

INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Spring Semester 2004
CJS 1301, Section 001, Call 10631

Class: M/W 3:30 – 4:45 GR 3.302
Office Hours: Monday 2:00 – 3:00
Wednesday 2:00 – 3:00

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COURSE INFORMATION

Description

This course provides an overview and analysis of the major agencies, personnel, and decision-making points that comprise the criminal justice system, including a discussion of the problems and issues confronting legislatures, police, courts, corrections, and the community. Legal precedents guiding the decisions of criminal justice agents are also discussed.

Objectives

The student will become acquainted with the various components of the American criminal justice system. More importantly, the student will possess a fundamental understanding of the delicate interaction between these components, and the impact of our Constitution and other legal protections on the criminal justice process.

Requirements

Required Texts

Gaines and Miller, *Criminal Justice in Action*, 2nd Edition, Wadsworth, 2003

Pelz and Pelz, *Introduction to Criminal Justice*, Texas Edition, Wadsworth, 2001*

Handbook of Selected Court Cases for Criminal Justice in Action, Wadsworth, 2003*

Resources

This class will make extensive use of **WebCT** for posting grades and resource materials, and this will require that you activate your NetID. **WebCT** is accessible at <http://webct.utdallas.edu>. If you have difficulty, see http://www.utdallas.edu/distlearn/students/webct_login.htm or call the help desk at (972)883-2911.

Prerequisites

None.

* Bundled with the Gaines and Miller text if purchased this semester for this course.

EXPECTATIONS

You Want To Learn

I expect that you want to learn the material in this class. Whether this is a required course for your major or an elective you've chosen, I assume you want to get something out of the experience. This means you will come to class prepared, having read the material and ready to actively participate in discussion. If you do not want to learn, please do not come to class – your distractions are a disservice to those hard-working students who want to learn. Disruptive behavior will be referred to the Dean of Students for handling under the disciplinary code.

You Will Ask For Help

If you're having trouble with a concept, you're likely not the only one. Raise your hand in class and I'll take as much time as you, and others, need to clarify and make the point clear. Likewise, I'm available during the office hours listed above, or by appointment. The bottom line is **SPEAK UP!** I can't help you if you don't ask!

You Will Not Cheat (A.K.A. Academic Dishonesty)

The surest way to torpedo your academic career is to cheat. Cheating means using your neighbor (with or without his or her permission) during a quiz or exam, or using any other materials to assist you with your quiz answers. If I suspect any cheating on quizzes or the exam, the case will be referred to the Dean of Students for investigation and appropriate discipline, up to and including expulsion.

You Will Come to Class

Class attendance is essential. It is also your responsibility, so I do not take regular attendance. You should note, however, that your attendance is worth 10% of your final grade (see below). Whether or not you attend, **you** are responsible for all material delivered in class. This will probably include: deviations from the published text, notification of errors in the text, rescheduled or cancelled tests, announcement of extra credit opportunities, etc. You can avoid many headaches by checking with a friend (or me) to see what you missed.

GRADING

Grades in this class are based on the work that you do. There will be **NO** end of semester extra-credit assignments made on an individual-student basis. This does not preclude extra-credit opportunities that present themselves on occasional quizzes or exams and are available to all students who take an exam or quiz.

Grade Structure

Grades in this class come from your performance. Grades are structured as follows:

4	In-class Quizzes	90%
4	Attendance Checks	10%
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	Total	100%

Letter grades will be assigned on the following point scale.

97% and up	A+	87% → 89%	B+	77% → 79%	C+	67% → 69%	D+
93% → 96%	A	83% → 86%	B	73% → 76%	C	63% → 66%	D
90% → 92%	A-	80% → 82%	B-	70% → 72%	C-	60% → 62%	D-
						59% and below	F

Quizzes

There will be four in-class quizzes throughout the semester, following each major section we cover. Each quiz will be worth 225 points.

There will be four quizzes, together worth 90% of your overall grade.

Attendance

College is for adults, and so your attendance is your business. You should know, however, that you are responsible for all material covered in class, whether you chose to attend or not. This information will include lecture material, departure from material presented in the book, deviations from quiz dates in the syllabus, etc.

