

CJ 2350 CURRENT ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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Books:

CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE: Concepts and Controversies

2nd Edition

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Sage

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Course Description: This course is designed to give the student a basic knowledge of current issues in our criminal justice system. This is a very broad topic with so many past and current issues that affect the society we live in today. Students will look into concepts and controversies of the CJ system and see the direction our system is headed.

Criminal Justice Undergraduate Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

UG-CJ-SLO 1. Student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of specific areas of the U.S. Constitution as it relates to specific legal liabilities.

UG-CJ-SLO 2. Student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of criminological theories, and apply those theories to an analysis of practical criminal justice events.

UG-CJ-SLO 3. 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.

Course Objectives:

As this is a Blackboard class, students are expected to log into the class frequently and turn in their assignments in a timely fashion. Any computer glitches must be reported promptly or the student will not receive credit on the affected work.

Technical problems can be reported to me - through e-mail is usually the best idea, and/or to the Sul Ross help desk by using lobo pass or calling 837-8888.

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. *[If the course requires students to take proctored exams or to purchase additional software or equipment, please describe those requirements here.]* 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.

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act)

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 Grace Duffy in the Accessibility Services Office, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203.

Requirements/Grades: Final grades for this course will be based on your performance on the following items: **Quizzes**– There will be 3 total quizzes and they will each be 10 questions worth 2 points each for a total of 20 points per quiz = **60 points overall**, **Discussion Questions** (12) total questions worth 20 points each=**240 points overall**, one **Midterm** 50 questions worth 2 points each = **100 points overall**, & a **Cumulative Final Exam** 100 questions worth 2 points each= **200 points overall**. **There will also be chances for Extra Credit in the Quizzes with a few added questions to each quiz.** There is a total of 600 points plus extra credit points from the quizzes. **Final Grades A= 600-540 points, B= 539-480 points, C= 479-420 points, D= 419-360 points, & F= under 360 points. Curves may be given depending on timeliness of your assignments and work ethic. Complete assignments according to the syllabus schedule.**

Tests: Midterm- 50 questions over the scheduled readings and chapters
Final- 100 questions, Cumulative Exam over all required chapter readings and previous Midterm exam.
Quizzes- 10 questions each will be questions from required chapter readings.

Discussion Questions: Each week there will be 1-2 discussion questions posted on the discussion board of Blackboard. Students will need to log frequently in order to deal with these questions in a timely manner. Students will also be expected to respond to the information posted by other students which may mean logging in several times a week. Students are expected to contribute in significant ways to the discussion boards, based on the readings, but also on personal experience and knowledge gained through other course

work, media reports, etc. **This portion of the course is expected to replace the normal dialog that would occur within an in-class course and students will be expected to have a thorough knowledge of the subjects being discussed.**

The 12 DB questions from each chapter will represent 240 total points since they are worth up to 20 points each. This is a large figure for one assignment but the idea is to have a quality discussion and to replace the normal course presentation and paper with this assignment.

In order to receive the highest possible grade on this section of the course: 1-2 discussion questions will be posted each week. Normally these questions will be posted on Sunday. The original answer to the question must be posted by Thursday. The 2 responses to the posts of other students must be completed by Sunday.

Students will also need to address the information posted by other students. These postings should involve information you have to contribute to the discussion as well as any questions you may have for your other classmates or the professor. It is not necessary for each student to respond to the postings of every other student in the class. You must respond to a minimum of 2 other postings in order to receive full credit. Remember, this format is designed to replace the in class discussions that we would normally have. Ask each other questions. Apply your experience to the things others are saying. Give an opposing view.

You have the option of presenting a different view, even one you do not agree with! Mix it up. Present opposing points of view. Get after each other but KEEP IT CIVIL.

Cheating and Plagiarism: Students are expected to do their own work on all tests and papers. Cheating on tests 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).

Important!

See your instructor promptly if you are having problems with your course work or are in need of special assistance.

Tentative Course Schedule – Subject to change if needed

FYI: CHAPTERS 4 & 6 ARE OMITTED AND WILL NOT BE USED!

Week 1- 8/26-9/1 Introduction Question

Week 2- 9/1-9/8 Discussion Question # 1 – read Chapter 1

Week 3- 9/8-9/15 Discussion Question # 2 – read Chapter 2

Week 4- 9/15-9/22 Discussion Question # 3 – read Chapter 3

Week 5- 9/22-9/29 Discussion Question # 4 – read Chapter 5/ **QUIZ CHAPTERS 1,2,3,5**

Week 6- 9/29-10/6 Discussion Question # 5- read Chapter 7

Week 7- 10/6-10/13 Discussion Question # 6- read Chapter 8

Week 8- 10/13-10/20 Discussion Question # 7 – read Chapter 9

Week 9- 10/20-10/27 Discussion Question # 8 – read Chapter 10/ **Quiz Chapters 7,8,9,10**

Week 10- 10/27-11/3 **MIDTERM 50 QUESTIONS Chapters 1,2,3,5,7,8,9,10**

Week 11- 11/3-11/10 Discussion Question # 9 & #10 – read chapters 11 & 12

Week 12- 11/10-11/17 Discussion Question # 11 – read Chapter 13

Week 13- 11/17-11/24 Discussion Question #12- read Chapter 14/ **Quiz Chapters 11,12,13,14**

Week 14- 11/24-12/1 **THANKSGIVING BREAK NO CLASSES**

Week 15- 12/1-12/8 **FINAL 100 questions Cumulative Final Exam**

Week 16- 12/9-12/12 **FINAL GRADES WILL BE POSTED**