

CJ 406: Race, Ethnicity, Class, and Crime

Sec. 101, Multicultural

Dr. Kimberly DeTardo-Bora
Criminal Justice & Criminology Program
School of Forensic & Criminal Justice Sciences

Office: Smith Hall 736

Office Phone: 304.696.3084

Fax: 304.696.3085

Email: detardobora@marshall.edu

Web: <http://www.marshall.edu/criminal-justice>



Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 9:00-11:00 & 1:00-2:00 (or by appointment)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Examines the impact of race, ethnicity, and culture within the criminal justice system. Explores minorities and women as victims, witnesses, and offenders. (3 credit hours)

- Prerequisites: CJ 200
- CJ 406/506 convenes Mondays & Wednesdays from 2:00-3:15 in Smith Hall 418

REQUIRED TEXTS

Alexander, M. (2012). *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. New York: The New Press.

Walker, S., Spohn, C., & DeLone, M. (2018). *The color of justice: Race, ethnicity, and crime in America* (6th ed.). Belmont, CA: Cengage Learning.

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY

Students must have a computer or access to one 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, (i.e., hotmail, yahoo, aol, etc.) you must set your Marshall email account to forward to your other account. In addition, students are required to have access to Blackboard in order to complete required assignments as necessary and access important materials for this course. Make certain that you use a computer that is compatible for completing any online course requirements.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES MATRIX

Course Outcomes	How Each Outcome is Practiced in this Course	How Each Outcome is Evaluated in this Course
(1) Students will demonstrate knowledge about people of color, and people of various cultural backgrounds as victims, offenders, and practitioners in the criminal justice system;	Readings-Chapter 1, Chapter 2, and Chapter 3; Class discussions	Assignment 1, Exam 1
(2) Students will evaluate theoretical explanations, recent research, and policy approaches with respect to, people of color in the criminal justice system;	Readings-Chapter 4, Chapter 5, and Chapter 6; Class discussions	Exam 2
(3) Students will analyze how race and ethnicity can impact how people are not only labeled but processed and punished in the justice system;	Readings-Chapter 4, Chapter 5, and Chapter 6; Class discussions	Assignment 2, Exam 2
(4) Students will critique the color of justice from a contextual approach, that is, through a critical lens that involves historical, political, social, and economic factors;	Readings-Chapter 7, Chapter 8, and Chapter 9; Class discussions	Module 1, 2, and 3 exams; Research paper, Assignment 4
(5) Students will examine systematic and institutional discrimination and how it has impacted African Americans and other minorities in the justice system; and	Readings-Chapter 10 and Chapter 11; Class discussions	Module 4 exam
(6) Students will develop communication skills both in verbal and written form.	Class discussions, Assignments 1, 2, and 4	Research paper

ASSESSMENT MEASURES AND DETERMINATION OF GRADES

Each student learning outcome is assessed in the following manner:

Grading Scale:

90% & Above = A	80%-89% = B	70%-79% = C	60%-69% = D	59% & Below = F
-----------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-----------------

<u>Course Requirements:</u>	Score(s)	Weighted %	Weighted % Ave.
Exams		X .60	
Active Participation/In-Class Assignments		X .10	+
Assignments		X .15	+
Research Paper		X .15	+
Grand Total =			

Calculating and checking your class grade:

Please note that course grades are calculated using weighted percentages (not total points earned) as shown above. You can always monitor your current course grade by logging into the MU Online section of our course.

EXAMS (60%)

There will be four exams (each is worth 15%). The final exam is non-comprehensive. All exams may consist of a variety of response formats such as, multiple choice, true/false, matching, listing, short answer, essay and/or any combination of the above.

Exam & Make-up Exam Policy:

Examinations must be taken during the periods designated in the syllabus. If a student arrives late for an exam, the student can complete the exam but only in the original time frame specified in class. However, if a student arrives after another student has completed the exam, the student who was late will not be allowed to take the examination, because the exam has been compromised. In other words, the student cannot take the exam or make up the exam; the student will receive a grade of zero for the examination. Deviations from this policy are possible if the student makes provisions with the instructor before the test date.

It is the student's responsibility to notify me if he/she is unable to take an examination. Students must contact me **prior** to the administration of the exam. **If I am not contacted prior to the exam or if you do not show up to take the exam, you will receive a failing grade for the exam.** For those students who contact me and have a legitimate excuse from the Dean of Student Affairs (see Attendance Policy), an alternative time to take the exam will be determined. The format of the make-up exam will be left to my discretion.