To encourage regular attendance, I will call the roll on six randomly selected dates and award points for those in attendance *at the time I call the roll*. You must be in the room and respond when I call your name to receive the attendance credit. Your four best attendance grades, worth 25 points each, will count for credit.

Your four best attendance points will collectively be worth 10% of your overall grade.

Grading Policies

Missed Quizzes

There will be *NO* arrangements made to take a quiz at any time other than the assigned in-class date and time. If you miss a quiz or cannot make a quiz for *ANY* reason, approved or unapproved, sanctioned or non-sanctioned, you may replace your grade of zero (0) points by taking the optional cumulative final examination given during the scheduled final examination period. This is the only way to replace your grade of zero on the missed quiz.

The optional final *MAY NOT* be taken for extra credit, to “raise your grade,” or to replace a low score on one of the four in-class quizzes. The final examination will be administered in our regular classroom on Friday, April 30th, from 2:00 to 4:45. The final examination will not necessarily be a multiple-choice examination.

Scantron Forms

Quizzes in this class will require the use of Scantron (fill in the bubble) test sheets that you must provide. These sheets are available at both the on-campus and off-campus bookstores, and require the use of a No. 2 pencil. If you arrive on quiz day without either of these items, you will not be allowed to reschedule the test. You will have to either start the quiz late after visiting the book store to procure what you’re missing, or skip the quiz entirely and take the optional final exam. If you return from the bookstore after the first student has finished taking the exam, you will not be allowed to begin the exam (see Quiz Attendance below).

Quiz Attendance

Your punctual attendance on days of quizzes is important. The quiz will be handed out at the beginning of the class period, and you will have the remainder of the class period to complete the quiz. If you arrive late, but before the first student has turned in the quiz and left the room, you will be allowed only the remaining class-period time to complete the quiz. You will not be allowed extra “make-up” time. If you arrive late, *after* the first student has turned in the quiz and left the room, you will not be allowed to take the quiz. You would then have the choice to take the optional final exam.

Identification on Quiz Days

You **MUST** bring a form of photo identification with you on quiz days. Examples of acceptable forms of identification are the University ID card (COMET card), or a state issued photo driver's license. I will not allow you to turn in your quiz without such identification. You will then be required to take the cumulative final examination to replace your grade of 0.

Reporting Grades

To respect your privacy, and in accordance with Texas law, your grades will not be posted publicly, nor will they be provided by e-mail or telephone. Your grades for each assignment will be entered into **WebCT**. As soon as I enter them, you will have access to them.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

This tentative schedule is **TENTATIVE**, subject to change with minimal notification. Changes will be announced in class.

	Date		Material
1	1/12	M	Introduction / Chapter 1
2	1/14	W	Chapter 1
	1/19	M	No Class – MLK Holiday
3	1/21	W	Chapter 1 / Chapter 2
4	1/26	M	Chapter 2
5	1/28	W	Chapter 2 / Chapter 3
6	2/2	M	Chapter 3
7	2/4	W	QUIZ 1
8	2/9	M	Chapter 4
9	2/11	W	Chapter 4 / Chapter 5
10	2/16	M	Chapter 5
11	2/18	W	Chapter 6
12	2/23	M	Chapter 6 / Chapter 7
13	2/25	W	Chapter 7
14	3/1	M	QUIZ 2
15	3/3	W	Chapter 8
	3/8	M	No Class – Spring Break
	3/10	W	
16	3/15	M	Chapter 8 / Chapter 9
17	3/17	W	Chapter 9
18	3/22	M	Chapter 10
19	3/24	W	Chapter 10 / Chapter 11
20	3/29	M	Chapter 11
21	3/31	W	Chapter 11
22	4/5	M	QUIZ 3
23	4/7	W	Chapter 12
24	4/12	M	Chapter 12 / Chapter 13
25	4/14	W	Chapter 13
26	4/19	M	Chapter 14
27	4/21	W	Chapter 14
28	4/26	M	QUIZ 4
	4/30	F	Optional Final Exam