**Introduction to Criminal Justice**

CJ 200, Section 102

3 CREDIT HOURS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & CRIMINOLOGY PROGRAM

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

SPRING SEMESTER 2015

MWF 11:00-11:50

SMITH HALL 416

**Professor Whitney Flesher**

**Smith Hall 734**

**Phone: 304-696-3082**

**Fax: 304-696-3085**

**Email:** flesher9@marshall.edu*(this is the best way to get in touch with me!)*

**Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 8:00-10:00**

*(Note: There may be times when I am unavailable during my office hours, so it would be a good idea to email me before you come)*

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIAL:**

DeTardo-Bora, K.A., Bora, D.J., & Dameron, S.L. (2015). *West Virginia’s Criminal Justice*

 *System.*

Gaines, L.K., & Miller, R.L. (2013). Third Edition. *CJ* 3.

*Note: This is a one-time use book and access code. In other words, you cannot return or sell back this text as it contains an online access code that can be used only once. However, its price (about $55) is only about one third of what a normal textbook in this course would cost. When purchasing this material, make sure you are getting a new copy. You should only purchase this material from the MU Bookstore or from the publisher. DO NOT purchase it from anyone else online, because there is no guarantee that the access code has not already been activated. Be aware that some bookstores may list it as available “Used” or for “Rental” but it CANNOT without the code already having been used.*

This course material is required and can be purchased at the Marshall University Bookstore or directly from Cengage Publishing using the following link:

http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/isbn/9781285840055. This bundle includes a traditional textbook and an online access code card which provides access to an e-version of the textbook and numerous online activities that go along with the class material. Therefore, the entire bundle is required as the real learning material for this course is not the book, but rather the online and interactive activities found in “CourseMate” (*see below for description*). If you happen to be repeating this course from a previous semester, note that this material may be different than what was previously used depending on when you took the class. In that case, you will need to purchase this new material to successfully complete the course.

Please note that the publisher does offer the option of purchasing a stand-alone access code to CourseMate for immediate use. This option WILL NOT include a printed textbook, but rather only access to the e-book and online material. I leave it to your discretion if you choose to purchase the instant access code only. The obvious advantage is that you will get immediate access to the e-version of the book, and you can get on the course without delay. If you are buying the material at the last minute, this may be a better option for you. However, the drawback is that you will not have a printed copy of the book. In this case, if you have internet or computer malfunctions, it may prevent you from accessing the material when necessary. Therefore, you are choosing this option at your own risk. Personally, I would rather have the bundle as I like to read from a physical book. Regardless of which option you choose, if the MU Bookstore runs out of copies, you will need to buy the material using the publisher’s website. In my opinion, the MU Bookstore is still the best option overall, as it provides less hassle and returns are more convenient.

*What is CourseMate?*

Much of the substantive information for this course can be found through the interactive modules in CourseMate. In essence, the CourseMate website is just as important as the textbook. Research evidence indicates that learners today are more visual, hence this format has been deemed a more reliable method of retaining information than simply reading a book. The registration process for CourseMate is very simple; just follow the step-by-step directions that I emailed each of you in PDF format.

Once you have successfully created your account and entered CourseMate, take some time to familiarize yourself with the environment. Within each topic, you will find various activities such as **Learning Modules, Animations, Beat the Clock Games, Simulations, Interactive Quizzes, Glossaries** and more. While I would like you to complete all of these activities for your own benefit, the interactive quizzes are of most importance here. Even though you will be receiving scores for these quizzes within CourseMate, I will NOT be using them toward your grade in this class. They are for your benefit only and can be taken an unlimited number of times. Furthermore, I strongly urge you to use the glossaries when reviewing for quizzes and exams.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This survey course examines the various components of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement, courts, and corrections. Students will be introduced to various criminal justice agencies and career possibilities.

**COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS**

You must have access to a computer, as well as access to the internet to send and receive email messages. If you are using an email account other than your Marshall email account, you must set your Marshall email account to forward to your other account. Furthermore, this course contains an interactive web component, so access to the internet is absolutely necessary.

Note: While a dial-up connection is suitable for browsing some of the pages within CourseMate, the loading of videos and other interactive material may be significantly slower. It is recommended that students use computers with faster connection speeds for accessing some of the content.