Quizzes:

I reserve the right to administer quizzes when necessary. Points obtained from quizzes will be included with the class participation grade.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION & IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS (10%)

Students are expected to prepare for each class by reading the required assignments and participating in class. We will have several class sessions where we will discuss course material and you will be asked to complete in-class assignments, reflections, and/or work in small groups. Class participation involves, but is not limited to, asking and answering questions and attendance (you have to be present to participate!)

For each class day missed without a legitimate excuse and documentation from the Dean of Student Affairs, 3.5 points will be deducted from your participation grade. **Missing six class sessions without a valid excused absence will result in a failing grade for the course.** However, if you miss a class for a valid reason (i.e., death or illness of an immediate family member, pre-approved university sponsored activity, athletics, academic activities, short-term military obligation, jury duty/court appointment, and/or religious holiday (see MU Undergraduate Catalog), you will need to present some form of official documentation (i.e., doctor's note) to be excused. If you miss several consecutive days and have a legitimate excuse, it is best that you obtain documentation from the Dean of Student Affairs, MSC 2W38.

ASSIGNMENTS (15%)

Assignments will be administered throughout the course to reinforce key ideas and main concepts related to the course material. You will be prompted with directions as how to proceed with these tasks. Assignments will be graded by using a rubric.

Missed assignments:

If you miss class when an assignment was due, the work must be completed the next day you return to class, along with documentation verifying the excuse. For example, if a student misses class on Monday due to illness and returns to class on Wednesday, the student **MUST** submit the assignment with an attached copy of a doctor's note or excuse.

RESEARCH PAPER (15%)

Undergraduate students will submit a paper (five to eight pages in length, introduction through conclusion). The paper is to consist of an analysis of race/ethnicity in the context of some aspect of the criminal justice system or in the context of social control, media representations, or history. The paper must be double-spaced and follow the APA publication manual for references and citations (6th edition). More details will be provided at a later date.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES

University Policies:

By enrolling in this course, you agree to the following 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. Please read the full text of each policy by going to www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs and clicking on "Marshall University Policies." Or, you can access the policies directly by going to http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/?page_id=802.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic Dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication and falsification of data or information, plagiarism, bribes/favors/threats, and complicity (i.e., helping or attempting someone commit an act of dishonesty). As stated in the policy, "A student, by voluntarily accepting admission to the institution or enrolling in a class or course of study offered by Marshall University accepts the academic requirements and criteria of the institution. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of policies regulating academic conduct, including the definitions of academic dishonesty, the possible sanctions and the appeal process. For the purposes of this policy, an academic exercise is defined as any assignment, whether graded or ungraded, that is given in an academic course or must be completed toward the completion of degree or certification requirements. This includes, but is not limited to: Exams, quizzes, papers, oral presentations, data gathering and analysis, practica and creative work of any kind" (MU Undergraduate Catalog). If a student violates this policy, discretion will be used by the instructor; the possible sanction to be applied will be a failing grade for the assignment, exam, or paper.

Plagiarism:

For students (major or non-majors; undergraduates and graduates) who plagiarize a paper that is less than 10 pages in length, a letter grade of zero will be issued for that assignment. When a student plagiarizes a major research paper, report, legal paper, etc., that is 10 pages or more in length, a failing grade will be issued to the student for the course. It should be noted that students are entitled to an appeals process. The protocol for doing so is described under the heading "Academic Dishonesty Policy" and the subheading "Appeals Process" in the MU Undergraduate Catalog.

Emails and Teacher-Student Correspondence:

If you have any questions about the course material, exams, or assignments you may email me, or schedule an appointment. If you email me, under most circumstances, I will get back to you within 24 hours. However, there may be times when I am out of the office (for meetings, class, or conferences), hence, delaying my response.

