

CJ 480/580: Crime in West Virginia

Section 101, Fall 2015

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Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 8:30-10:00 & 2:00-3:30 (or by appointment)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This special topics course covers the essential components of the criminal justice system in West Virginia, which includes the systems of law enforcement, courts/law, corrections, juvenile services, and victim's services. Also included is an analysis and examination of key features that make the state's justice system both unique and complex. Historical and demographic factors are presented in order to fully understand the current crimes that plague our state.

- Prerequisites: None
- CJ 480/580 meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11-11:50 in Smith Hall 418

REQUIRED TEXTS

DeTardo-Bora, K. A., Bora, D. J., & Dameron, S. (2015). *West Virginia's Criminal Justice System*. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press. (ISBN: 9781611634716)

Additional readings may be posted on Blackboard to supplement this course.

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

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 describe the various departments and divisions that comprise West Virginia's criminal justice system.	Assigned readings, in-class discussions,	Exam #1, Exam #2, Final Exam, participation assignment, graduate presentation
(B) Students will analyze and interpret crime data in West Virginia in comparison to the United States as a whole.	Assigned readings, in-class discussions	Exam #1, participation assignment
(C) Students will describe the support services and legislation provided to victims in the state of West Virginia.	Assigned readings, in-class discussions	Exam #3, participation assignment
(D) Students will examine various factors that contribute to the state's crime and drug problem.	Assigned readings, in-class discussions	Exam #1, Exam #2, Final Exam, participation assignment
(E) Students will critically examine various issues about West Virginia's criminal justice system or an aspect that impacts the system.	Assigned readings, in-class discussions	Reflection papers

ASSESSMENT MEASURES AND DETERMINATION OF GRADES

Each student learning outcome is assessed in the following manner:

90% & Above = A	80%-89% = B	70%-79% = C	60%-69% = D	59% & Below = F
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Course Requirements:	Score(s)	Weighted %	Weighted % Ave.
Exams		.60	
Reflections papers (+ Graduate Presentation)		.25	+
Active Participation & Attendance		.15	+
Grand Total =			

Calculating and checking your class grade:

Please note that course grades are calculated using weighted percentages 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 three exams. The final exam is non-comprehensive. Undergraduate 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. Graduate exams are comprised of essay and short answer questions.

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 an essay exam.

REFLECTION PAPERS (& GRADUATE PRESENTATION) (25%)

Based on a reading assignment or video, students are required to complete two reflections. All reflections must be typed, 3-5 pages in length, and double-spaced unless I state otherwise. Standard margins and fonts must be used. Times New Roman is the standard font to be used, size 12. Remember to number your pages, and staple the reflection. More details will be provided.

Graduate students are required to complete an in-class presentation (40 minutes) that incorporates one of the chapters from the textbook. Since this presentation will involve an aspect of teaching, graduate students will prepare learning objectives and create supplements to the course material in the form of, but not limited to the following: statistical data sheets and interpretation of issues, brief PowerPoint of images, short video clip, class learning activity, class debate, game/quiz. Graduate students should be prepared to facilitate class discussion or field questions from the assigned material. These pedagogical items will be submitted in a portfolio for a grade. More details will be provided.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE (15%)

Active Participation:

In order to facilitate discussion on several class days (see course outline), I ask that you make some type of contribution in one of two ways. First, you may submit two questions about the assigned reading and one comment. The questions and comment you provide must be posted onto the course site (using MU Online) no later than midnight the night before the class discussion. Late questions and comments will not be accepted. The questions you ask should incorporate the material you have read and should be substantive in nature. Simply asking, "What is the author talking about on page 100?" will not suffice. A second alternative is to locate a research article or government research report related to the assigned reading and share a summary of that research with the class. Similarly, your contribution must be submitted using MU online no later than

midnight the night before the class discussion. Out of the nine chapters in the textbook that we discuss, I ask that you do this for at least five of the chapters (your choice).

Attendance:

Each student will be awarded 100 points at the beginning of the semester for attendance. These points are yours to lose or keep. 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. If you miss a class, I recommend that you obtain the notes/assignments from that day. Consistent tardiness (excessive) will result in a reduction of your attendance grade as well

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 or assignments you may email me, visit me during my office hours, or schedule an appointment. If you email me, under most circumstances, I will get back to you within 24 hours on weekdays. However, there may be times when I am out of the office (for meetings, class, or conferences), hence, delaying my response.

Class Absences:

I understand that there are circumstances that may arise throughout the semester that prevent a student from attending class. Documentation of an excused absence can be obtained from the Dean of Student Affairs, MSC 2W38. Excused absences include: 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 and the Graduate Catalog). Nonetheless, if you miss class it is your responsibility as a student to obtain any materials or assignments that you missed on that day.

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/Graduate Catalog.

Extra Credit:

There is one opportunity to receive extra credit in this course. Students may attend the WVCJEA conference on Friday, November 13 at WVU-Parkersburg and earn up to 10 points which will be added to their lowest exam score. Conference details will be posted on MU Online at a later date.

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, tablet for note-taking, or e-reader, 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:

Since 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 480/580

Date/Course Topic	Readings	Assignments/Due Dates
Week 1: 8/24, 8/26, 8/28		
Review syllabus Introduction	Chapter 1	
Week 2: 8/31, 9/2, 9/4		
WV crime statistics	Chapter 2	Class contribution (midnight 8/30)
Week 3: 9/7*, 9/9, 9/11		
*NO CLASS-Labor Day holiday WV legal authority	Chapter 3	Questions/comment (midnight 9/8)
Week 4: 9/14, 9/16, 9/18		
Law enforcement	Chapter 4	Questions/comment (midnight 9/13)
Week 5: 9/21, 9/23, 9/25		
Law enforcement (cont.) Exam #1 (chapters 1-4)	Chapter 4 (cont.)	Reflection paper-WVSP (9/23)
Week 6: 9/28, 9/30, 10/2		
The courts	Chapter 5	Questions/comment (midnight 9/27)
Week 7: 10/5, 10/7, 10/9		
Corrections Justice reinvestment	Chapter 6	Questions/comment (midnight 10/4)
Week 8: 10/12, 10/14, 10/16		
Corrections (cont.)	Chapter 6 (cont.)	Reflection paper-prison nurseries (10/16)
Week 9: 10/19, 10/21, 10/23		
Juvenile justice Exam #2 (chapters 5-7)	Chapter 7	Questions/comment (midnight 10/18)
Week 10: 10/26, 10/28, 10/30		
Victims and victim services	Chapter 8	Questions/comment (midnight 10/25)
Week 11: 11/2, 11/4, 11/6		
The drug problem	Chapter 9	Questions/comment (midnight 11/1)
Week 12: 11/9, 11/11, 11/13*		
The Wild Wonderful Whites of WV *NO CLASS-WVCJEA Conference		
Week 13: 11/16, 11/18, 11/20		
Counterterrorism & homeland security	Chapter 10	Reflection paper-Whites of WV (11/16) Questions/comment (midnight 11/15)
Week 14: 11/23, 11/25, 11/27		
NO CLASS-Thanksgiving Break		
Week 15: 11/30, 12/2, 12/4		
Crime in WV & final exam review		
December 11:		
Final exam-12:45-2:45 (chapters 8-10)		