

FD '01



Chaminade University Dept. of Criminal Justice and Criminology

CJ 151 - Criminal Justice Systems

Instructor: Kenneth F. Szymkowiak, Ph.D.

Meeting Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2 p.m. to 3:20 p.m.

**DESCRIPTION:** The course is intended to provide a basic overview of the U.S. criminal justice system, processes and various law enforcement agencies, court systems and corrections institutions.

**GOALS:** Upon completion, the student should be familiar with the variety of law enforcement agencies in the criminal justice system, the variety of court systems, local and federal, the variety of correctional institutions and alternative punishments, local and federal and the inter-relationship of these systems.

Text. **Criminal Justice** Today (6<sup>th</sup> ed.) by Frank Schmalleger. 2001. Prentice Hall. Additional readings through handouts in class



**Grading:** The course has three grading components.

**Exams** - Three exams. Two exams will be worth 50 points each while the final exam will be worth 100 points and is cumulative. These will be any combination of short answer or other objective questions based on the text, handouts, in-class assignments, etc. No exam will be rescheduled to meet individual travel plans. The only possible exceptions to missing an exam are an illness treated by a physician and requiring rest at home or a death in the family. In the case of illness, you must provide a doctor's note indicating the doctor's order. In the case of a death in the family, a note from the funeral home director (on letterhead) should be produced upon return. You will then be given a make-up essay exam upon your return to class. Tests will be conducted on computer and you will need a password to participate. The password will be distributed prior to the first test. This will be your password for the remainder of the semester.

Papers - Short papers of between one and two pages are assigned in  
<http://www.crimeadoc.com/CJ151CAMPUSFAU1.htm>

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about half of all classes. Students receive up to five points for each paper. The number of points accumulated will be totaled and a percentage calculated against the number of points it was possible to accumulate through the semester. The percentage will convert to a raw number score (i.e. 87.3 percent equals 87.3 points). **WARNING: I grade on content and construction. Poor writing, no matter the content, will receive a lower grade. See student handbook regarding writing by students and formatting guidelines attached to the end of this syllabus. Basically, a great idea, poorly explained, isn't worth very much.**

Here is how the reaction papers will be scored:

- 5 points - Complete and accurate in all of its parts.
- 4 points - Some errors but generally accurate and almost complete.
- 3 points - Serious errors but remains satisfactory. Barely adequate mastery of the material.
- 2 points - Serious errors and/or incomplete in major respects.
- 0 points- Little or nothing of value; the information offered is incorrect and/or off the subject.

**Term paper - A ten-page (including cover sheet and references) term paper on any topic of long-term interest to you and related directly to a topic covered in class or otherwise located in the text. The paper should be an exposition of the problems or issues surrounding your topic. For example, the topic of burglary would include what homeowners are doing or not doing and what is the responsibility of the police in combating this property crime. But there would be plenty more to write about the crime.**

**Before beginning the paper, email me with your one or two paragraph proposal which includes a statement describing the problem or issue and the questions you will be answering in your exposition. The grading will follow the pattern similar to the scoring for reaction papers above (set at 5-point increments) but with the addition of adequate research including information from academic journals (newspaper and magazine articles are useful for illustration but do not meet this requirement) and following APA formatting as described below. Additionally, this paper should be well written, well organized and that means well thought out. Remember: Email me before you begin your research.**

**Alternative - I am now offering, as an alternative to writing the term paper, the possibility of creating a website on the topic of your choice. This will be a multi-media examination of the topic and include graphics, links, relevant sub-topics and other features of a web site. Grading will follow the same format. Email me before you begin the project.**

scheme. First, I generously reward enthusiastic participation and discussion in the classroom. By the end of the class term I will know who is reading the text, applying the concepts and ideas within it to the discussion, and actively engaging in those discussions. This can actually result in a grade level up if there is demonstrated commitment to the course.

