

CJ 492: Senior Seminar

Section 101, Fall 2017

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

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Capstone course. Integrates and applies material learned in the program of study. Serves as a culminating experience in which students demonstrate what they have learned in the classroom.

- Prerequisites: Senior status, CJ 200, CJ 302, & CJ 404
- Writing Intensive
- CJ 492.101 meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11:00-11:50 in Smith Hall 416

This class will be taught using a seminar approach where you will be treated as a colleague in a professional setting. This means that your attitude, investment in the course and outside activities, completion of assignments, treatment of classmates and the instructor, and general performance should reflect the same level of professionalism expected in a work setting.

REQUIRED TEXTS

American Psychological Association [APA] (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC.

Maguire, M., & Okada, D. (2015). *Critical issues in crime and justice: Thought, policy, and practice*. Upper Saddle River, CA: Sage. (ISBN: 978-1-4833-5062-2)

**Students may need to refer to class notes and books from CJ 200, CJ 302, CJ322, and CJ 404. Also, additional readings may be assigned and made available on MU Online.*

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 use MU Online in order to access course materials

and assignments. Make certain that you use a computer that is compatible for completing any online course activities.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE & CRIMINOLOGY PROGRAM

Upon completion of the Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice, and in part emphasized and reinforced through this course, undergraduate students will be able to:

1. *identify* the components, roles, and practices that are integral to the criminal justice system using specialized terminology;
2. *identify, practice, and interpret* key methodological concepts used in scholarly research in the field of criminal justice/criminology and *describe* the limitations and/or potential policy implications;
3. *examine* the principles of substantive criminal law that regulates and guides the criminal justice system and its primary actors;
4. *explain* the nature, extent, causation, and prevention of crime using theoretical foundations in criminal justice/criminology;
5. *incorporate* information from relevant media sources to support a written product with citations that follow the *APA Publication Manual*.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES MATRIX

Course Learning Outcomes	How Each Outcome is Practiced in this Course	How Each Outcome is Evaluated in this Course
(A) Students will identify and analyze career opportunities, trends, and future career pathways.	Assigned readings, in-class discussions, in-class activities	Obituary assignment and career plan
(B) Students will produce a career and/or graduate or law school portfolio, offering a systematic approach to immediate and life-long career decision-making.	Assigned readings, in-class discussions, in-class activities	Resume, cover letter or personal statement, and career plan
(C) Students will compose and deliver a professional oral presentation.	In-class discussions	Capstone presentation
(D) Students will demonstrate proficiency in theoretical criminology, criminal law, research methods, and criminal justice terminology.	Assigned readings, in-class discussions, draft capstone paper	Theory assessment, methods assessment, criminal law assessment, and terms assessment
(E) Students will critically examine a specific problem in the field of criminal justice/criminology and develop a written product that incorporates research, interpretation skills, and the development or evaluation of policy solutions.	Assigned readings, in-class discussions, in-class activities, skills practice and assessments	Capstone 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
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<u>Course Requirements:</u>	<u>Score(s)</u>	<u>Weighted %</u>	<u>Weighted % Ave.</u>
Career Papers and Career Expo (10%)		X .10	
Capstone Paper (50%)		X .50	+
Writing Assignments/Drafts/Assessments (30%)		X .30	+
Attendance (10%)		X .10	+
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.

CAREER PAPERS AND CAREER EXPO (10%)

Throughout this course, you will prepare a series of career papers that can be used to create a professional portfolio. They include: a career plan, cover letter or personal statement, and a resume. Students also may include documentation of a completed job/law school/graduate school application or mock one. For this class, it is important that you spend an ample amount of time focusing on a future career that is of interest to you in order to complete the career assignments successfully. For example, students may wish to seek employment or advancement in the fields of law enforcement, corrections, probation, juvenile services, or victims' services, just to name a few. Others may be interested in law school, graduate school, administrative work, or a research occupation immediately following graduation. However, what if you have decided at this stage that the criminal justice profession is not for you? What if you have decided to go to culinary arts school, or you wish to join the circus, or you want to backpack throughout Europe instead? These culminating assignments need to be completed for a grade, so you will need to select an area of the criminal justice profession for which you think you are best suited or most interested. Also, students will be required to attend the MU Career Expo on **Tuesday, October 3**.

CAPSTONE PAPER (50%)

Students will be tasked with completing a capstone paper that is based on a crime/criminal justice critical issue in the United States (or at the state level). Ultimately, this culminating paper will involve research, a demonstration of data interpretation and analysis, in addition to developing and/or evaluating sound policy solutions. More details will be provided.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS/DRAFTS/ASSESSMENTS (30%)

Several medium and low stakes writing assignments will be administered throughout the course in order to build the skills necessary for your capstone paper. These assignments will strengthen your writing abilities and afford you the opportunity to practice using proper citations based on the APA

publication manual. Unless told otherwise, papers must be typed and double-spaced. Page numbers are a must! Standard margins and fonts should be used.

ATTENDANCE (10%)

Attendance:

Each student will need to earn their own attendance points (up to 100 points). For each class day missed without a legitimate excuse and documentation from the Dean of Student Affairs, 2.5 points will be deducted from your attendance 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.

Missed assignments or assessments:

If you miss class when an assignment or assessment 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.

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/ and 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.

