CJUS 5350.900,950: Seminar in Contemporary Policing
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Brooke Miller
Term: Spring 2016
Class meeting: Online class – there are no in person meetings.

Instructor’s Contact Information

Email (preferred) Brooke.Miller@unt.edu
Office Phone 940-565-2562
Office Location Chilton 273K
Office Hours By appointment

Email expectations: When sending an email, please put the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 5350) in the subject line of the email. Only emails sent from your UNT email account (username@my.unt.edu) will receive a response. Emails will generally be returned within 24 hours with the exception of weekends and holidays when a response will be sent on the following business day. Also, to ensure that you receive timely course related correspondence, make sure your official email address at UNT is forwarded to your preferred email address.

Required readings


Supplemental readings will be provided to the student via Blackboard under the “Content” tab.

Course Description

This course will entail theoretical, historical, and comparative perspectives on policing along with a critical analysis of the function of policing in modern society. Specifically, the evolution of policing will be addressed as well as administrative concepts, such as organizational change, management, structure, and strategy—all of which of are highly pertinent when discussing the current state of the police institution. Particularly concerning strategy, a significant component of this course will involve an examination of policing strategies that have emerged within the last 30 years, whose primary aims have been to tackle fear, disorder, and crime, while consistently posing the questions “do they work?” and “do they violate basic conceptions of distributive and/or procedural justice?” Furthermore, considerable attention will be given to various forms of police behavior, including use of force, the recording of crime, and police deviance.
Learning Objectives
Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:
1. Discuss the history of American policing
2. Discuss the evolution of police strategies, particularly in terms of how the functions of crime control, order maintenance, and the service provision have been prioritized
3. Discuss some of the most significant pieces of police research and a considerable bulk of the police strategy literature
4. Critically evaluate how crime is recorded and offer counter arguments to those claiming criminal justice policy (particularly police policy) was responsible for the bulk of the crime drop in the 1990s
5. Understand theories concerning organizational change and how they apply to shifts in police strategy
6. Recognize the various forms of police deviance (be familiar with their incidence) and be able to discuss how police agencies deal with deviance (i.e., internal strategies)
7. Identify the most current trends in policing (in terms of technology, accountability, management, and function)

Technical Requirements/Assistance
The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspect of the course.
UIT Help Desk: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm
Hardware and software necessary to use Bb Learn: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/
Browser requirements: http://kb.blackboard.com/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=84639794
Computer and Internet Literacy: http://clt.odu.edu/oso/index.php?src=pe_comp_lit
Necessary plug-ins: http://goo.gl/1lsVF

Minimum Technical Skills:
This is not a computer skills course and as such, students are expected to have a minimum skill set in order to access course materials and complete course assignments. Specifically, students should know how to access a Web site when given an address, use the features of their Web browser, download files, attach files to emails, use word processing software, copy and paste …etc.

Access and Navigation
Access and Log in Information
This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing the University of North Texas’ Learning Management System, Blackboard Learn. To get started with the course, please go to: https://learn.unt.edu

You will need your EUID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your EUID or have forgotten your password, please go to: http://ams.unt.edu.

Student Resources
As a student, you will have access to:
• Student Orientation via Blackboard Learn. It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials within the Orientation to better equip you in navigating the course.
• Blackboard’s On Demand Learning Center for Students. It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials to better equip you to navigate the course.
• From within Blackboard, you will have access to the “UNT Helpdesk” tab which provides student resources and Help Desk Information.

First steps
Upon entrance into the online classroom, students should spend some time navigating course materials and links to ensure they are able to locate all required materials. After the student has reviewed the syllabus and course materials, students will be required to post an introduction in the Discussion forum and complete a Course expectations quiz.

Student Support
The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of Blackboard and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940.565-2324
In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130
Regular hours are maintained to provide support to students. Please refer to the website (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/hours.htm) for updated hours.

Method of Evaluation
As this is a graduate online class, students must be prepared to take responsibility for their own learning. Students should be prepared to complete assignments and discussions with little direction beyond that provided in the syllabus and individual assignment instructions.

Module Assessments: Students will complete an assessment at the end of each learning module. After finishing each learning module, students are to complete a 10 to 20-question assessment covering the material presented in the readings and module outline. Assessments will be timed at 40 minutes, all questions will be delivered at once, and the assessment must be completed in one sitting (the assessment will auto-submit at the end of 40 minutes so make sure you have time to complete the assessment before you begin). Make sure you have a reliable internet connection and are ready to complete the entire quiz when you open it. (Technical issues will only be considered in extreme circumstances and only once per semester and can only be evaluated by the instructor.) Questions that have not been answered at the end of 40 minutes will receive 0 points. Information presented in videos, if applicable, will be subject to assessment as well. For instance, for Module 1, two chapters from the Kappeler (editor) text are assigned. Students are to read the chapters along with the corresponding outline/supplemental narrative. Students will then be instructed to complete the assessment covering Module 1. These assessments will include objective, true/false, and multiple-choice questions. The totality of these module assessments will be worth 20% of the student’s course grade.

