

CJ 490: Capstone Seminar in Criminal Justice

Instructor:	Joe Allen, Ph.D.	Spring 2019
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Office/Phone:	Hale Hoaloha 203E/808-735-4879	
Office Hours:	By appt. (easy, just email to set up)	
Course Preq.	CJ Major, CJ/PSY enrollment, 95 credits completed.	

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students will complete an array of assignments that integrate contemporary knowledge and understanding of criminal justice agencies with coursework completed in the major. As an integral part of the capstone experience, students will complete an exit assessment instrument.

PROGRAM LINKING STATEMENT:

This is a criminal justice capstone course. As an integral part of the capstone experience students will complete an exit assessment instrument.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will be project-oriented with particular focus on assessing students' abilities to synthesize and retain desired program and course learning outcomes related to the criminology and criminal justice curriculum. The content backdrop for several of these projects will be crime/criminal justice policy issues. Readings will be assigned.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will have a demonstrable understanding of:

1. Contemporary criminal justice policy issues and their histories, development, and goals.
2. The interrelationships between criminal justice agencies in the context of criminal justice agencies and professionals.
3. Contemporary issues affecting current crime/criminal justice policies.
4. Crime trends and the impacts on crime/criminal justice policies, including impacts on criminal justice agency mechanics.
5. Researching and presenting materials related to crime/criminal justice policies.

COURSE APPROACH:

Learning in an online environment is definitely different from an in-class one. Most notably, things are 'asynchronous' -- we are not all together and in each other's presence at the same time. This makes things very convenient for students, but presents challenges for instructors. This structure does not always allow for the easy flow of information that one expects from a traditional classroom setting. Interactions and exchanges of ideas are less spontaneous and more formalized, and when these things do happen, there are lag times between being recognized/heard and then interacted with/responded to. Study habits and staying 'on track' come out a bit more in an online course. I will give you all of the support and resources I can in order for you to learn and to add to your pedagogical toolbox (learning to learn/critical thinking), though you must read materials and do assignments in a responsible manner in order to succeed in the traditional sense (grades). Online courses require a bit more planning and pacing on the student's part.

ASSESSMENT:

- **Weekly/Semi-Weekly Policy-Oriented Assignments.** Throughout the term, other individual assignments will be required. These assignments will revolve around contemporary policy issues in criminal justice.
- **Interview of Criminal Justice Professional.** Each student will interview a professional in the criminal justice field. Upon completion of the interview, the student will prepare a summary of responses in a paper.
- **Criminal Justice Policy Issue Profile: Presentation File.** Each student will prepare a PowerPoint presentation as if it were to be presented. The presentation will be a profile of a selected criminal justice policy issue. Students are expected to (1) research their assigned policy, and (2) prepare a PowerPoint presentation of their research that would be acceptable for presentation at a meeting of professionals in the field, academics in the discipline, agency personnel, etc.
- **Survey of CJ Curriculum Content.** Students will go through the CJ courses that they have taken at CUH to-date. For each theme/course, they will prepare a summary of content that they have retained using a pre-formatted assignment sheet.
- **CJ Resume Assignment.** Students will construct, research, and prepare a resume appropriate for application toward a criminal justice agency position. Proper formatting and organization is required for this assignment.
- **Final Exam/Exit Assessment.** Near completion of the course, students will complete an exit assessment. This instrument will ask the students questions from CJ courses that they have taken during their tenure at CUH and solicit feedback on their undergraduate experience.
- **Criminal Justice Policy Issue Paper.** Students will prepare a contemporary research position paper on a selected criminal justice policy issue. This minimum 8 page double-spaced paper will focus on: (1) history and development of the policy, (2) goals of the policy, (3) current implementation of the policy, (4) positives/negatives of the policy (differing views and sides), and (5) any contemporary research findings and/or data on the effectiveness or use of the policy and/or the extent of the problem that it is addressing.

