disable all electronic devices during class. If you are caught with an electronic device on your desk or if you are caught using electronic devices (i.e., cell phones, Blackberries, I-Phones, I-Pods, MP3-players, Smart Phones, DROIDS, email devices, text , messaging devices, etc) in class, then you will be asked to leave class and you will receive an unexcused absence for the day. Laptops may only be used in the first two rows of the classroom for taking notes and not to surf the net. Students who use laptops to surf the net or engage in email or messaging or chatting or u-tubing or twittering or face-booking or my-spacing will not be allowed to return to class with laptops for the remainder of the semester.***

POLICY ON DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR:

East Carolina University is committed to providing each student with a rich, distinctive educational experience. To this end, students who do not follow reasonable standards of behavior in the classroom or other academic setting may be removed from the course by the instructor following appropriate notice. Students removed from a course under this policy will receive a grade of “drop” according to university policy and are eligible for tuition refund as specified in the current tuition refund policy.

GRADE EVALUATION:

EXAMINATION	MAXIMUM POINT VALUE
Test #1	25 Points
Test #2	25 Points
Test #3	25 Points
Top 4 Quizzes	20 Points
Attendance	5 Points
	100 Total Possible Points

GRADING SCALE:

GRADE	SCORE RANGE
A	90-100
B	80-89.999
C	70-79.999
D	60-69.999
F	0-59.999

If needed, final course grades will be curved up so that the median grade for this class is in the “B” range. All grades are never curved down, only up as needed.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic integrity is expected of every East Carolina University student. Academic honor is the responsibility of the students and faculty of East Carolina University. Consult the ECU website for questions, guidelines, appeals, and other information: http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/policyhub/academic_integrity.cfm. Academically violating the ECU Student Honor Code consists of the following:

1. Cheating. Unauthorized aid or assistance or the giving or receiving of unfair advantage on any form of academic work.
2. Plagiarism. Copying the language, structure, ideas, and/or thoughts of another and adopting same as ones own original work (Example: copying the answers on a test from another student).
3. Falsification. Statement of any untruth, either spoken or written, regarding any circumstances relative to academic work.
4. Attempts. Attempting any act that, if completed, would constitute an academic integrity violation as defined herein.

In practical terms, if you cheat on a test or quiz, you will receive an “F” for this course and you will be reported to the Dean of Academic Affairs. Please review the information at the website located above and familiarize yourself with: 1) what constitutes academic dishonesty; and 2) the rights and responsibilities of both students and faculty.

AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) POLICY:

East Carolina University seeks to fully comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students requesting accommodations based on a covered disability must go to the Department of Disability Services, located in 138 Slay, to verify the disability before any accommodations can occur. The telephone number is 252-737-1016 and their website is as follows: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/dss/>. Students with disabilities who need academic accommodations should (1) register with and provide documentation of the disability to ECU’s Department of Disability Support Services, and (2) bring a letter to the instructor documenting the required accommodation. This should be done during the first week of class or as soon as possible after verification is completed with the Department of Disability Services.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS:

Final examinations will be held at the close of each term in all courses. There will be no departure from the printed schedule of examinations. **Changes for individual emergencies of a serious nature will be made only with the approval of the instructor, the student’s major chairperson, director, or dean.** The departmental chairperson, school director, or the college dean will, if a serious emergency is believed to exist, forward a written request to the Office of the Registrar, setting forth the nature of the emergency. A student who is absent from an examination without a documented excuse of a serious nature may be given a grade of “F” in the course. The instructor may issue an incomplete (I) in the case of a student absent from the final examination who has presented a satisfactory excuse or an official university excuse from the Dean of Students or his/her designee. [<http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/ugcat/regulations.cfm>]

For additional information about issues concerning the final examination, please see the previous section entitled “EXAMINATIONS” for more details regarding policies and procedures.

WEEKLY READINGS AND TESTS for FALL 2010

Week #1 [August 23 & 25]: Syllabus Review, Course Overview, and Overview of Crime

“Chapter 1: Crime and Criminal Justice” *AND* “Chapter 2: The Nature and Extent of Crime.”

Week #2 [August 30 & September 1]: Overview of Victimization

“Chapter 3: Understanding Crime and Victimization.”

Week #3 [September 6 (Classes cancelled for Make-Up Day on 9/5) and September 8]: Overview of Criminal Law

“Chapter 4: Criminal Law- Substance and Procedure.”

Week #4 [September 13 & 15]: The History and Organization of Police

“Chapter 6: Police in Society - History and Organization.”

Week #5 [September 20 & 22 (TEST #1)]: The Organization, Role, and Function of Law Enforcement

“Chapter 7: The Police- Organization, Role, and Function.”

The first test will be held on 9/22/2011 (Thursday) and it will cover everything in Weeks 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5.

This test will include true/false questions, multiple choice questions, and fill-in-the-blanks.

Week #6 [September 27 & 29]: Issues in Policing

“Chapter 8: Issues in Policing.”

Week #7 [October 4 & 6]: The Rule of Law in Law Enforcement

“Chapter 9: Police and the Rule of Law.”

Week #8 [October 11 (FALL BREAK - - Class Cancelled) & October 13]: Overview of Courts

“Chapter 10: The Courts and the Judiciary.”

Week #9 [October 18 & 20]: Overview of Prosecution and Defense

“Chapter 11: The Prosecution and the Defense.”

Week #10 [October 25 & 27 (TEST #2)]: Overview of Pretrial Procedures

“Chapter 12: Pretrial Procedures.”

The second test will be held on 10/25/2011 (Thursday) and it will cover everything in Weeks 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10.

This test will include true/false questions, multiple choice questions, and fill-in-the-blanks.

Week #11 [November 1 & 3]: Criminal Trials and Juvenile Justice - - 2 CHAPTER WEEK

“Chapter 13: The Criminal Trial” *AND* “Chapter 18: The Juvenile Justice System.”

Week #12 [November 8 & 10]: Punishment & Sentencing and Community Corrections - - 2 CHAPTER WEEK

“Chapter 14: Punishment and Sentencing” *AND*

“Chapter 15: Community Sentences - Probation, Intermediate Sanctions, and Restorative Justice.”

Week #13 [November 15 & 17]: Life in Prison

“Chapter 16: Corrections - History, Institutions, and Populations”

Week #14 [November 22 & November 24 (Class Cancelled Due To Break)]: Reintegration into Society

“Chapter 17: Prison Life - Living In and Leaving Prison.”

Week #15 [November 29 & December 1]: More on Prison Life & Release

Week #16 [December 8 (Pizza Party & Final Thoughts)]: Mandatory Attendance: The U.S. Constitution

“The U.S. Constitution” - - Read Pages 689-697

FINAL EXAMINATION: December 8 (Thursday) FROM 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

This final examination will include true/false questions, multiple choice questions, and fill-in-the-blanks.

It will only cover material reviewed during the last third of the semester (weeks 11-15).

PLEASE CHECK UNIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR SCHEDULE CHANGES - STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DOUBLE-CHECKING ALL SCHEDULED EXAMS FOR PROPER TIMES & DATES