Additionally, teams of two to three students will be assigned in the first week, perhaps by the first class, the special task of leading a **discussion in class based** on the chapter of the week's topic(s). This will usually take place on the Thursday of each week unless there is a holiday and no class is held (for example, during Thanksgiving). In that case, we skip a week and I use that week's class time for a special topic. Students receive up to 25 points for this effort. The effort is judged by how well the leaders are prepared, what kinds of materials are used in the class (newspapers, magazines, web sites, videos, games, etc.) and how well the students join in the discussion (it can be difficult but there are ways to achieve this). Controversy and challenge are welcome. Boredom is outlawed.

#### Attendance:

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all classes. Attendance will be taken periodically and used in grading. If you are not present when attendance is taken, you are considered absent for that **class**. Three or more unexcused absences may lead to a grade reduction for the course. Long-term unexcused absence may lead to failure and loss of financial aid. Generally, 1 do not count absences when one of two conditions are met. These are sickness requiring bed rest (note from the doctor required) and death in the family (note from the undertaker or funeral director required). Notes should include a contact phone number and be on letterhead or other suitable paper. Students must make up all missed work by the next class period.

Possible <b>Points</b> to <b>Earn</b>	<b>Grade Equivalents</b>
Exams: 200 pts.	A = 310 - 350 points
Reaction Papers: 100 pts.	B = 270 - 309 points
<i>Class project:</i> 25 <b>points</b>	C = 230 - 269 points
Class discussion <i>project</i> 25 points	D = 200 - 229 points
Total 325 <b>pts</b>	<b>F s 199 of below</b>

#### Additional information

For any written assignments that are not completed in class, the following directions apply:

1. One inch margins with page numbers. Limit four pages plus one reference page.
2. The writer's name, email address, social security number (last four digits sufficient) and course number must appear in the top left-hand corner of the first page.
3. Different formatting nets a lower score.
4. If submitting a hard copy, staple pages together in the left hand corner. If you must submit additional materials, place them in an envelope with a clasp and identifying information on the outside of the envelope. Un-stapled work or work in binders will not be accepted. All other formatting is as above. Plagiarism is not tolerated. All students must do their own work. Copy someone else's work and you fail the course.
5. You are responsible for writing a college-level paper. Use an editor if necessary. Poor writing and editing receives no credit.
6. Assignments can be turned in on the date due in class. You can email it by 4 pm to on the date due or you can deliver a hard copy to the criminal justice department by 4 pm on the date due. Hand it to the secretary, do not shove it through the mail box. Grade down every 24 hours late.
7. We use the American Psychological Association formatting for citations and references in the text. No other APA formatting (abstracts, etc.) is required. APA formatting directions are widely used and available in the library, in the bookstore and on line.
8. Unclaimed papers are stored in the CJ office in an envelope marked with the name of the class. Such papers are placed there usually after the class when papers are handed back to students. Students should keep all copies of graded papers, etc. If there is a grade dispute, it is up to the student to demonstrate any inaccuracy with the grade.

### Class Schedule

Week	Topic/event
1. (8/27-8/31)	Introduction
2. (9/3 - 9/7)	(Ch. 1) What is criminal justice?
3. (9/10 - 9/14)	(Ch. 2) The crime picture
4. (9/17 - 9/21)	(Ch. 3) The search for causes
5. (9/24 - 9/28)	(Ch. 4) Criminal law

<b>6. (10/1 - 10/5)</b>	(Ch. 5) Policing: History and structure
<b>7. (10/8 - 10/12)</b>	Tuesday - review Thursday <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> exam
<b>8. (10/15 - 10/19)</b>	(Ch. 7) Policing: Legal aspects
<b>9. (10/22 - 10/26)</b>	(Ch. 9) Court-room work group and trials
<b>10. (10/29 - 11/2)</b>	(Ch. 11) Probation, parole and community policing
<b>11. (11/5 - 11/9)</b>	<del>(Ch. 12)</del> Prisons and jails
<b>12. (11/12 - 11/16)</b>	Tuesday - review Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> exam
<b>13. (11/19 - 11/23)</b>	(Ch. 13) Prison life
<b>14. (11/26 - 11/30)</b>	(Ch. 14) Juvenile delinquency
<b>15. (12/3 - 12/7)</b>	(Ch. 15) Drugs and crime Papers due Tuesday
TBA	Final Exam