

Crime and Public Policy  
01:202:204  
Allison Road Classroom, 205  
Email: hlw25@georgetown.edu

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Fall 2017  
M/TH 10:20-11:40 AM

### **Course Description:**

This course is concerned with the political aspects of criminal justice policy in the United States. The class is designed to contend with questions of democracy, inequality, the constitutional structure of a democratic republic and power. We will examine the ideals and objectives of law enforcement, and we will leverage race, class, and gender inequalities to evaluate law enforcement strategies as an instrument of social control. We will cover such topics as police use of force, stop-and-frisk, search and seizure and the right to counsel. The overall goal of the course is to equip students with a working knowledge of the institutional structures that shape criminal justice policy, and the outcomes these policies create.

### **Required Text:**

Fuller, John Randolph. 2014. "Criminal Justice: Mainstream and Crosscurrents." 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. Oxford University Press.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Describe how the criminal justice system evolved from its origins to the institution it has now become
- Discuss how law enforcement, the courts and the correctional system engage in the work of social control
- Describe the legal and political issues that constrain the criminal justice system
- Discuss the need for reform in the criminal justice system and describe some of the major reform strategies
- Understand how the criminal justice system and the juvenile justice system are related
- Understand how crime is measured and how the media and public discourse construct crime and criminal justice policy

### **Course Requirements and Grading:**

Final grades will be assigned upon successful completion of all course requirements, the quality of work and timeliness of completed assignments.

Midterm Exam: Will be given about halfway through the course covering Chapters One through Eight. The exam will consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short answer questions.

Final Exam: Will be a comprehensive exam covering all material but weighted toward Chapters Nine through Sixteen. The exam will consist of true/false and/or multiple

choice questions. The date and location of the exam is strictly governed by Rutgers University and can be viewed at <http://finalexams.rutgers.edu>.

Additional short assignments and readings will be announced throughout the class, and will address topics covered in the course and current events related to criminal justice.

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

Final Exam 30%

Attendance & Participation 20%

Assignments & Quizzes 20%

Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
Attendance and Participation	20%
Additional Assignments	20%

The final grade will be assigned based upon the following scale:

A = 90-100 C = 70-74.9

B+ = 85-89.9 D = 60-69.9

B = 80-84.9 F = 59 and below

C+ = 75-79.9

Students are expected to have done the reading prior to coming to class. All assignments are due on the specified date. Late assignments will result in a grade deduction.

Participation requires that you attend class on time and contribute to classroom discussions. Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An e-mail is automatically sent to me.

**Academic Honesty:** Rutgers University has a well-defined academic integrity policy, which will strictly enforced in this class. All students in this class should review and be familiar with the policy of the university, which can be found here: [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI\\_Policy\\_9\\_01\\_2011.pdf](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI_Policy_9_01_2011.pdf)

## Course Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>
9/7/2017	Introduction	
9/11/2017	Police use of force, power and community	TBD
9/14/2017	Crime and the problem of social control	Chapter 1
9/18/2017	Crime and the problem of social control	Chapter 2
9/21/2017	Theories of Crime	Chapter 3
9/25/2017	Criminal Law	Chapter 4
9/28/2017	Criminal Law	Chapter 4
10/2/2017	Preemptive Policing	TBD
10/5/2017	Policing and the law	Chapter 6
10/9/2017	Policing and the law	Chapter 6
10/12/2017	Issues in Policing	Chapter 7
<b>10/16/2017</b>	<b>Midterm</b>	
10/19/2017	Working in the Courtroom	Chapter 9
10/23/2017	Prosecutor Discretion	TBD
10/26/2017	Prosecutor Discretion	TBD
10/30/2017	The disposition	Chapter 10
11/2/2017	The disposition	Chapter 10
11/6/2017	Corrections in the community	Chapter 13
11/9/2017	Corrections in the community	Chapter 13
11/13/2017	The Death Penalty	TBD
11/16/2017	The Death Penalty	TBD
11/20/2017	Juvenile Justice	Chapter 14
<b>11/23/2017</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>	
11/27/2017	Juvenile Justice	Chapter 14
11/30/2017	Victims of Crime	Chapter 15
12/4/2017	Victims of Crime	Chapter 15
12/7/2017	Criminal justice reform	TBD
12/11/2017	Review	
12/14/2017	Reading Week	
	Final	