Instructor: Brooke Miller  
Term: Spring 2017  
Class meeting: T 2-4:50p  
Classroom: BLB 140

Instructor’s Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email (preferred)</th>
<th><a href="mailto:Brooke.Miller@unt.edu">Brooke.Miller@unt.edu</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Phone</td>
<td>940-565-2562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Location</td>
<td>Chilton 273K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>Tuesdays 12-2p by appointment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scheduling meetings during office hours: If you need to schedule a face to face meeting, I am available Tuesday 12-2p by appointment. The primary method to contact me is through email (which is also the method used to schedule meetings). Phone and email messages sent during the evening, weekend or on holidays will generally be answered the following business day.

**Note: Emails sent after 5p or on the weekends will generally be answered the following business day.

Email expectations: When sending an email, please put the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 4901) in the subject line of the email. Only emails sent from your UNT email account (username@my.unt.edu) will receive a response. Please allow 48 hours of turnaround time (weekdays) for your email and telephone inquiries when contacting either the instructor or the TA. 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
The assigned texts listed below is required for all students enrolled in this course. Reading assignments are noted in the Course Calendar. All students are expected to read the assigned chapters prior to the date specified in the Course Calendar. The assigned readings will serve as a foundation for the discussion of the issues in class as well as test material.


Additional required readings will be discussed/assigned during class and may require a visit to the university library or will be posted to Blackboard.

Course Description
Examination of the problems and issues involved in forming and implementing criminal justice policy in the United States. Course represents the final capstone experience for the student and
should generally be taken in the semester the student will graduate. *(Prerequisite(s): Senior standing and at least 33 hours of criminal justice, with 18 hours from the criminal justice core.)*

**Goals and Objectives**
After completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Discuss the importance of studying the effectiveness criminal justice policy from an evidence-based perspective
- Distinguish between the reality of crime and criminal justice policy from myths
- Describe various models and types of public policy
- Summarize essential literature related to criminal justice policy
- Critique and evaluate diverse forms and sources of information
- Argue diverse perspectives, ideas, cultures, and viewpoints of criminal justice policy issues
- Apply ethical analysis in addressing criminal justice policy issues

**Method of Evaluation**
*Students must complete and pass a Course Expectations quiz on Blackboard before any grades will be assigned. Details will be discussed in class and posted in Blackboard.*

**Group presentations:** Students will be assigned to a group at the beginning of the semester and will complete 4 presentations throughout the semester. Each presentation will be worth 100 possible points and will be comprised of 3 separate components (the presentation, a reaction essay, and peer evaluation) described in detail below. *(Additional information will be discussed during class and/or posted to Blackboard)*

*Presentation (50 points):* Each presentation should provide a detailed overview of the assigned topic. Presentations will run 45-60 minutes and can include 10-15 minutes of supplemental materials such as video, news clips, etc. This material must be relevant and should enhance the presentation. Presentations should identify specific arguments related to the impact of the issue on the criminal justice system. Substantive support should be utilized to develop arguments from scholarly journal articles or government reports. Additional support in the form of news articles, anecdotal evidence, or informative videos (History, Discovery, Frontline, Dateline, etc.) may be included, however, should NOT be the primary sources of information. Students should include some type of multimedia to enhance their presentations – visual or audio – such as video clips, sound-bytes etc. A minimum of 5 scholarly sources must be included for each debate with supplemental sources (above and beyond the 5 required sources) from the enhancement sources discussed above. Additional references beyond these academic sources should be used to enhance the presentation and/or to highlight specific components of your argument or to bring awareness to current directions in the discussion of your topic.

Presentations will utilize a Powerpoint as well as any other stories/videos relevant to your arguments. Powerpoints must be emailed directly to the instructor before class on each presentation day by 8a. Powerpoints should include a reference slide in which a full citation in APA format is provided for each source used in the presentation. Powerpoints should contain only original content – rather, direct quotes copied from
your sources is not appropriate. Design your Powerpoint slides so that there are clear, straightforward and logical in their presentation of information.

Students must be present for the presentation to be eligible for full credit for the assignment. Students not attending the presentation will receive a 0 for this portion of the group presentation grade.

