

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Criminal Justice
CJ 384 – Law Enforcement Systems and Practices
Spring 2020
TR: 11:00 am – 12:15 am. SSB 16

Instructor: O. Oko Elechi, Ph.D.
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Office Hours:

Tuesdays/Thursdays: 9:00 am – 9:20 am/Tuesdays 1:00 – 6:00 pm
Wednesdays: 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm
or by appointment

Required Text:

Cox, S. M., Massey, D., Koski, C.M., & Fitch, B.D. (2020). Introduction to Policing. 4th Edition. Los Angeles, CA.: Sage.

Recommended Texts:

Casey, J. (2010). Policing the World: The Practice of International and Transnational Policing. Durham, North Carolina: Carolina Academic Press.

Roberg, R., Novak, K., Cordner, G., & Smith, B. (2020). Police and Society. 8th Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Additional readings will be assigned throughout the Semester.

Catalog Course Description: (3 Credit hours).

A comprehensive review of law enforcement systems and practices, starting from the history of law enforcement to the discussions of recruiting procedures, training, operational functions such as patrols, investigations, and strategies for controlling police corruption and brutality. Other pertinent law enforcement issues will also be covered in the course.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Upon successful completion of the course, students who take this course will:

- Provide an overview of the evolution of law enforcement and criminal justice;
- Enhance student's understanding of law enforcement and the criminal justice system;
- Develop the ability to analyze different issues concerning law enforcement, the challenges of the profession; and
- Recognize various contemporary law enforcement practices and problems.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME (SLO):

Upon completion of the undergraduate program in criminal justice, the student should demonstrate understanding of the:

- Crime issues, trends, and basic legal principles in America
- The social, economic and political forces that influence the definition and response to crime in America
- The history, development and operations of the criminal justice system

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes of the course.

Exams. – written tests designed to measure knowledge of presented course material. The examinations consist of Multiple Choice, True/False and Short Essay questions drawn from the lectures, documentary films, guest lectures and the recommended texts.

Exercises – written assignments designed to supplement and reinforce course material.

Projects – Research projects designed to measure ability to apply presented course material. Students are required to form group of 2 persons and select one of the listed topics below for review. The recommended topics and the dates they are to be presented in class are also listed below. Each group is required to prepare and deliver one informal discussion on their presentation. Each student should present a three page outline and summary of their contribution to the project.

Class participation – daily attendance and participation in class discussions and in class exercises.

Grading Matrix

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)		Total
First Quarter Exam.	100 points	20%	100
Second Quarter Exam.	100 points	20%	100
Final Exam.	100 points	20%	100
Group Project/Presentation	100 points	20%	100
Class Attendance/Participation	100 points	20%	100
Total:		100%	500

Grading Scale:

- A = 500 – 450 points (100 – 90%)
- B = 449 - 400 points (89 – 80%)
- C = 399 – 350 points (79 – 70%)
- D = 349 – 300 points (69 – 60%)
- F = 299 points or below (59 – 0%)

Grade Appeals:

Any student who believes that s/he has been graded unfairly, even after talking with me about the grade, may appeal that grade by following University procedures as explained in the Student Handbook. Please keep records of all graded assignments and make all appeals in writing with the proper documentation. It is the student's responsibility to prove that s/he has been graded unfairly.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

You earn grades for class attendance and participation in all class activities and discussions. To earn grades for participation, you must do your readings and show you understand what was presented in the class readings.

Special Needs and Accommodations:

Students with special needs/disabilities of any type who require special accommodation in the classroom and during instruction and/or testing should notify the instructor during their first full week of class. Students should also have written confirmation by qualified experts of the disability on file with the Office of Academic Affairs and the ADA office on MVSU campus. For help with papers, please use your University Writing Center often.

Academic Integrity:

All acts of academic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating on exams, plagiarism, internet papers, paraphrasing internet papers, presenting someone else's work as your own, failing to meet academic and professional requirements, will result in an automatic "F". The University's academic honesty and plagiarism policies are enforced in this course.

Tentative Course Outline: (The general plan of action is as follows: But please note that this is tentative).

1. January 14/16 Introduction, administration and overview of concepts.
2. January 21/23 Policing in the United States, Cox et al., Ch.1
3. January 28/30 A Brief History of Police in the US, Cox, et al, Ch.2
4. February 4/6 Police Organization and Administration, Cox, et al, Ch.3
5. February 11 Review
February 13 FIRST QUARTER EXAMINATION – 100 POINTS
6. February 18/20 Recruitment and Selection of Police Officers, Cox et al, Ch.4
7. February 25/27 Police Training and Education, Cox, et al, Ch. 5
8. March 3 **MID-TERM EXAMINATION – 100 POINTS**