Blackboard discussions: During the dates specified in the course outline, each student will be required to participate in a Blackboard discussion. Each student will then respond appropriately to the question or instruction statement provided, creating his/her own “original thread” (at least the equivalent to 3-4 paragraphs). After creating an original thread, students are required to respond to at least 2 of their fellow classmates’ original threads. To earn points, discussion and
participation comments must be more than trivial and in fact substantial and substantive (think of these as the discussion you would engage in if we had an on campus class). Participation in each of these discussion threads will be worth up to 30% of your final grade. Each discussion forum will remain open from Monday morning at 12:30 a.m. until the following Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. Late submissions will not be accepted.

You will be required to comment and support your views from the research that is provided to you. Grammatical errors as well as weak and unsupported comments will be deducted in points.

**Exams:** There will be two, essay format exams in this course. You will have one week to complete each exam. Students will be presented with a series of essay questions and asked to respond to a portion of the total (e.g., 4 of your choosing out of 8). The exams not only give students an opportunity to communicate their ideas in writing but they also allow students to synthesize the diverse concepts and positions presented in the various readings and outlines. A more detailed description of the exam will be released on the date specified in the “course outline.” For now, however, it should be noted that it is expected that the each exam be approximately 12-15 pages in length; thus, students should keep up with their readings and take copious notes. The two exams will constitute 50% of the student’s course grade. Exams will be submitted through the appropriate link in Blackboard—again, more detailed instructions will be provided when the exam is released.

Exams must be typed, double spaced, and 12pt font. Do not plagiarize (from the internet or other source) – if you do you will automatically fail the exam. Do not just quote sections from other researchers as your answer. Exams must be written in your own words. If you are going to cite someone, write the sentence in your words and cite them in APA format.

If you fail to complete ALL of the discussions, assessments/assignments, or exams the professor reserves the right to drop your final grade a letter grade at the end of the semester.

**Grade breakdown**

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion and participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessments</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Grade related questions or concerns must be addressed within 1 week of the grade being posted to Blackboard.

*There are no extra credit opportunities for the course.

**Attendance Policy**

As this is an online course, there are fixed deadlines on assignments that students must meet in order to receive up to full credit for completed assignments. Students are expected to log in to the course daily to review course assignments, due dates, and check announcements, etc. Students may complete their work early and, in doing so, have a large amount of flexibility in completing their assignments. However, while work can be completed early, all assignments must be submitted by the due date listed in the course calendar in the syllabus. Students that
have fallen behind, are failing and/or choose to not complete the coursework for the semester are responsible for officially withdrawing themselves from the course; failure to do so will result in a performance grade of "F". Last day to withdraw with a grade of “W” is April 5, 2016.

**Classroom Policies**

*Online Discussion Expectations:*

While this is an online class, we will still engage in weekly discussions in which individuals may have strong opinions regarding course related topics. Our online classroom is a collaborative environment in which every student should feel comfortable expressing ideas, opinions and engaging in thoughtful discussions. Students will respect the views and opinions of others at all times; name-calling and personal attacks are not permitted. Students engaging in disruptive or disrespectful behavior in the classroom will be given one warning through an email from the instructor. A second violation will result in the student being locked out of future discussions eliminating their ability to either participate in future discussions or earn additional discussion points for the course.

Students are expected to log in to Blackboard daily to check Announcements or changes to the course. Missing deadlines as a result of not frequently checking Blackboard will not be an excuse for late work submission.

**A Grade of “Incomplete” (“I”):** An Incomplete Grade ("I") is a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a term/semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course and (2) has a justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule; and (3) arranges with the professor before the end of the semester to finish the course at a later date by completing specific requirements that the professor must list on the grade sheet. All work in the course must be completed within the specified time (not to exceed one year after taking the course) If you do not meet the specifications for this grade, you will need to see the Registrar’s office about resigning from the University.

**Being a Successful Online Student**

- [*What Makes a Successful Online Student?*](#)
- [*Self Evaluation for Potential Online Students*](#)

**Academic integrity**

Standards of academic integrity are expected with regard to any course related work or submission. Students should consult the UNT website for questions, guidelines, appeals, and other information related to these policies: [http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf](http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf)

Academic violation of UNT policy consists of the following:

A. Cheating. The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:

1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
2. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;

3. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;

4. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;

5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

B. Plagiarism. Use of another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student’s intent, including but not limited to:

1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.

2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

C. Forgery. Altering a score, grade or official academic university record or forging the signature of an instructor or other student.

D. Fabrication. Falsifying or inventing any information, data or research as part of an academic exercise.

E. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty. Helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.

F. Sabotage. Acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

All submissions should be 100% original to this course.

Any violation of academic integrity will be handled on a case-by-case basis. At a minimum, the student will receive a 0 on the assignment in question, but more serious academic violations may be subject to the assignment of a failing grade for the course. Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor with questions related to citations or other academic integrity concerns.