Peer evaluation (10 points): Everyone in the group is expected to participate in generating ideas, collecting articles/supporting materials and participating in class discussions. Students will complete a peer evaluation of each of their fellow group members on their participation in the preparation and presentation process for each presentation. Evaluations are due the same day each group presents. Students who not complete a peer evaluation will receive a 0 for this portion of the presentation. Additionally, students receiving low peer evaluation scores will also receive point deductions for the presentation portion of the group presentation grade.

Reaction essay (40 points): Students will complete a 2-3 page reaction essay over each topic they present. Reaction essays are due in person at the beginning of class on each presentation day. Reaction essays will include a minimum of 3 academic references with appropriate citations in APA format for any information obtained from an outside source, including the course textbook (which does not count as a required reference). Additional details will be provided on Blackboard and discussed during class.

Attendance/participation: Students must be present for all in class presentations to verbally participate in class discussions. Participation will be considered as part of the assignment grade for all presentation days regardless of if the student is presenting. Students are expected to participate in all class discussions by preparing for class, completing required readings and paying attention during all presentations. Rather, spending any portion of the class period on your laptop, cell phone, or other device - surfing the internet, sending emails, doing anything unrelated to the class - is not considered being an engaged class participant. Attendance will be taken during each class period and will comprise 100 points of the final score for the course. There is no need to email the instructor prior to a missed class unless it is a legitimate emergency on a presentation day.

Final Exam: There will be one comprehensive final exam worth 100 points. The exam will consist of 100 randomly assigned multiple choice or true/false questions, will be completed on Blackboard, and must be completed independently. The exam will include a random selection of questions over all assigned course materials whether we cover them in class or not. Students should prepare for the exam as they would for an in class exam as it will be timed, questions will be randomized, and displayed one question at a time. **Note: If there is a technical emergency while completing an exam, students should contact the instructor immediately to discuss a solution. Technical issues will only be discussed one time during the semester for any assignment (exams, discussions, etc.) so make sure to have a reliable connection before beginning any assessment. Additional details will be discussed in class. Late exam submissions will not be accepted for any reason.
Group presentations - 4@100 points each  400 possible points
Attendance      100 possible points
Final Exam      100 possible points
Total       600 possible points

Course grades will be determined using the point scale below. Final grades will not be rounded.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>540-600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>480-539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>420-479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>360-419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>359 points or below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If an opportunity for extra credit presents itself, it will be discussed in class and available to the entire class at the discretion of the instructor. There will be no individual opportunities for extra credit.

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

Makeup policy
There are no make-up exams/assignments in this class with the exception of authorized absences according to university policies prescribing authorized absences in certain situations (work, work travel, vacation etc. do not constitute a university authorized absence or an emergency and are not excuses warranting the issuance of a makeup). The professor reserves the right to consider extreme circumstances and modify this rule. Those who are absent for religious holidays, and/or those involved in other school supported activities that require being absent from class will be allowed to make up work if proper procedures are followed in requesting an excused absence. The professor must have written documentation in advance that the student will be away from class for the absence to be excused. Notification must be in writing so that the professor may have it for record purposes. There is, absolutely, no make-up for “assignments” missed or turned in late unless authorized as a result of a university related absence. Make-up assignments as a result of authorized absences must be turned in within 3 days of returning from the authorized absence. In the event that circumstances require a make-up test, and provided students follow the appropriate procedures for requesting an excused absence that falls on a test day, any authorized make-up test will be conducted at the discretion of the professor. In the event that the instructor approves the makeup exam, it may be administered in an alternate format.

In class presentations, quizzes, discussions cannot be made up and the student must be present in order to receive credit for these assignments.

Attendance Policy
Students are expected to attend each scheduled class meeting having completed the assigned readings and prepared for discussion. Missed materials will not be posted on Blackboard. Frequent absences will make it very difficult to obtain an acceptable grade in this course. Students are expected to attend each and every class meeting. As there will be group
presentations each meeting, punctual arrival and attendance to each class meeting is a show of respect to your classmates.

Students must be present to participate in group work preparation and presentations as part of their grade. As such, it will be difficult to earn a passing grade in the course if students are not present. Students not in class, will not receive credit for missed assignments, presentations, etc. and will not be able to make these assessments up.