GRADING SYSTEM:

The class will be graded on a curve. For this curve, a standardized grading system will be used:

A = 100-90%

B = <90-80%

C = <80-70%

D = <70-60%

F = <60%

POINT DISTRIBUTION & SCORING SYSTEM:

Activity/Assignment	% of Final Grade
Weekly/Semi- Policy-Oriented Assignments	25%
Interview of CJ Professional	15%
Policy Issue Profile: Presentation	10%
Survey of CJ Curriculum Content	10%
CJ Resume Assignment	5%
Final Exam/Exit Assessment	5%
Criminal Justice Policy Issue Paper	30%
	100%

Course Schedule: Due Dates & Timeframes

Below are the due dates for homework/assignments and timeframes for exam completion. Do not wait until the last minute to complete things as they may take longer than anticipated.

Date	Details	
Tue Apr 16, 2019	 Writing Assignment #1: Forensic Sciences Reform	due by 11:59pm
Thu Apr 18, 2019	 Policy Issue Topic & Potential Interview Subject	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 21, 2019	 Writing Assignment #2: "DWI: Is it Murder?"	due by 11:59pm
Thu Apr 25, 2019	 Writing Assignment #3: Texting While Driving	due by 11:59pm
Thu May 2, 2019	 Writing Assignment #4: Opioids	due by 11:59pm
Thu May 9, 2019	 Writing Assignment #5: A Place for Pedophiles	due by 11:59pm
Thu May 16, 2019	 Policy Issue Presentation	due by 11:59pm
Sun May 26, 2019	 Interview of CJ Professional	due by 11:59pm
Tue May 28, 2019	 CJ Resume Assignment	due by 11:59pm
Thu May 30, 2019	 Writing Assignment #6: Killing Them Safely	due by 11:59pm
Thu Jun 6, 2019	 Writing Assignment #7: Zero Tolerance	due by 11:59pm
Wed Jun 12, 2019	 Survey of CJ Curriculum Content	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 14, 2019	 Exit Exam/Assessment	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jun 17, 2019	 Final Paper	due by 11:59pm

TERMS OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. *Late assignments/projects will be discounted an initial 30% and 10% per day after the due date. All late assignments must be turned in within 1 week, otherwise loss of **all** credit will occur.*
2. *I have an open-door approach when it comes to helping students understand the material and do well in the course. If you would like to talk with or meet with me, visit me during my office hours or call/email me to set up an appointment for an alternative time if those hours don't work for you.*
3. Any instances of academic dishonesty will result in an "FD" (failure for dishonesty) grade for the course and will be subject to the policies and procedures for the college. If you are at all unclear about what constitutes academic dishonesty, refer to catalogued materials.
4. *As a policy, opportunities for extra credit WILL NOT be available. All students begin the course with perfect scores, and will have every opportunity to maintain this score.*
5. The instructor reserves the right to change the schedule of the syllabus when deemed necessary.

LOGGING IN & COMMUNICATION:

- **Regular Class Login.** As a policy, if a student misses materials due to not logging in when necessary, this is not excusable. For those with extenuating circumstances, documentation will be required for any level of excusal. "Extenuating circumstances" will be determined on a case-by-case basis, but the standard for this sort of exception is considered as 'circumstances beyond one's control' (e.g., medical illness, family emergency). Federal regulations require continued attendance for continuing payment of financial aid. If attendance is not seen, financial aid may be terminated. When illness or personal reasons necessitate continued absence, the student should officially withdraw from all affected courses. Anyone who stops attending a course without official withdrawal may receive a failing grade.
- **Communication.** Email through Canvas is the best way to reach me with questions about the course. If you would like to talk with me online (webcam) or via phone, I'm happy to do so; for this, it is probably best to email me and then we can set up a day/time. For email, I will answer all emails as soon as I can (usually very quickly if I am on the computer, but always within 24 hours unless I am travelling for work or at a conference). If you have a question about something in the course, do NOT send out group emails to all other students; this is not their burden to share -- send your questions directly to me.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Chaminade will provide assistance for any student with documented disabilities. Any student who believes he/she may need accommodations in this class must contact **Dr. June Yasuhara, 735-4845**, at the Counseling Center (office next to Security) in order to determine if the student meets the requirements for documented disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is important to contact them as soon as possible so that accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

