**CJ 200: Introduction to Criminal Justice**

**Section 201 – CRN 2670**



**Spring 2018**

**MWF 12:00 – 12:50**

**SH 416**

**Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology**

**Marshall University**

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Office Hours: By appointment only.

**Required Texts**

Gaines, L., & Miller, R. (2017). *CJ4* (4th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

ISBN# 978-1-30566119-6

DeTardo-Bora, K. A., Bora, D. J., & Dameron, S. L. (2015). *West Virginia’s criminal justice system.* Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press.

ISBN# 978-1-61173-471-6

**Course Description & Objectives**

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.

The objectives include:

* To provide a comprehensive understanding of the history and goals of the criminal justice system.
* To discuss the role of each component in the criminal justice process.
* To review the administration and management principles of local, state, and federal criminal justice systems, including current problems existing in each system.
* To disseminate information on careers in criminal justice.

**Computer Requirements**

A student must have a computer or access to one, as well as access to the Internet to send and receive email messages. If you use and email address other than your MU email address, please ensure that your Marshall email is set to forward to your alternate account. Furthermore, a Blackboard shell will be used to a limited extent for this class. Blackboard will be used primarily to post handouts and assignments provided in class. Moreover, I will be using the Blackboard grade function, so you can keep track of your progress through the “My Grades” tab.

* You can access Backboard through MUOnline at: <http://www.marshall.edu/muonline/>
* If you need technical help with Blackboard please contact Marshall’s Help Desk at 877-689-8638 (toll free) or Charleston area 746-1969 or Huntington area 696-3200. The help desk can also be reached by email at [helpdesk@marshall.edu](mailto:helpdesk@marshall.edu)

**Course Learning Outcomes**

The table below shows the following relationships: How each student learning outcome will be practiced and assessed in the course.

| Course student learning outcomes | How students will practice each outcome in this course | How student achievement of each outcome will be assessed in this course |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Understand the major issues that confront the study of crime and criminal justice. These issues include concepts such as justice, process, procedures, ad roles. In addition, students will be able to differentiate various criminological theories and their importance to the study of crime. | In-class lectures, in-class & group activities, and discussions | Quizzes, assignments, and exams |
| 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, in-class & group activities, and discussions | Quizzes, assignments, and exams |
| 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 accuses through the trial process to the point of implementing punishment. | In-class lectures, in-class & group activities, and discussions | Quizzes, assignments, and exams |
| Comprehend the value of the final, yet least understood, component of the criminal justice process known as corrections. | In-class lectures, in-class & group activities, and discussions | Quizzes, assignments, and exams |

**Course Requirements**

* ***Examinations:*** There are 4 exams in this course. Each exam is worth 100 points. The exams will consist of true/false, multiple choice, short answer, essay or any combination of the aforementioned formats. The final exam is ***not*** comprehensive. The dates of these exams are as follows:
  + Exam 1 – Friday, January 26
  + Exam 2 – Friday, February 16
  + Exam 3 – Friday, March 16
  + Final exam – Friday, May 4th (10:15 – 12:15)
* ***Quizzes:*** Quizzes will be given frequently to strengthen your understanding of the topics covered in class. In total, there are 8 quizzes. Quizzes will consist of true/false and multiple-choice questions.
* ***Papers:*** There are two papers required for this course. The first is a career assessment paper. If you are a Criminal Justice major, your paper is to be about your chosen career path. If you are NOT a Criminal Justice major, then you are to focus on your career intentions. You will be provided a separate rubric/guideline for this paper. This paper is to be 4 to 6 pages in length. The second paper will cover a particular crime of your choosing. You will be given separate guidelines for this paper in class. This paper will be 4 to 6 pages in length.
* ***Class Participation/Attendance:*** This class will be conducted as a seminar, which means that everyone is expected to come fully prepared to discuss the readings. We will, as a group, discuss the various readings and related issues.

**Attendance Policy**

Attendance will be recorded daily. Unexcused absences are those that do not fall into the list of excused categories identified in the university catalog, which are: (1) university sponsored activities; (2) absences as a result of personal illness or a death in the family; and (3) absences resulting from major religious holidays. For a more detailed explanation of these categories, please see the undergraduate catalog under the heading of “Class Attendance.” All excused absences must be presented to the professor with proper documentation.

If you miss an exam or quiz with no legitimate documented excuse, a zero will be given for that test with no make-up test. If you are ill or know in advance that you will miss an exam for a legitimate excuse, you must notify me **BEFORE** the scheduled exam time. For the students that do contact me and have a legitimate excuse, an alternative time to take the exam and quiz will be determined. The format of the make-up exams or quizzes will be left in 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; the exam in this case has been compromised. In other words, you will NOT be able to take the exam or take a make-up exam.

**Grading Criteria**

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| **Grading Criteria** | **Points** | **Grading Scale** |
| Test 1 | 100 | A = 900 – 1000 |
| Test 2 | 100 | B = 800 - 899 |
| Test 3 | 100 | C = 700 – 799 |
| Test 4 | 100 | D = 600 – 699 |
| Paper 1 | 100 | F = 599 or less |
| Paper 2 | 200 |  |
| Quizzes (8 total) | 25 points each = 200 points |  |
| Participation (includes in-class activities) | 100 |  |

**University Policies**

By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies. Please read the full text of each policy by going to http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/

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

| Week | Reading Material | Subject | Due Dates  (Quizzes, Exams, Papers) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **January 8th** | Chapter 1 | Criminal Justice Today | **Pre-test Evaluation** |
| **January 15th** | Chapter 2 | The Crime Picture: Theories and Trends  Crime in WV(WV CJ – Ch.2) | **MLK DAY (1/15) –NO CLASS**  **Quiz 1 (1/19)** |
| **January 22nd** | Chapter 3 | Inside Criminal Law | **Test 1 (1/26)** |
| **January 29th** | Chapter 4 | Law Enforcement Today  Law Enforcement in WV (WV CJ – Ch.4) | **Quiz 2 (2/2)** |
| **February 5th** | Chapter 5 | Problems and Solutions in Modern Policing | **Quiz 3 (2/9)** |
| **February 12th** | Chapter 6 | Police and the Constitution: The Rules of Law Enforcement | **Test 2 (2/16)** |
| **February 19th** | Chapter 7 | Courts and the Quest for Justice  The WV Courts (WV CJ – Ch.5) | **Quiz 4 (2/23)** |
| **February 26th** | Chapter 8 | Pretrial Procedures & he Criminal Trial | **Quiz 5 (3/2)** |
| **March 5th** | Chapter 8 & 9 | Pretrial Procedures & the Criminal Trial; Punishment and Sentencing | **Paper 1 (3/9)** |
| **March 12th** | Chapter 9 | Punishment and Sentencing | **Test 3 (3/16)** |
| **March 19th** | **Spring Break** | **Spring Break** | **Spring Break** |
| **March 26th** | Chapter 10 | Probation, Parole, and Indeterminate Sentencing | **Quiz 6 (3/30)** |
| **April 2nd** | Chapter 11 | Prisons and Jails  Adult Corrections (WV CJ – Ch.6) | **Quiz 7 (4/6)** |
| **April 9th** | Chapter 12 | The Prison Experience and Prisoner Reentry | **Paper 2 (4/13)** |
| **April 16th** | Chapter 13 | The Juvenile Justice System  The Juvenile Justice System (WV CJ – Ch. 7) | **Quiz 8 (4/20)** |
| **April 23rd** | Chapter 14 | Today’s Challenges in Criminal Justice |  |
| **May 4th @ 10:15** |  | Final Examination | **Test 4** |