8. March 5 Police Work: Operations and Functions, Cox, et al, Ch. 6
9. **March 9 – 13 Spring Break**
10. **March 17-19** Contemporary Strategies in Policing, Cox, et al, Ch. 7
11. March 24/26 The Police Culture and Work Stress, Cox, et al, Ch.8
12. March 31 Law, Court Decisions, and the Police/Ethics and Decision-Making, Cox, Chs. 9/10
13. April 2 Police Misconduct and Accountability/Policing in a Diverse Society, Cox, Chs. 11/12
14. April 7/9 Technology and the Police, Cox, et al, Ch.13
15. April 14/16 Organized Crime, Homeland Security, and Global Issues, Cox, et al Ch.14
16. April 21/23 Private Security/The Future of Policing in the US, Cox, et al, Chs.15/16
17. **April 28/30 General Review**
18. May 4 – 8 **Final Examinations Scheduled**

GROUP PROJECT/PRESENTATION – 100 POINTS

Students are required to form groups of 2 persons to undertake one of the projects listed below. Each group is to submit to me on the day of their presentation an essay of between 5 and 8 pages long. Your paper must be typewritten using 1.5 line spacing, and must be properly referenced using the APA referencing style. Your report should read like a very well written journal article. If your composition skills are weak, consult a book on academic writing and/or discuss your paper with me.

The following are suggested outlines for your essay:

- a. Introduction (Problem statement)
- b. Literature Review (Review of extant literature on the subject).
- c. Research Design (Methods applied to obtain materials for the study)
- d. Research Findings
- e. Discussion of Research Findings
- f. Implications of Study/Research Findings for policy/solving of real life problem.

The following are good sources for data for your term paper: (The University Library will be your best place to start your inquiry. Do not also forget that I remain your other source for guidance, and I am available to assist you when you call on me. To complete a good research paper, you must give yourself time. Start now to put your materials and thoughts together. It is not possible to write a good research paper within 24 hours).

- a. Refereed Academic/ Professional Journals
- b. Books published by Academic Presses

- c. Magazines or Newspapers that are highly regarded
- d. The Mainstream Popular Press
- e. Internet sources (etc).

EVALUATION RUBRIC FOR THE PROJECT ASSIGNMENT

The following are the criteria I will base my evaluation of your Term Paper. The relevance of the content to the subject matter, and how you organize, present ideas, apply the relevant theoretical frame-work, creatively interject your opinions and your English usage. In addition to evaluating the different elements of the paper, a holistic view on how these features are brought together to form a total work is important.

A. For a paper to score an A it must meet the following criteria. The paper comprehensively addresses the subject matter. The thesis, arguments and all supporting evidence show a clear understanding of the issues. The paper clearly, effectively and insightfully develops and conveys a point of view. Its organization and focus is also very clear, coherent, and ideas smoothly progress from one to the other, and also demonstrating excellent critical thinking and supported with appropriate examples. There are no major errors in vocabulary, sentence structure, spelling, citation, punctuation and paragraphing. It must meet the APA format and present a complete Bibliography in a separate page.

B. A paper in the B grade range must meet the following criteria:

Show significant mastery of the subject matter; however, showing occasional errors in thought and quality; the paper is clearly and effectively developed and presented, demonstrating reasonable critical thinking, coherence in thought, and progression of ideas; occasional mistakes which do not impede the meaning and clarity of the statement in grammar, word selection, sentence structure, spelling, paragraphing. Appropriate evidences are provided to support paper thesis, arguments and opinions. The References must be complete and the APA writing format followed.

C. A paper in the C or lower range has the following weaknesses:

The paper shows some understanding of the subject matter however with significant errors that compromises the quality of the paper. The theories selected for analysis do not fit or are misapplied. One or more of the important elements of the paper is missing. The paper in significant respects is unfocused and or disjointed and incoherent. There are several grammatical, sentence structure and spelling mistakes. The citations and references are either lacking and or not properly done

PRESENTATION DATES AND SUGGESTED TOPICS/PROJECTS

	Presenters
1. March 26	Policing International and Transnational Crime 1.
2. March 26	Police in a Democracy 1.
3. March 28	Policing Diverse Society 1.
4. March 28	Police Culture and Work Stress 1.
5. April 2	Police Misconduct and Accountability 1.
6. April 2	Police Management 1.
7. April 4	The Police and Private Security 1.
8. April 4	Policing and Technology 1.

Course Procedures

Submission of Assignments:

All assignments should be submitted to the Professor in class on the due date.

ADA Syllabus Statement (Fall 2019)

Mississippi Valley State University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with a documented disability. If a student has a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Services for Students with Disability Office to obtain this service. Disabilities covered by the ADA may include learning, physical, psychiatric, vision, hearing, or chronic health disorders. Students who are uncertain if their condition/disability is qualified should contact the SSD Office.

Mrs. Kathy Brownlow/ ADA Coordinator

Social Science Building Office 105

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