Resources

Links to Academic Support Services, such as Office of Disability Accommodation, Counseling and Testing Services, UNT Libraries, Online Tutoring, UNT Writing Lab and Math Tutor Lab can be located within Blackboard Learn on the “Academic Support” tab. UNT Portal: http://my.unt.edu

UNT Blackboard Learn Student Resources: Technical Support: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/

UNT Library Information for Off-Campus Users:
http://www.library.unt.edu/services/facilities-and-systems/campus-access
UNT Computing and Information Technology Center:  
http://citc.unt.edu/services-solutions/students

UNT Academic Resources for Students:  http://www.unt.edu/academics.htm  
Computer Labs: General access computer lab information (including locations and hours of operation) can be located at:  http://www.gacl.unt.edu/

**Student Evaluation of Instruction (SPOT)**  
Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction (SPOT) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Student feedback is very important to UNT, please complete your SPOT (Student Perceptions of Teaching) survey during the open evaluation time.

**ADA Statement and Disabled Student Policy**  
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at  http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Copyright Notice**  
Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies. Additional copyright information may be located at:  http://copyright.unt.edu/content/unt-copyright-policies.

**Course Calendar and Topics**  
Students are responsible for keeping up with the schedule, any schedule changes as well as the assigned readings as we progress through the course. This is a tentative schedule and the instructor reserves the right to modify any part of the schedule at any time throughout the semester. All assignments must be submitted by 11:59p Central time on the date listed below. Late submissions are not accepted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings and assignment due dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week1:</td>
<td><strong>Topic:</strong> The evolution of American policing and changing core functions</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/19-1/24</td>
<td><strong>Readings:</strong> Module 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1. Kelling &amp; Moore: The evolving strategy of policing (Kappeler 1-26)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Dates</td>
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| 2     | 1/25-1/31 | A critical examination of police historical schemes | 1. Walker: “Broken windows” and fractured history (Kappeler 51-65)  
2. Strecher: Revising the histories and futures of policing (Kappeler 66-79) | Assessment module 2 due 1/31 11:59p |
| 3     | 2/1-2/7   | The role of police in society               | 1. Manning: The police (Kappeler 94-122)  
2. Wilson & Kelling: Broken windows  
3. (Kappeler 154-167)  
4. Sykes: Street justice (Kappeler 134-149)  
5. Klockars: Comment on Sykes (Kappeler 150-153) | Blackboard discussion #1 due 2/7 11:59p |
| 4     | 2/8-2/14  | The role of police in society               | 1. Manning: The police (Kappeler 94-122)  
2. Wilson & Kelling: Broken windows  
3. (Kappeler 154-167)  
4. Sykes: Street justice (Kappeler 134-149)  
5. Klockars: Comment on Sykes (Kappeler 150-153) | Assessment 3 due 2/14 11:59p |
| 5     | 2/15-2/21 | Policing society/”unpleasant” individuals   | 1. Van Maanen: The asshole (Kappeler 304-325)  
2. Westley: Violence and the police (Kappeler 326-338)  
2. Kappeler & Miller: Reinventing the police (Kappeler 552-565) | Assessment module 5 due 2/28 11:59p |
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>2/29-3/6</td>
<td>Organizational structure, staffing, adaptation to change</td>
<td>Module 6</td>
<td>Blackboard discussion #2 and Assessment module 6 due 3/6 11:59p</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>Topic:</strong> Fairness and effectiveness: The nature of policing (47-108)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>3/7-3/13</td>
<td>Midterm due 3/13 11:59p</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>3/21-3/27</td>
<td>New York’s lessons for urban and its control</td>
<td>Module 7</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td><strong>Topic:</strong> Zimring: The city that became safe (1-150)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>3/28-4/3</td>
<td>New York’s lessons for urban and its control</td>
<td>Module 7</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Topic:</strong> Zimring: The city that became safe (1-150)</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>4/4-4/10</td>
<td>Comment on Zimring/Measuring crime</td>
<td>Module 8</td>
<td>Assessment modules 7 and 8 due 4/10 11:59p</td>
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<td><strong>Topic:</strong> Zimring: The effectiveness of police activities in reducing crime, disorder, and fear (217-251)</td>
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<td><strong>Topic:</strong> Fairness and effectiveness. The effectiveness of police activities in reducing crime, disorder, and fear (217-251)</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>4/18-4/24</td>
<td>Evidence of policing effectiveness/Community policing/Problem-oriented policing</td>
<td>Module 9</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td><strong>Topic:</strong> Fairness and effectiveness. The effectiveness of police activities in reducing crime, disorder, and fear (217-251)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>4/25-5/1</td>
<td>Police deviance/typologies/anti-corruption tactics/accountability</td>
<td>Module 10</td>
<td>Assessment modules 9 and 10 due 5/1 11:59p</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Topic:</strong> Sapp: sexual misconduct by police officers (Blackboard)</td>
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<td><strong>Topic:</strong> Kappeler &amp; Potter: Deflecting police defiance (Blackboard)</td>
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<td>Week 16:</td>
<td>Topic:</td>
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<td>5/2-5/8</td>
<td>Readings:</td>
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<td>Assignments: Final exam due 5/8 11:59p</td>
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