Police & Society

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An examination of policing in a democratic society. A critical review of the various professional and community influences on police behavior together with the social problems created by such forces and potential remedial actions. The major purpose of the course will be to examine the behavior of American police, both actual and desired.

COURSE GOALS:

To examine in a learning environment:

1. American policing in its historical, current, and future contexts,
2. police culture, behavior, problems, and evolution as found in current research literature, and
3. the skills of professional library research and writing in support of a thesis.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:

a. differentiate between the important police roles;
b. demonstrate an understanding of the historical development of the police;
c. define common terms and concepts related to police behavior, sub-culture, and personality;
d. demonstrate an understanding current police styles such as community policing and COMPSTAT;
e. describe police problems such as discretion, misuse of force, and corruption together with some possible solutions.

TEACHING METHODS: Formal lectures will be used, but many class sessions will be devoted to in depth discussions of values, ideals, objectives, and social purposes that underlie policing and justice. Reading assignments will be used to supplement the classroom experience. Thinking-writing exercises will be used. The abstract/critique assignment will lead to in-class discussions. Several video presentations may be shown.

MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Each student is expected to:
1. attend class regularly,
2. participate in class discussions,
3. comprehend information contained in assigned texts,
4. complete three written examinations,
5. complete two essays,
6. complete a thesis and outline, and
7. complete a research paper.

Specific assignment sheets will be distributed to explain the essays, thesis, outline and research paper. These will have specific due dates and late work will be penalized.

Student performance will be graded on several written homework assignments, and two mid-term and one final examinations. Two thinking-writing exercises will be used. These will require the student to write a short essay on an assigned issue. Each student will be required to research and write a formal research paper. The topic of the research paper must be about a policing issue. Assignment descriptions will be issued for each of the class assignments. The mid-term and final examinations will involve short answer questions. The grading formula is below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two essays (15% each)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three (3) Exams (each 15%)</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Grades (letter) will be assigned according to the following: 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, 59 and below = F.

**REQUIRED READING:**


**COURSE POLICIES:**

**Attendance/Tardiness:** Attendance is expected. It will be important for participation in the research project and for that portion of your grade. Remember that usually 50 percent of all test material will come from lecture. Roll will be taken until the class list is finalized. After that, I refuse to be a prison guard for intelligent, competent, adults and will not take roll. If you come in late to class or must leave early, please do so quietly as to not disturb the process of the class.

**Missed Examinations and Late Work:** If you must miss a test due to a family emergency, job duty, or illness that you are aware of before the test, you must notify me and make arrangements for a make-up test. If a true, unexpected emergency occurs, you should contact me as soon as you can after the test is missed. My expectation is that you will take the test at your earliest opportunity to do so. Do not let a lot of time go by as you need to move on to the next assignment and test.
Class assignments that are turned in late will be penalized. Work that is turned in late within three days of the assignment due date will be penalized 5 points. Work that is turned in late 4 days to 7 days late will be penalized 10 points. An additional 10 point penalty will be taken for each week or partial week the assignment is late after the seventh day. The late penalty may not exceed a maximum of 50 points. I will consider exceptions to this policy based on events beyond your control. I reserve the right to make a judgment in each case concerning such events. Remember, work turned in late is better than work not turned in at all.

**Cell Phone/Electronic/Device Usage:** Please, turn off all personal communication devices when you enter the classroom so that our time is not interrupted. It is permissible in my classes to use laptop or other computing devices to take notes. Other uses of such devices during class time is not acceptable behavior.

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism:** University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one's own work. It is a major academic offense and can result in your receiving no credit for the assignment or worse. It is the student's responsibility to know the rules (catalog and student handbook) on plagiarism. Do not use more than three words of another author's work without using quotation marks and a citation. Also, provide citations for all material you used but converted into your own words. This includes any fact or opinion you found in your research within someone else's work. Give credit where it is due. Academic misconduct may result in the assignment of a grade of zero (0) on an assignment or test, failure in the course as a whole, or recommendation for removal from the University based on the seriousness of the action.

**Dropping a Class:** I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

**Statement of Civility:** Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

**Grade Appeal Process:** As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade
Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures (available at http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C2.01_student_grade_appeal_procedure.pdf). For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

Disabilities Services: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Statement of Academic Continuity: In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student. Academic Advising: The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

Reading to Prepare for Class and Tests: Please, read assigned text chapters before the class session assigned so that lectures and discussions will make more sense. As you read, mark your texts and take notes. That is the best way to study. This is best done before study guides are
distributed prior to exams. For the textbook, we will use the Chapter Reviews and Key Terms at the end of each chapter. I will not repeat this information on a review sheet. The review sheets will include other material from the text that I believe to be important for you to know. Tests and reviews will include material from the presentations and discussions. We will not be reading the texts from front to back. We will be moving around in the chapters. So, look for the chapter numbers in the list of readings.