Classroom Civility:

1. All students are expected to be in class on time (including exam days).
2. All pagers, cell phones, electronic games, or other electronic devices such as iPods or MP3 players must be turned off or silenced before you enter the classroom.
- 2a. This also means no text messaging or tweeting during class or during exams.
3. One-on-one or personal conversations during lecture or class discussions are not permitted.
4. Any questions that pertain to the syllabus, assignments, or grades should be asked before or after the lecture/discussion begins. Questions asked during the lecture must be relevant to the topic being discussed.
5. Respect different opinions and keep an open mind.
6. All students are expected to abide by the academic dishonesty policy-this means no cheating or plagiarizing!
7. Students are expected to speak one at a time. Do not be disruptive.
8. Working on other materials during class time is considered disruptive not only to the instructor but to other classmates as well.
9. Do not use class time to catch up on your ZZZZZ's.
10. No food or alcoholic beverages are permitted (non-alcoholic beverages are acceptable).
11. Students are prohibited from leaving the classroom once the lecture or discussion has started. Only in the case of an emergency can a student leave the room. If you need to leave class early for some reason, notify the instructor in advance.
12. Support your fellow classmates and reward each other with positive remarks/comments.

The DeTardo-Bora Policy:

As students have a code of conduct to follow, I believe the instructor should follow one as well. Throughout this course, I will make an effort to see that the following responsibilities are carried out (these responsibilities were adapted from McKeachie, 1999)

1. I will encourage the free pursuit of learning

2. I will demonstrate respect for students
3. I will respect confidentiality
4. I will model the best scholarly and ethical standards
5. I will foster honest academic conduct and ensure fair evaluation
6. I will avoid exploitation, harassment, or discrimination

Tentative Course Schedule: CJ 406 (Fall 2017)

DATES/COURSE TOPICS	ASSIGNED READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS
WEEK 1: 8/21 & 8/23		
SYLLABUS REVIEW	Ch. 1 Walker et al.	
WEEK 2: 8/28 & 8/30		
VICTIMS AND OFFENDERS: MYTHS AND REALITIES	Ch. 2 Walker et al. <i>The New Jim Crow</i> , pp. 1-19	
WEEK 3: 9/4* & 9/6		
*NO CLASS-LABOR DAY RACE, ETHNICITY, CRIME, SOCIAL STRUCTURE, & CRIME	Ch. 3 Walker et al.	
WEEK 4: 9/11 & 9/13		
"THE REBIRTH OF CLASS" EXAM REVIEW EXAM #1 (CHAPTERS 1-3)	<i>The New Jim Crow</i> , pp. 20-58	Assignment #1, inequalities of crime (9/11)
WEEK 5: 9/18 & 9/20		
THE POLICE & PEOPLE OF COLOR "THE LOCKDOWN"	Ch. 4 Walker et al. <i>The New Jim Crow</i> , pp. 59-96	
WEEK 6: 9/25 & 9/27		
THE COURTS-PRETRIAL PROCESS	Ch. 5 Walker et al.	
WEEK 7: 10/2 & 10/4		
JUSTICE ON THE BENCH-TRIAL AND ADJUDICATION	Ch. 6 Walker et al.	
WEEK 8: 10/9 & 10/11		
"THE COLOR OF JUSTICE" & EXAM REVIEW EXAM #2 (CHAPTERS 4-6)	<i>The New Jim Crow</i> , pp. 97-139	Assignment #2, indigent defense counsel (10/9)
WEEK 9: 10/16 & 10/18		
RACE AND SENTENCING	Ch. 7 Walker et al.	
WEEK 10: 10/23 & 10/25		
THE COLOR OF DEATH: RACE & THE DEATH PENALTY	Ch. 8 Walker et al.	
WEEK 11: 10/30 & 11/1		
CORRECTIONS IN AMERICA: A PORTRAIT IN COLOR	Ch. 9 Walker et al.	

WEEK 12: 11/6 & 11/8		
"THE CRUEL HAND" & EXAM REVIEW EXAM #3 (CHAPTERS 7-9)	<i>The New Jim Crow</i> , pp. 140-177	Research paper due (11/6)
WEEK 13: 11/13 & 11/15		
MOVIE-CRASH		
WEEK 14: 11/20 & 11/22		
NO CLASS-THANKSGIVING BREAK		
WEEK 15: 11/27 & 11/29		
MINORITY YOUTH AND CRIME "THE NEW JIM CROW"	Ch. 10 Walker et al. <i>The New Jim Crow</i> , pp. 178-220	
WEEK 16: 12/4 & 12/6		
THE COLOR OF JUSTICE "THE FIRE THIS TIME" COURSE OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY	Ch. 11 Walker et al. <i>The New Jim Crow</i> , pp. 221-261	Assignment #4, race and justice studies (12/4)
FINAL EXAM: DECEMBER 11 @ 12:45 (CHAPTERS 10 & 11)		