

**SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CJ 1307: Crime In America
Fall, 2016**

Instructor: Dr. Mark Rubin
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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday (9:00 – 11:00 & 2:00 – 3:00)
Other times by appointment.
Class Times: Monday and Wednesday (1:00 – 1:50)
Friday activity is detailed in Course Schedule section of the syllabus

Required Texts:

Roth, Mitchell (2013) *Crime and Punishment: A History of the Criminal Justice System 2nd Edition*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing. ISBN-13: 978-0495809883

****Note**:** This book is available in both print and e-book versions. The e-book is available on Amazon.com.

Nature of the Syllabus

This syllabus is an academic contract between the instructor and the student. Any oversights, contradictions, or discrepancies will be clarified by the instructor as the oversight is discovered.

Criminal Justice Undergraduate Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

SLO 1 Demonstrated knowledge of specific areas of the U.S. Constitution as it relates to specific legal liabilities of criminal justice professionals. The ability to identify, assess, and compare Constitutional protections and individual rights and recognize violations of those Rights. Workable knowledge of the most significant legal challenges to criminal justice policy and the resulting changes to those policies.

SLO 2 Demonstrate knowledge of Criminological theories, and apply those theories to practical criminal justice events. The ability to identifying a prominent criminological theory within an actual criminal event or simulated criminal event. The ability to compare and contrast the basic concepts of the differing competing Criminological Theories.

SLO 3 Working knowledge of the specific language of the Criminal Justice and the ability to identify the individual parts of the CJ System. An awareness of the costs

associated with the Criminal Justice System, and the ability to recognize and be aware of political influence on the system. The ability to apply historical knowledge of the CJ system and recognize patterns of system change.

Course Description:

This course will explore American crime problems in a historical perspective, including the history of crime and punishment in the United States, social and public policy factors affecting crime, the impact of crime and trends on society, social characteristics of specific crimes, and prevention of crimes.

Cheating and Plagiarism

This is an upper level undergraduate course so everyone should know not to engage in these practices.

Students are expected to do their own work on all assignments and exams. Cheating and plagiarism on assignments will result in a grade of “F” on that part of the course, a possible grade of “F” for the entire course, and possible recommendation for suspension from the university.

Plagiarism consists of presenting the work of another as one’s own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source) and submitting examinations or other work in whole or in part as one’s own when such work has been prepared by another person or copied from another person (see the Student Handbook). Plagiarism includes improper use of citations in the research paper, copying from sources without citations, copying without quotation marks, etc.

Students with a Disability

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartze, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu .

!!!!!!!Important!!!!!!!

Contact Dr. Rubin sooner rather than later if you are having problems with your course work or are in need of special assistance.

Grading:

Discussion Questions (10 @ 4% each)	40%
Mid-Term Exams (2 @ 20% each)	40%
Final Exam	20%

Course Requirements:

Discussion Questions: Students will be presented with a discussion question related to the chapter readings and related lecture notes for the week. Discussion questions will become visible each Thursday at 6:00AM, as noted in the course schedule. Students are expected to post their response to the discussion thread **NO LATER THAN** Friday at 11:59PM Central Time of each week*. The discussion question will close on Saturday at 11:59PM. Posts made on Saturday will have a 20% deduction. Your post should be **AT LEAST** 250 words in length (*yes, I count*).

**Except for discussion question 1 (See course schedule).*

Mid-Term Exams: Two mid-term exams will be given as noted in the course schedule to verify student's knowledge of key issues as presented in class and in the textbook. Exams will be timed (90 minutes) and approximately 50 questions in length. Exam questions will be presented in multiple choice format.

Final Exam: A non-comprehensive final exam will be given as noted in the course schedule. The final exam will be timed (90 minutes) and approximately 50 questions in length. Final exam questions will be in multiple choice format.

****NOTE**:** *While attendance is not specifically a graded component, you are expected to be in class for every class session. I offer you most Fridays off so that you can take care of your daytime business. I will take attendance each class session. I will give you 2 "unexcused" class absences; thereafter, I will deduct 2% from your final grade for each absence.*

Course Schedule

Week 1 (August 22, 24, and 26): From Customs to Codes

Class will meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday this week

Discussion question (DQ-01) in BlackBoard on Friday. *This discussion question is due TUESDAY, AUGUST 30th at 11:59PM.*

Assigned Reading: Chapter 1

Week 2 (August 29 and 31): English Criminal Justice Traditions

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Assigned Reading: Chapter 2

Week 3 (September 7): Early America

Class will meet Wednesday ONLY this week.

Discussion question (DQ-02) in BlackBoard on Friday.

Assigned Reading: Chapter 3

Week 4 (September 12 and 14): Revolutionary Times

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Exam 1 (Covers chapters 1 – 4) in BlackBoard on Friday.

Assigned Reading: Chapter 4

Week 5 (September 19 and 21): New Nation

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Discussion question (DQ-03) in BlackBoard on Friday.

Assigned Reading: Chapter 5

Week 6 (September 26 and 28): Antebellum America

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Discussion question (DQ-04) in BlackBoard on Friday.

Assigned Reading: Chapter 6

Week 7 (October 3 and 5): Civil War

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Discussion question (DQ-05) in BlackBoard on Friday

Assigned Reading: Chapter 7

Week 8 (October 10 and 12): Victorian Times

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Discussion question (DQ-06) in BlackBoard on Friday

Assigned Reading: Chapters 8

Week 9 (October 17 & 19): Progressive Era

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Exam 2 (Covers chapters 5 - 9) in BlackBoard on Friday.

Assigned Reading: Chapter 9

Week 10 (October 24 and 26): Crisis Decades

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Discussion question (DQ-07) in BlackBoard on Friday

Assigned Reading: Chapter 10

Week 11 (October 31 and November 2): Mid-20th Century

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Discussion question (DQ-08) in BlackBoard on Friday

Assigned Reading: Chapter 11

Week 12 (November 7, 9, and 11): The Counter Culture Era

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Discussion question (DQ-09) in BlackBoard on Friday

Assigned Reading: Chapter 12

Week 13 (November 14 and 16): The Reagan Years and Beyond

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week.

Discussion question (DQ-10) in BlackBoard on Friday

Assigned Reading: Chapter 13

Week 14 (November 21 and 23): Thanksgiving Week – NO CLASS

Week 15 (November 28 and 30): The Age of Terrorism

Class will meet Monday and Wednesday ONLY this week

Assigned Reading: Chapter 14

Week 16: Final Exam