Crime and Justice in the U.S.

CJUS 2100

Fall 2013

Tuesday/Thursday 08.00-09.20am

Env 130

Professor Peter Johnstone PhD

Chilton Hall 289J

940 369 8868

[pjohnstone@unt.edu](mailto:pjohnstone@unt.edu)

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 09.30 -11.00am

Final Exam: TBA

Course Description:

2100 (CRIJ 1301). Crime and Justice in the United States. 3 hours. This course examines the societal responses to people and organizations that violate criminal codes; discusses the history, development, organization and philosophy of the justice process; and analyzes the complex inter-relationships between the major components of the criminal justice system (police, courts and corrections). Satisfies the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement of the University Core Curriculum. (Same as SOCI 2100.)

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

* Demonstrate a working understanding of the history of crime and justice in the U.S.
* Articulate an understanding of the major agencies that represent the three limbs of the U.S. criminal justice system
* Evaluate the importance of the various manner in which crime is reported and recorded
* Understand the importance of the rule of law and how this relates to operational policing
* Recognize the role of plea bargaining and the philosophy of punishment as it exists in the U.S. today
* Measure the changing nature of criminal justice in the U.S. and globally
* Formulate an opinion about the role of C.S.I. in contemporary criminal justice
* In addition to the formal learning outcomes there is a bigger issue, that issue is developing creative people. It is my intention that during this course you will gain the confidence to do really well. A university education is not about trying to mold you it is the reverse; it is about trying to help you escape a mold. What you bring to the class is yourself and your desire to participate.

“The capacity to think about one’s thinking -to ponder metacognitively- and to correct it in progress is far more worthy than remembering any name, date, or number”. (Bain, K., *What The Best College Teachers Do*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 2004, pp.95).

The decision to take this course is yours. Once you have made that decision you are responsible to every other course participant in the community of learners that makes up this class.

Textbook: Johnstone, P. *Let’s Talk Criminal Justice*, 2013, Kendall Hunt, Dubuque, IA. Available at the UNT bookstore or direct from Kendall Hunt at [www.kendallhunt.com](http://www.kendallhunt.com)

Recommended Readings:

Additional readings will be referenced and supplied throughout the course.

Exams: There will be ten unannounced in-class multiple choice quizzes. There will be a mid-term examination and a final examination. The mid-term will comprise of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions. The final examination will comprise of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions. Quizzes and examinations will cover textbook readings and the material covered in class.

No materials whatsoever whether written, printed or electronic are permitted when sitting quizzes or examinations.

Examination material will be cumulative. Make-up exams will only be given in the event of unforeseen and documented circumstances.

Grades: A 90-100%

B 80-89.99%

C 70-79.99%

D 60-69.99%

F Below 59.99%

Academic Dishonesty. Students found to be cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, or facilitating academic dishonesty will receive a zero grade for the course. See further: Chapter # -07 Student Affairs. 18.1.16 Student Standards of Academic Integrity.

Americans with Disabilities Act. The university complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and The Americans with Disabilities Act. Students who may need accommodations should call the Office of Disability Accommodation (940-369-8652).

Course Schedule:

**Weeks 1&2** A Brief History of Policing Crime: Hammurabi, biblical law, Greek and Roman influences, crime as a legal construct. Criminal justice in early England; courts, circuits and juries. The establishment of the Common Law

**Week 3** The Raw Materials of Criminal Justice: Counting crime, UCR, NIBRS, NCVS. The magnitude of the crime problem

**Week 4** Origins of Modern Policing: Sheriffs, constables and night-watchmen. Robert Peel, colonial policing in the U.S. Private police responses and the emergence of state troopers.

**Week 5** Police Recruitment: basic requirements and training, local agencies, deputy sheriffs, state police

**Week 6** Federal agencies: The Big Four, Homeland security, ATF, Secret service, US Marshals, FBI Special Units

**Week 7 Tuesday Mid-Term Exam**

Thursday. Bail, Jail and Pretrial: Bail/ Bond, pre-trial services, jails

**Week 8** Police and the Rule of Law: Warrants, exclusionary rules, search and seizure, custody, interrogation and Miranda

**Week 9** Trials, Plea bargains and the Philosophy of Punishment: Court appearances and procedures, Plea-bargaining, trails and trial procedures, motions

**Weeks 10** Prison: History of US prisons, statistical profile of prisoners and prisons, prisoner criminality

**Week 11** Probation and Parole: Probation, qualification for probation, types of probation. Origins of parole, executive privilege

**Week 12** How the System Works: Police, CSI, Court, Sentencing

**Week 13 & 14** Global Criminal Justice: South Korea, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Canada and the RCMP, International police responses and the role of the UN

**Week 15** Course review and exam preparation guidelines and models

**Week 16 Final Exam**

**And what is really important, especially if you are new to university and find the entire experience a little overwhelming:**

* + **Show up.** Go to class every day, take notes and participate in discussions. It’s a pretty big campus, but we’ll help you find your way.
  + **Find support.** Everyone needs help sometimes. Whether you need tutoring for a tough class or a check-up from the health center, we’ve got you covered.
  + **Take control.** Know where you’re going and what you’re doing. Use tools to help you choose a major and tips to make the most of every minute.
  + **Be prepared.** Do your homework and study. Conquer a college-sized workload with speed reading classes, writing skills labs and much more.
  + **Get involved.** New people, new places and new perspectives are coming your way. Join a student organization and explore the campus and the community.
  + **Be persistent.** College is hard, but you’re not alone. Meet your challenges head on and ask for help when you need it.