University Statement on Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is an essential aspect of all learning, scholarship, and research. It is one of the values regarded most highly by academic communities throughout the world. Violations of the principle of academic honesty are extremely serious and will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for promoting academic honesty at Chaminade by not participating in any act of dishonesty and by reporting any incidence of academic dishonesty to an instructor or to a University official. Academic dishonesty may include theft of records or examinations, alteration of grades, and plagiarism.

Questions of academic dishonesty in a particular class are first reviewed by the instructor, who must make a report with recommendations to the Dean of the Academic Division. Punishment for academic dishonesty will be determined by the instructor and the Dean of the Academic Division and may range from an 'F' grade for the work in question to an 'F' for the course to suspension or dismissal from the University.

University Title IX Statement

Chaminade University of Honolulu (CUH) recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. Should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you want to speak to a confidential source you may contact the following:

- Chaminade Counseling Center – 808-735-4845
- Any priest serving as a sacramental confessor or any ordained religious leader serving in the sacred confidence role.

About the Instructor:

Dr. Allen is a full-time faculty member, Associate Professor, in the C&CJ Department. He is an advisor to CJ majors and oversees the CJ Club. His usual repertoire of courses includes criminology, juvenile delinquency, behavioral sciences statistics, survey research methods & statistics, seminar in criminal justice agencies, and sex crimes. He has been a full-time faculty member in the Department since 2004 and began teaching at Chaminade in a part-time capacity in 1994. He has also taught courses in Sociology at the University of Hawaii and Hawaii Pacific University. Prior to Chaminade, he worked with the Corrections Population Management Commission (thru the Department of Public Safety), the Department of the Attorney General, and the Social Science Research Institute (University of Hawaii). Throughout the years, he has been involved in various research and evaluation projects, including the topics of: victim compensation/restitution, probation and parole recidivism, sentencing simulation modeling and policy analysis, juvenile delinquency and youth gangs, community crime prevention, restorative justice, domestic violence and anger management, substance abuse treatment, ecstasy, prostitution, runaway and missing children, uniform crime reporting, victimization surveys, and crime trends and law enforcement/correctional policy analysis. Dr. Allen received his Ph.D. from the Sociology Department at the University of Hawaii with an emphasis in Criminology. Before transferring to the University of Hawaii he attended the University of Minnesota (he was born in Minnesota and spent his formative years there).

MARIANIST EDUCATIONAL VALUES

The five characteristics of a Marianist Education are:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith

Catholic Universities affirm an intricate relationship between reason and faith. As important as discursive and logical formulations and critical thinking are, they are not able to capture all that can be and ought to be learned. Intellectual rigor coupled with respectful humility provides a more profound preparation for both career and life. Intellectual rigor characterizes the pursuit of all that can be learned. Respectful humility reminds people of faith that they need to learn from those who are of other faiths and cultures, as well as from those who may have no religious faith at all.

2. Provide an Excellent Education

In the Marianist approach to education, “excellence” includes the whole person, not just the technician or rhetorician. Marianist universities educate whole persons, developing their physical, psychological, intellectual, moral, spiritual and social qualities. Faculty and students attend to fundamental moral attitudes, develop their personal talents and acquire skills that will help them learn all their lives. The Marianist approach to education links theory and practice, liberal and professional education. Our age has been deeply shaped by science and technology. Most recently, information and educational technologies have changed the way faculty and students research and teach. At Marianist Universities, two goals are pursued simultaneously: an appropriate use of information technology for learning, and the enhancement of interaction between students and teachers. As Catholic, Marianist Universities seek to embrace diverse peoples and understand diverse cultures, convinced that ultimately, when such people come together, one of the highest purposes of education is realized: a human community that respects every individual within it.

