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## *CJ 4335 War on Drugs*

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Instructor: *Judge Atkinson*

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Email is the best contact for any reason. Anyone not receiving a reply to their email within 48 hours should resend.

Books:

Unequal under Law: Race in the War on Drugs  
ISBN-13: 978-0226684628

The War on Drugs: A Failed Experiment  
ISBN-13: 978-1459722897

### **Course Description**

Throughout this course, students will have the opportunity to evaluate the public policy concerning the most topical issues of the War on Drugs. Students will analyze topics including historical, political, cost, corruption, demographics and legalization. Along with studying the war on drugs students will be exposed to the deficits that can be found within the war on drugs. Students will be able to see what tactics are working and which are not when it comes to this war. Students will be required to actively participate with in the course.

### **Undergraduate Criminal Justice Student Learning Objectives (SLO's)**

1. Students will develop an understanding of various aspects and terminology within the criminal justice system
2. Students will be able to evaluate the various programs within our government system and determine their impact on government functioning
3. Students will also be able to assess the impact of different agencies and organizations within the criminal justice system on the lives of the ordinary citizen.
4. Students will also be able to evaluate various programs within the criminal justice umbrella in terms of effectiveness vs. intent.
5. Students will also be able to define and assess various role of local law enforcement and emergency responders pertaining to the criminal justice system.

This course will be contained within the Blackboard format and will not meet in person during the term. Students are expected to log in regularly to complete assignments. Students should familiarize themselves with all of the sections of blackboard available for this course. Assignments and tests will be listed under the appropriate subheading. Students will also need to become familiar with the discussion board for completing some of this work. Majority of the coursework will take place in the discussion board area.

As this is an upper level course, students will be expected to be self-motivated, and work independently. Standards for upper level courses are higher than those for lower level courses – students will engage in more research, reading, and writing. 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 Help Desk at 432-837-8888 locally, 8888 from on campus or 1-888-837-2882 from out of area. You can also log into the LTAC system and create a ticket by going to <https://techassist.sulross.edu/> If you report an issue through the Help Desk or create a ticket by logging into the system, you should send me an email with a description of your issue and the ticket number so I can help ensure that technical issues are addressed and do not negatively affect your grades. If you do not promptly report your technical problems, you will not get credit for any work affected by the problem.

### **Requirements**

Final grades for this course will be based on your performance on the following items:

- Assignments (15%)
- Discussion Boards (50%)
  - Exam (20%)
  - Quizzes (15%)

Participation: Participation is essential. I am able to see when you log-on, how long you were logged-on, what you did when you logged-on, what you copied and pasted while you were logged-on. If you do not log-on for longer than a week and have not emailed me to make prior arrangements a drop request for will be filled out and sent to the registrar's office. A drop can result in a "W" which counts towards your withdrawal limit, or an "F" which will have a negative impact on your GPA.

Tests: The quizzes and exams for this course will consist of multiple choice, true/false and fill in the blank questions. The quiz and exam schedule is posted under the Test Your Knowledge section of the course. There will be no make-ups for either quizzes or exams. The exams will each cover all of the sections that will need to be covered by the exam date. Each exam may also relate to the questions on the Discussion Board. Therefore, students are expected to read the responses to the Discussion Questions carefully and to do any research needed to master the information presented.

Assignments: Students will be required to complete assignments as assigned. Assignments will consist of open ended question, fill in the blanks, vocabulary assignments or assignments that come directly from the book. Some assignments may require that the student do additional research on their behalf to successfully complete the assignment.

Discussion Questions: Each Monday there will be a new discussion question posted on the Discussion Board section of Blackboard. Students are required to post an initial thread by Wednesday and they will also be expected to respond to a minimum of three responses posted by other students by Friday. 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. This means that students will have to do outside research. Rules for the content and grading will be posted under the assignment section for this class.

Code of Conduct: This is an upper level course and students are expected to behave as professional adults. Students are expected to do their own work on all tests and assignments. Cheating and plagiarism on tests or 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).

Open discussion of course issues is encouraged, however, abusive, offensive or otherwise inappropriate language will not be tolerated – this includes profanity, racial/ethnic slurs, personal attacks on other members of the course, etc. Part of the learning process is learning to communicate effectively and professionally. A direct quote from a published source may occasionally contain such language, but use of the quote should be limited and explained – why is it necessary to use such quote?

Any assignment containing abusive, offensive, or profane language, or creating an offensive environment in the course will result in a grade of 0 for that assignment.

### **Distance Education Statement**

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university’s academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require 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.

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:

**Paul Slocumb**

**Administrative Specialist**

Counseling & Accessibility Services

[paul.slocumb@sulross.edu](mailto:paul.slocumb@sulross.edu)

(432) 837-8203

Office: FH 112

Address: Box C-122, Alpine, TX 79832