**IST DEPARTMENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1.     Students will demonstrate proficiency in the utilization of contemporary technologies to solve real-world problems.

2.    In the development of a research project, students will scientifically analyze data, evaluate and incorporate relevant research, and describe potential implications.

3.    Students will effectively communicate in relating findings and recommendations resulting from course projects.

**CRIMINAL JUSTIC AND CRIMINOOGY DISCIPLINE-SPECIFIC LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Differentiate Among Criminal Justice System Components, Roles, and Practices

1. Students will *define* and properly use specialized terms to *describe*, *explain*, and *differentiate* the components, roles, and practices of the criminal justice system.

Apply Theory in Criminal Justice and Criminology

2.    Students will *describe*, *explain*, and *differentiate* major theories and theorists in criminal justice and criminology, and use one or more of these theories to *explain* a selected behavior (e.g., crime), event (e.g. victimization), or policy response (e.g., law).

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES MATRIX**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Learning Outcome** | **How Each Outcome is Practiced in this Course** | **How Each Outcome is Evaluated in this Course** |
| (1)Understand the major issues that confront the study of crime and criminal justice. These issues include concepts such as justice, process, procedures, and roles. In addition, students will be able to differentiate various criminological theories and their importance to the study of crime. | In-class lectures, CourseMate activities, and discussions | Quizzes, assignments, and exams |
| (2)Critically evaluate the subsystem of law enforcement through a review of its history, organization, role, function, and police procedure and its relationship to the rule of law. | In-class lectures, CourseMate activities, and discussions | Quizzes, assignments, and exams |
| (3)Assess the criminal court system and its key players (i.e., the prosecution, defense, and judiciary) as well as understand the dual court system and trace the steps of the accused through the trial process to the point of implementing punishment. | In-class lectures, CourseMate activities, and discussions | Quizzes, assignments, and exams |
| (4)Comprehend the value of the final, yet least understood, component of the criminal justice system-corrections. | In-class lectures, CourseMate activities, and discussions | Quizzes, assignments, and exams |

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance will not be recorded. However, poor attendance will have an adverse effect on your grade as exams and quizzes will cover concepts presented in class but not the course materials.

If you miss an exam with no legitimate documented excuse (i.e., university sponsored activities, personal illness or family death, or major religious holiday), you will earn a zero for that test and not given a make-up test. If you are ill or know in advance that you will miss an exam for a legitimate excuse, you (or your representative) must notify me BEFORE the scheduled exam time. If I am not notified before the exam, you will earn a zero regardless of the excuse. For those students who do contact me and have a legitimate excuse, an alternative time to take the exam will be determined. The format of the make-up exam will be left to my discretion. In addition, students who are late on exam day will not be permitted to take the exam if another student(s) has already completed the exam and has left the classroom. You will NOT be able to take the exam or take a make-up exam in this case.

There are no make-up pop quizzes or in-class assignments with or without an excuse; however, if a valid documented excuse is presented and accepted, the score will be waived. It is the student’s responsibility to notify the professor in this case. No excuses will be accepted after the class period immediately following the class that was missed.

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies listed below. Please read the full text of each policy by going to [www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs](http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs) and clicking on “Marshall University Policies”

* Academic Dishonesty
* Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates
* Computing Services Acceptable Use
* Inclement Weather
* Dead Week
* Students with Disabilities
* Academic Forgiveness
* Academic Probation and Suspension
* Academic rights and Responsibilities of Students
* Affirmative Action
* Sexual Harassment

**CLASS CANCELLATIONS AND CHANGES**

If it is necessary to cancel class, I will make all efforts to send a group email before you come to campus. However, if that is not possible, you should wait at least 15 minutes before leaving class. The syllabus, schedule, assignments, examinations, and calendar are tentative and may be subject to change. I reserve the right to change these, if necessary; however, you will be notified of any course changes.

**IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY DATES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **August 24-28** | Late registration and add/drop (schedule adjustment) |
| **August 31** | Withdrawal “W” Period begins |
| **October 30** | Last Day to Drop a Full Semester Individual Course |
| **November 2-December 6** | Complete Withdrawals Only |
| **December 4** | Last Class Day and Last Day to Completely Withdrawal for Fall |

 **“REAL” IN-CLASS GUIDELINES**

1. ***R****espect*: Sensitive topics may be discussed in this course. I expect that all students treat one another with the utmost respect at all times. Disrespectful behavior and/or language will not be tolerated.
2. ***E****ngage*: Do not sleep, text message, read outside materials, or wear headphones during class. Also, please turn your cell phones off or on vibrate/silent. If you must take an emergency phone call, please leave the classroom. Engage in discussions with your peers!
3. ***A****ttend*: Come to class on time, remain for the entire class period, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may be distracting to others. Do not come late to class and/or leave early (unless you have made prior arrangements with me).
4. ***L****isten*: Recording devices of any kind are strictly prohibited unless prior permission is obtained from me.

Violation of any of these guidelines will result in being dismissed from class.

**GRADING SCALE**

**Criteria Weight Scale**

Exam 1 15% 90-100% A

Exam 2 15% 80-89% B

Exam 3 15% 70-79% C

Final Exam 15% 60-69% D

Quizzes & In-Class Assignments 10% Below 60% F Assessments 30%

 100%

**GRADING CRITERIA**

1. **Exams (60%)**

There are four exams in this class: three mid-course exams and a partly cumulative final exam. I have learned that students do not prepare for a lecture on exam days, thus once you complete your exam you are done for the day. Exams will cover material presented in class and in the assigned readings. Each exam is worth 15% of the final course grade. Your name must be on your exam to be graded.

1. **Assessments (30%)**

There are two assessments in this course, each worth 15% of the final course grade. These assignments should be typed, single-spaced, Times New Roman, 12-pt font, one inch margins, and proofread. Your name must be on your assignment to be graded.

1. **Quizzes and In-Class Assignments (10%)**

Pop quizzes and in-class assignments will be given at my discretion and cannot be made-up. Your name must be on your quiz/assignment to be graded.

Reading assignments can be found on the tentative course schedule at the end of this syllabus. They are meant to reinforce the class lectures and discussions, and it is expected that they will be completed prior to class. In-class quizzes on the material will be given, so you are responsible for everything that is assigned. Along with the readings, there are corresponding online interactive activities in CourseMate for each chapter. Although these activities will not be graded, they will enhance the lectures and your overall learning of the class material.

**TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE**

**August**

24 Course Introduction

26, 28 GM1, WV1

31 GM2, WV2

**September**

2, 4 GM2, WV2

7, 9, 11 NO CLASS

14, 16 GM3, WV3

18 GM3, WV3; EXAM REVIEW

21 EXAM

23 GM4, WV4

25 GM4, WV4; ASSESSMENT #1 AVAILABLE ON BB

28, 30 GM5, WV4

**October**

2 GM5, WV4; HAND OUT CLASS FEEDBACK; ASSESSMENT #1 DUE @ 10:00 ON ` BB

5 CLASS FEEDBACK DUE; GM6, WV4

7 GM6, WV4

9 GM6, WV4; EXAM REVIEW

12 EXAM

14, 16 GM7, WV5

19, 21, 23 GM8, WV5

26, 28 GM9, WV5

30 GM9, WV5, EXAM REVIEW

**November**

2 EXAM

4 GM10, WV6

6 GM10, WV6; ASSESSMENT #2 AVAILABLE ON BB

9, 11 GM11, WV6

13 NO CLASS; ASSESSMENT #2 DUE @ 10:00 ON BB

16, 18, 20 GM12, WV6

23, 25, 27 NO CLASS

30 GM13, WV7

**December**

2 GM13, WV7

4 GM13, WV7; EXAM REVIEW

8 FINAL EXAM @ 10:15

**\*\*Extra Credit\*\***

**You have the opportunity to earn two extra credit points added to your final grade per Criminal Justice extracurricular activity/event. Your activity/event must be approved by me in advance (e.g. crime prevention seminar/workshop, shadow a CJ professional for a day, “walk in her shoes”). Upon approval and attendance, you must fill out the following form to apply for your two extra credit points.**

**CJ 200 Extracurricular Activities Write-Up Form**

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Event:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions in at least one typed, single-spaced page. This is due on BB within 24 hours of event.

1. What did you learn?

2. How did this event relate to class readings and discussions?

3. Please critique the event. How could it have been improved? Were there any ideas presented that conflicted with what you have learned?