Emails and Teacher-Student Correspondence:

If you have any questions about the course material, exams, or assignments you may email me, visit me during my office hours, or schedule an appointment. Under most circumstances, I will get back to you within 24 hours (normally between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM EST Monday through Friday). However, there may be times when my response is delayed during weekends or when I am out of town at an academic conference.

Extra Credit:

There is one opportunity to receive extra credit in this course. That is, students may present their senior paper at the WVCJEA conference on Friday, November 3 at Potomac State University and earn up to 10 points added to their final course grade. In addition, students who simply attend the conference may earn up to 10 points, which will be added to their senior project. Abstracts for

presentations and papers for the state competition are due Friday, October 20. More details will be posted on MU Online.

Inclement Weather Policy: Students can find information concerning Marshall's policy regarding inclement weather on the university website and in the MU *Undergraduate Catalog*. Please note that a two-hour delay means that classes that begin at 10:00 a.m. begin on time.

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, the student will be charged with plagiarism, and referred to the Office of Academic Affairs. 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/Graduate Catalog.

Laptops and Tablets:

Over time, I have observed more students who prefer to use laptops and tablets in class. If you wish to use either a laptop or tablet in class, you must receive permission from me, and you must present a compelling reason for doing so. If you are approved to use the laptop or tablet for note-taking, no other sites or functions may be open, and you are expected to make regular eye contact when I am speaking.

Classroom Civility:

1. All students are expected to be in class on time (including exam days).
2. All pagers, cell phones, and electronic devices such as iPods or MP3 players must be turned off before you enter the classroom. Please 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. Respect different opinions and keep an open mind. Support your fellow classmates and reward each other with positive remarks/comments.
5. All students are expected to abide by the academic dishonesty policy-this means no cheating or plagiarizing!
6. Students are expected to speak one at a time. Do not be disruptive.
7. Working on other materials during class time is considered disruptive not only to the instructor but to other classmates as well.
8. Do not use class time to catch up on your ZZZZZ's.
9. No food or alcoholic beverages are permitted (non-alcoholic beverages are acceptable).
10. 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.

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 Outline: CJ 492

Dates/Course Topics	Readings	Assignments Due
Week 1: 8/21, 8/23, 8/25		
Syllabus review Introduction Professional development-“So now what?”	Chap. 1, Maguire & Okada	
Week 2: 8/28, 8/30, 9/1		
The importance of ethics in CJ Professional development session-ethics Criminological theory review	Chap. 2 & 3 Maguire & Okada	Obituary assignment due in-class (9/1)
Week 3: 9/4*, 9/6, 9/8		
*NO Class-Labor Day Unleashing the power in CJ theory Senior Capstone Paper-review	Chap. 4, Maguire & Okada	Theory assessment due in-class and online (9/8)
Week 4: 9/11, 9/13, 9/15		
Gender matters Race and crime Professional development session-future career path and goals	Chaps. 7 & 8, Maguire & Okada	
Week 5: 9/18, 9/20, 9/22		
Victimology Professional development session-cover letters and personal statements Professional development session-resume writing (career services speaker)	Chap. 5, Maguire & Okada	Career plan assignment due online (9/22)
Week 6: 9/25, 9/27, 9/29		
Terrorism and the CJS Developments in computer crime Active learning session-framing the problem, identifying causes and factors related to the problem	Chaps. 13 & 14, Maguire & Okada	Cover letter or personal statement and resume due online (9/29)
Week 7: 10/2, 10/4, 10/6		
Professional development session-professionalism, correspondence, dress, etiquette, social media, & interviewing skills *No Class (10/4)-Attend Career Expo on Tues., Oct. 3 from 1-4 pm Active learning session-writing the introduction and literature review		<i>Be sure to sign the attendance sheet at the Career Expo for class credit (10/3)</i>
Week 8: 10/9, 10/11, 10/13		
Police history Contemporary policing Active learning session-research methods review and obtaining information/critiquing sources	Chaps. 16 & 19, Maguire & Okada Ariel et al. (on Blackboard)	Practice methods assessment (10/13)

Week 9: 10/16, 10/18, 10/20		
Public policy American courts Active learning session-identifying, evaluating, and developing policy solutions and recommendations	Chaps. 20 & 21, Maguire & Okada	Research analysis and critique due in-class and online (10/20)
Week 10: 10/23, 10/25, 10/27		
Active learning session-APA review and paper preparations The juvenile justice system Professional development session-TBA	Chap. 22 Maguire & Okada	Complete capstone draft due in-class and online (10/27)
Week 11: 10/30, 11/1, 11/3*		
Philosophical and ideological underpinnings of corrections Community corrections, rehabilitation, reintegration, and reentry *No Class-WVCJEA Conference	Chaps. 23 & 24, Maguire & Okada	
Week 12: 11/6, 11/8, 11/10		
Restorative justice Culture, Crime, and economics Professional development session-physical/mental health and stress	Chaps. 25 & 9, Maguire & Okada	
Week 13: 11/13, 11/15, 11/17*		
Research and writing day (11/15) Active learning session-capstone paper preparations Professional development-presentation skills		Capstone paper due online only (11/17)
Week 14: 11/20*, 11/22*, 11/24*		
*No class-Thanksgiving Break		
Week 15: 11/27, 11/29, 12/1		
Students presentations (MWF)		
Week 16: 12/4, 12/6, 12/8		
Student presentations (MWF) Critical issues and assessment review		
Final Exam		
Dec. 12, sec. 101 from 10:15-12:15		In-class CJ terms and criminal law assessment (graded)