3. Educate in Family Spirit

Known for their strong sense of community, Marianists have traditionally spoken of this sense as “family spirit.” Marianist educational experience fosters the development of a community characterized by a sense of family spirit that accepts each person with loving respect, and draws everyone in the university into the challenge of community building. Family spirit also enables Marianist universities to challenge their students, faculty and staff to excellence and maturity, because the acceptance and love of a community gives its members the courage to risk failure and the joy of sharing success.

4. Educate for Service, Justice, and Peace

The Marianist approach to higher education is deeply committed to the common good. The intellectual life itself is undertaken as a form of service in the interest of justice and peace, and the university curriculum is designed to connect the classroom with the wider world. In addition, Marianist universities extend a special concern for the poor and marginalized and promote the dignity, rights and responsibilities of all people.

5. Educate for Adaptation to Change

In the midst of rapid social and technological change, Marianist universities readily adapt and change their methods and structures so that the wisdom of their educational philosophy and spirituality may be transmitted even more fully. “New times call for new methods,” Father Chaminade often repeated. The Marianist university faces the future confidently, on the one hand knowing that it draws on a rich educational philosophy, and on the other fully aware for that philosophy to remain vibrant in changing times, adaptations need to be made.

Selected from *Characteristics of Marianist Universities: A Resource Paper*, Published in 1999 by Chaminade University of Honolulu, St. Mary's University and University of Dayton

Each of these characteristics is integrated, to varying degrees, in this course.

SCIENTIFIC METHOD DEFINITIONS

The **METHODS OF SCIENCE** are only tools, tools that we use to obtain knowledge about phenomena.

The **SCIENTIFIC METHOD** is a set of assumptions and rules about collecting and evaluating data. The explicitly stated assumptions and rules enable a standard, systematic method of investigation that is designed to reduce bias as much as possible. Central to the scientific method is the collection of data, which allows investigators to put their ideas to an empirical test, outside of or apart from their personal biases. In essence, stripped of all its glamour, scientific inquiry is nothing more **THAN A WAY OF LIMITING FALSE CONCLUSIONS ABOUT NATURAL EVENTS.**

Knowledge of which the credibility of a profession is based must be objective and verifiable (testable) rather than subjective and untestable.

SCIENCE is a mode of controlled inquiry to develop an objective, effective, and credible way of knowing.

The assumptions one makes regarding the basic qualities of human nature (that is, cognitive, affective, behavioral, and physiological processes) affect how one conceptualizes human behavior.

The two basic functions of scientific approach are 1) advance knowledge, to make discoveries, and to learn facts in order to improve some aspect of the world, and 2) to establish relations among events, develop theories, and this helps professionals to make predictions of future events.

Research Design in Counseling
Heppner, Kivlighan, and Wampold

A **THEORY** is a large body of interconnected propositions about how some portion of the world operates; a **HYPOTHESIS** is a smaller body of propositions. **HYPOTHESES** are smaller versions of theories. Some are derived or born from theories. Others begin as researchers' hunches and develop into theories.

The **PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE** decrees we can only falsify, not verify (prove), theories because we can never be sure that any given theory provides the best explanation for a set of observations.

Research Method in Social Relations
Kidder

THEORIES are not themselves directly proved or disproved by research. Even **HYPOTHESES** cannot be proved or disproved directly. Rather, research may either support or fail to support a particular hypothesis derived from a theory.

Scientific research has four general goals: (1) to describe behavior, (2) to predict behavior, (3) to determine the causes of behavior, and (4) to understand or explain behavior.

Methods In Behavioral Research; Cozby

In order to verify the reliability and validity of scientific research it is important to replicate the results. It is the preponderance of evidence that establishes/supports the theory.

<http://allpsych.com/researchmethods/replication.html>