

CJS225-251W

Issues in Criminal Justice

Spring 2019

Instructor: Shannon Bridges **Email:** SHBridges@parkland.edu

Phone: 217-351-2527

Course and Location: Online

Office Hours: MWF 12:00-12:50 pm; Rm #D184

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Course Description: Study of specific criminal justice topics and problems in contemporary American society. Emphasis on developing critical thinking skills as the student learns to analyze current problems and issues. Prerequisites: CJS101 or approval of program director or department chair and ENG101 placement.

In addition to the above mentioned description, there will be some additional goals added to analyze criminal justice issues from a global perspective. The following global perspective goals are as follows:

1. Gain situational awareness to the role criminal justice plays in significant social issues and how that relates globally.
2. Apply global information to a professional role that will allow you to analyze a problem/issue from a European perspective.
3. Prepare a solution from a global perspective to a specific criminal justice scenario.

Required Text: Joanne Naughton, Annual Editions: Criminal Justice, 41st edition, McGraw-Hill Education, 2018.

Tentative Schedule:

Unit 1: Crime and Justice in America

Week 2 - Article 1.5: "We Have Lost the War on Drugs" by Jeff Nesbit

Week 3 - Article 1.3: "An Unbelievable Story of Rape" by Ken Armstrong and T. Christian Miller

Unit 2: Victimology

Week 4 - Article 2.3: "More than 1,600 Women Murdered by Men in One Year, New Study Finds" by Violence Policy Center

Week 5 - Article 2.4: "Human Sex Trafficking" by Amanda Walker-Rodriguez and Rodney Hill

Unit 3: The Police

Week 6 - Article 3.5: "Defining Moments for Police Chiefs" by Chuck Wexler

Week 7 - Article 3.6: "The Supreme Court's Utah v. Strieff Decision and the Fourth Amendment" by Joshua Waimberg

Unit 4: The Judicial System

Week 8 - Article 4.2: "US Supreme Court to Police: To Search a Cell Phone, 'Get a Warrant'" by Warren Richey

Week 9 - Article 4.4: "Against His Better Judgment" by Eli Saslow

Unit 5: Juvenile Justice

Week 10 - Article 5.2: "Old Laws Collide with Digital Reality in Colorado Teen Sexting Case" by P. Solomon Banda and Colleen Slevin

Week 11 - Article 5.7: "Tribal Youth in the Juvenile Justice System" by U.S. Department of Justice

Unit 6: Punishment and Corrections

Week 12 - Article 6.3: "For Mentally Ill Inmates at Rikers Island, a Cycle of Jail and Hospitals" by Michael Winerip and Michael Schwartz

Week 13 - Article 6.5: "The Painful Price of Aging in Prison" by Sari Horwitz

Assignments:

- **Quizzes:** There will be a quiz at the end of each unit. Each quiz will consist of 10 questions pertaining to any of the information given during the unit. For example, there may be questions that come from articles, videos, etc. It will be imperative that you review all of the information that is assigned for each issue. Each quiz will be worth a total of 20 points. The lowest quiz score will be dropped at the end of the semester.
- **Exams:** There will be a total of two exams that will be worth 100 points each. The first exam will be given at midterm and will cover the first half of information that is covered. The second exam will be the final exam and it will cover information that is covered in the last half of the semester.
- **Discussions:** You will be required to complete at least one discussion weekly. **Your first post must be completed by Wednesday at midnight. You are also required to complete two follow-up posts by Sunday at midnight.** Failure to meet any of the requirements will result in point deductions. In addition to the above-mentioned requirements, your discussion posts will be graded by the content that is included. A one sentence submission for your initial or follow-up posts will not be sufficient and will be graded accordingly. Each discussion is worth a total of 10 points. There is a rubric provided to outline the requirements for the discussion posts.
- **Global Content:** Please review the goals at the beginning of the syllabus regarding global awareness. One of the General Learning Outcomes for Parkland students states, "Global Awareness and Ethical Reasoning: Demonstrate their understanding of global issues, gender and sexual orientation, multicultural perspectives, and/or the role of ethical core values in making personal, social, academic, and professional decisions." This course will not only be reviewing criminal justice issues in the United States, but we

will also be exploring how these issues are addressed globally. **Each week, you will be given either a discussion question or an assignment focusing on a different European country.** The instructor will identify the specific country for each week and it will be your responsibility to research and provide relevant information regarding a specific issue.

- **Final Project:** You will be given a criminal justice scenario and you will be required to analyze and prepare a solution for the scenario. The scenario will be addressed from the perspective of a European country. You will be given five countries to choose from to address the scenario. Further information will be provided to outline the requirements for the assignment.
- **Assignments:** There may be additional assignments given during the semester to address specific content that is being covered in each unit. The assignment can be viewed in the Content section for the unit. The instructor will also provide an overview of what is required to be completed for each unit.
- **Extra Credit:** There may be extra credit opportunities assigned during the semester. Any extra credit given will be available for all students. It is your responsibility to complete all assignments during the semester. Therefore, the instructor **WILL NOT** provide any individual extra credit assignments to improve your grade. A lack of planning on your part does not constitute an emergency on my part.

Disability Services: Students with approved accommodations through the Office of Disability Services are expected to meet privately with instructors each semester to discuss accommodations listed on their Disability Services ID card. (e.g. extended time on exams, notes, etc.) This personal introduction officially marks the beginning of your accommodations for the semester. Instructors should be allowed to view your Disability Services ID card and note approved accommodations. Reader/Scribe and Extended Time Testing Accommodations are not accessible in the classroom. Students should schedule tests/quizzes by calling Disability Services.

If you believe you have a disability for which you may need an academic accommodation (e.g. an alternate testing environment, use of assistive technology or other classroom assistance), please contact: Cathy Robinson, Room U-260, 217-353-2082, crobinson@parkland.edu.

Grading Scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	<59%

Important Dates:

February 4	First day of class
February 10	Last day to withdraw with 100% refund
March 16-24	Spring Break (Campus Closed)
May 9	Last Day of Class
May 14	Final Exam Due

****It is your responsibility to withdraw from a course. I can withdraw any student who has stopped attending prior to midterm.****

Please refer to Cobra for the Syllabus Addendum