

Sul Ross State University
Department of Homeland Security and Criminal Justice
CJ 2328 W01 Police Systems and Practices
SPRING 2019 Web-delivered Course

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Course Description:

This course is an introductory study of what police are, what they do, and how they do it.

Students will gain a working knowledge of the specific language of the Criminal Justice system and the ability to understand police history and organization, the personal side of policing, police operations, and critical issues in policing.

Students will have an awareness of the costs associated with the various policing systems and ability of a variety of agencies to perform the functions within their respective areas of responsibility. Students will the ability to recognize and be aware of political influence on police systems. Additionally, students will gain the ability to apply historical knowledge of policing systems and recognize patterns of system change. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to understand the history of policing systems, the organization of the policing systems and their respective processes including the role of law enforcement officers, methods of preventing, treating, and controlling crime, providing service to communities, and current issues in police work.

Criminal Justice Undergraduate Program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

UG-CJ-SLO1: Student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of specific areas of the U.S. Constitution as it relates to specific legal liabilities.

UG-CJ-SLO2: Student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of criminological theories, and apply those theories to an analysis of practical criminal justice events.

UG-CJ-SLO3: Student will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the specific language of the Criminal Justice System, ability to identify the individual parts and costs associated with the Criminal Justice System, and demonstrated knowledge in recognizing the political influences on the CJ system.

Required Text:

Dempsey, John S., and Linda S. Forst (2016) *An Introduction to Policing 8th Ed.* DELMAR CENGAGE Learning. ISBN-13: 9781285862736

Distance Education Statement: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, such as online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

Requirements – Students will:

This is a Blackboard class and students will be expected to participate frequently with class discussions and complete all assignments in a timely manner. Students are responsible for logging into the class frequently to ensure full participation in class. Any technical problems experienced that hinders a student from logging in should be reported to me promptly so that the problem can be fixed, assignments completed and proper credit given. If you are having any problems, please email me right away or contact me at the CJ office.

Grading:

Final Grades in this course will consist of student's performance on Discussion Questions, Tests, and current events summaries.

All tests must be completed on time as there will be no make-up exams given. The Tentative Course Schedule provides the dates for these exams. The final exam will be available only during finals week.

Discussion Questions:

Students will be expected to log in frequently, possibly several times each week, to actively participate in class discussions. Participation will involve responding to each discussion question as well as responding to information posted by other students. Students are required to participate and are expected contribute considerably to discussion boards. Students will need to draw on their own personal experiences, knowledge gained from reading the textbook, prior coursework, and any other source that would make a positive contribution to discussions. Each week there will be 1-2 discussion questions posted on Blackboard. The Assignment section will provide students with the guidelines for discussion content. All responses for discussion shall remain professional and courteous at all times.

Current Events Summary:

As this class will demonstrate, criminal procedure is continuously met with court challenges, changes, modifications and news-worthy incidents covered by news media. Students will be required to select at least one current event related to criminal procedure, summarize the event and main points

associated with it, and post the summary to the discussion board. Each student will be required to comments on at least two of these posts.

Plagiarism:

Integrity is essential in the criminal justice field. Each student is expected and required to do their own work. Any cheating or plagiarism on any assignments in this class will result in a grade of "F".

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 Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691.

SPRING 2019 Course Schedule

POLICE SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES

- JAN 21** **Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday (no classes)**
- JAN 22 – JAN 25** Course Introduction (Introduction to assignments and Blackboard, begin reading chapters) Read Chapter 1 – Police History. Chapter 1 covers delves into the early history of policing and gives a brief overview of how policing has progressed up to modern times. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 1.
- JAN 28 – FEB 1** Read Chapter 2 – Organizing Public Security in the United States. This chapter includes information on law enforcement agencies at the local, state, and federal levels. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 2.
- FEB 4 – FEB 8** Read Chapter 3 – Organizing the Police Department. The discussion of the organization of a law enforcement agency, including managerial concepts, is covered in Chapter 3. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 3.
- FEB 11 – FEB 15** **Test 1 (Chapters 1, 2, and 3). This assignment covers two (2) chapters.** Read Chapter 4 – Becoming a Police Officer. Chapter 4 covers all aspects of becoming a police officer ranging from the recruitment and selection process, and training. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 4. Read Chapter 5 – The Police Role and Police Discretion. The role of police in society, policing goals and objectives, and police discretion are covers in this chapter. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 5.
- FEB 18 – FEB 22** Read Chapter 6 – Police Culture, Personality, and Stress. Chapter 6 deals with the ideas of police culture, aspects of the police personality, factors causing stress in police work including dealing with stress, and the dangers of police work. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 6.
- FEB 25 – MAR 1** Read Chapter 7 – Minorities in Policing. This chapter discusses discrimination in policing, how policing affects minorities, the role of minorities in policing, and current challenges involving minorities. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 7.
- MAR 4 – MAR 8** Read Chapter 8 – Police Ethics and Police Deviance. The role of ethics in policing is discussed in Chapter 8, including discussions of corruption and misconduct, and police civil and criminal liability. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 8.

- MAR 11 – MAR 15** **Test 2 (Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8)** Read Chapter 9 – Patrol Operations. Chapter 9 covers aspects of operations including strategies and effectiveness, traffic operations and specialized units. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 9.
- MAR 18 – MAR 22** **SPRING BREAK (No class discussions)**
- MAR 25 – MAR 29** Read Chapter 10 – Investigations. In Chapter 10 are discussions of investigations and undercover operations, as well as detective operations, Cold Cases, and crime analysis and information management. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 10.
- APR 1 – APR 5** Read Chapter 11 – Police and Their Clients. Discussion in Chapter 11 covers police and the communities they serve, including minorities and special populations, and community programs to address crime. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 11.
- APR 8 – APR 12** Read Chapter 12 – Community Policing. This chapter deals with community policing and problem-solving policing. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 12.
- APR 15 – APR 18** Read Chapter 13 – Police and the Law. Chapter 13 gives an overview of crime in the United States, police powers, and the law covering the authority of police in searches, seizures, and arrests. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 13.
- APR 19** **GOOD FRIDAY holiday (No classes)**
- APR 22 – APR 26** **Test 3 (Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13)** Read Chapter 14 – Computers, Technology, and Criminalistics in Policing. The role of computer technology, forensics and criminalistics, and advances and use of modern technology in police work are discussed in Chapter 14. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 14.
- APR 29 – MAY 3** Read Chapter 15 – Homeland Security. The role of police in protecting the Homeland, especially in terms of the War on Terrorism, are covered in the final Chapter 15.
- MAY 6 – MAY 8** **Finish all class assignments**
- (Last class Day Wednesday, MAY 8)**
- MAY 10 -- 15** **FINAL Test 4 (Chapters 14 and 15)**
- MAY 17 (Friday)** **Fall Commencement, Pete P. Gallego Center, 7 p.m.**