**Academic Advising:** The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

**Office Hours and Questions:** If you have questions, do not understand a topic covered or an assignment, or are concerned about your grades, visit me in my office. I have a lot of meetings due to community, University, and research projects, but we can schedule a time to meet. I mean this. I don’t bite or at least I have not done so in the last 55 years. I will be in my office at times other than posted office hours. It is ok to ask if you can discuss your issue at those times. We may need to make an appointment, but we will get it done.

The sequence of topics listed below may be changed at any time should circumstances merit. Due to research projects, I may be required to go out of town at times that I cannot schedule at this time. When possible, I will schedule a guest for any days that I must miss. This should not short change your learning experience in any way.

**OUTLINE AND READINGS**

Readings are listed by Book and chapter number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading by Chapter</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 28</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Early Police History</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 1</td>
<td>Modern Police History</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Holiday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Technology and Policing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Understanding Culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Law and Order</td>
<td><strong>1ST ESSAY DUE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
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5
What do police do
Police Role in Society
Becoming and Being a Police Officer
EXAMINATION
Oct 2 Discretion
4
6
9 Police Misconduct
11 Corruption
13 Use of Force and Brutality
18 Justice
20 2nd ESSAY DUE
23 Control and Ethics
25 Changing Police
30
Nov 1 EXAMINATION
3 Selective Enforcement
6
8 The Police VERSUS the Public
10
13 The Police AND the Public
15
17 Community Oriented Policing
20 PAPER DUE
22 Reading Day, No Class
23-24 Holiday
27 Change and Policing
29
Dec 1 Future of Policing
4 Review
13 FINAL EXAMINATION 8:00AM !!!
DUE DATE: September 15, 2017

Create an essay which attempts to answer the question below. DO NOT consult a dictionary. DO NOT perform any research work in the library on this topic. Think about the two concepts for some period of time, compose a draft answer, and then, write an original essay. LIMIT YOURSELF to two (2) or three (3) pages (500-750 words) for your answer. You should type your essay. If you do not have access to word processing, please write clearly on white paper with blue or black ink using only one side of the paper.

This assignment is worth 15% of your grade. Late work will be penalized.

Note that the focus of your essay is the relationship between the two concepts, not the two separately.

Question: What should be the relationship between law and order in a democratic, free society?
Create an essay which attempts to answer the question below. DO NOT consult a dictionary.
DO NOT perform any research work in the library on this topic. Think about the concept for
some period of time, compose a draft answer, and then, write an original essay. Write from your
knowledge and opinion. LIMIT YOURSELF to two (2) or three (3) typed pages for your answer.
The essay should be typed or word processed. If you must hand write, please write clearly on
white paper with blue or black ink using only one side of the paper.

This assignment is worth 15% of your grade. Late work will be penalized.

Note the focus is on "should be" not "is." You are to write about the ideal, the value of justice.
You should not critique present conditions. You should not limit yourself to "criminal" justice.
You should not limit yourself to the "system."

Question: What should justice be in a democratic, free society?
DUE DATE: November 20, 2017 (25% of course grade)

ASSIGNMENT: Each student will write an original, library research paper with a minimum text of eight (8) typed, double-spaced pages. The paper shall develop the approved thesis according to the approved outline from previous assignments with corrections. The paper should conform to the appropriate style for research papers. Use 1 inch margins on all sides and use Times New Roman or similar font at 12. The APA style for citations is most common in Criminal Justice and you should learn to use it. I will grade papers based on the APA style. You may choose to purchase a manual or look this up on the web to provide you with a guide.

REQUIRED FORMAT: Each paper will include the following
1. A Title Page
2. An Outline or Table of Contents page
3. the Body of the Text to include and Introduction, main Text, and Conclusion/Summary
4. citations in the text in APA style
5. References or Selected Bibliography in APA style.

COMMENTS ON STYLE: The paper should reflect the logical development of your thesis within the main body of the text. Your logical argument should be supported by evidence that you have found in your library research. The parts of your paper should be connected with appropriate transitions. Correct style for quotations, footnotes, and references is required. Citations must be used for all information you have obtained from sources other than your own mind. This is true even if you do not use direct quotations. You should proofread for grammatical correctness, spelling and typographical errors. Number your pages.

SOURCE MATERIALS: You must use academic and/or professional journals for your research. You should use books and government documents where these materials are available. You may use internet/web sources. However, using only web sources is prohibited.

PLAGIARISM WARNING: Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one's own work. It is a major academic crime and can result in your receiving no credit for the assignment or worse. In this class, plagiarism in the paper will result in a zero grade on the paper. It is the student's responsibility to know the rules (catalog and student handbook) on plagiarism. Do not use more than three words of another author's work without using quotation marks and a citation. Provide citations for all material you used but converted into your own words.

Remember that late work will be penalized. However, you must turn in the paper even if late to receive a grade other than zero.