Finally, in addition to being present and engaged for class meetings, students are also expected to log in to Blackboard daily to ensure they are up to date with assignment due dates, course expectations, and any schedule changes.

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 February 24, 2017.

**Classroom Policies**

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and be attentive/engaged during class lectures and discussions. The classroom is a place to express ideas, opinions, and engage in thoughtful discussions. Students will respect the views and opinions of others at all times or will be asked to leave the classroom. Additionally, disruptive behaviors such as arriving late, having a conversation while someone else is talking, profanity, sleeping, text messaging, using laptops/tablets for anything other than course related activities, cell phones going off during class, etc. are not acceptable. Students repeatedly engaging in any of these behaviors may be asked to leave the classroom.

**Additional policies:**

Recording devices are not allowed in the classroom unless specifically approved by the instructor. Tobacco products of any kind (including e-cigs) are not allowed in the classroom.

Cell phones, pagers, or any other electronic device that makes noise should be turned off before class.

Due to liability concerns and the content of course discussions, children are not permitted in the classroom at any time.

Laptops and similar devices can be used during class as long as they are used for taking notes and/or other related classroom functions. If used for surfing the web, instant messaging, sending emails or otherwise, they will not be allowed in the classroom.

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.

**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
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.

Any violation of academic integrity will be handled on a case-by-case basis. At a minimum, the student will receive a zero 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.

**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.

Course Calendar and Topics
Dates, topics, and exams are listed below. 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC AND ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week 1 1/17 | **Topic**: Introduction and overview; APA overview; group and topic assignments  
**Assignments**: Course Expectations quiz and Introduction discussion due Sunday January 22 11:59p |
| Week 2 1/24 | **Topic**: The criminal justice system and policy creation; Conservative and liberal ideology – influence on perspective on cj system; 3 strikes  
**Reading**: Chapters 1-4 |
| Week 3 1/31 | **Topic**: Purpose of the criminal justice system and the effects of media on public perception of the criminal justice system  
**Reading**: Chapters 1-4; 11-12  
**Assignments**: Topic 1 and Topic 2 presentations |
| Week 4 2/7 | **Topic**: Technology in policing and militarization of the police; *Boston Bombers*  
**Reading**: Chapters 5-6  
**Assignments**: Topic 3 presentation |
| Week 5 2/14 | **Topic**: Use of force and the use of body cameras in policing  
**Reading**: Chapters 5-6  
**Assignments**: Topic 4 and 5 presentations |
| Week 6 2/21 | **Topic**: Mandatory sentencing and prison privatization  
**Reading**: Chapter 7  
**Assignments**: Topic 6 and 7 presentations |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>2/28</td>
<td><strong>The insanity defense and sex offender registration laws</strong></td>
<td>Chapters 7-8</td>
<td><strong>Topic 8 and 9 presentations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>3/7</td>
<td><strong>Restrictions on the rights of felons and the death penalty</strong></td>
<td>Chapters 7-8</td>
<td><strong>Topic 10 and 11 presentations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3/14</td>
<td><strong>No class meeting - Spring Break</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>3/21</td>
<td><strong>Guest speaker – attendance required</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>3/28</td>
<td><strong>Campus carry and gun buyback programs</strong></td>
<td>Chapters 9-10</td>
<td><strong>Topic 12 and 13 presentations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>4/4</td>
<td><strong>System responses to human trafficking and the mentally ill</strong></td>
<td>Chapters 9-10</td>
<td><strong>Topic 14 and 15 presentations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>4/11</td>
<td><strong>Victimless crimes and lowering the legal drinking age</strong></td>
<td>Chapters 9-10; 13</td>
<td><strong>Topic 16 and 17 presentations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>4/18</td>
<td><strong>Legalization of marijuana; <em>Reefer Madness</em></strong></td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
<td><strong>Topic 18</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>4/25</td>
<td><strong>System response to terrorism and the juvenile justice system</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
<td><strong>Topic 19 and 20 presentations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>5/2</td>
<td><strong>Reading: Chapters 1-14</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Exam</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>