

CJ 760-01-3: Contemporary Issues In Criminal Justice

Course Syllabus

Fall 2019

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Office Hours: By Appointment
Class Times: Online
Class Location: Virtual

Course Description:

Study of current criminal justice or public administration issues selected by the instructor (Catalog Description).

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students completing this course will demonstrate an understanding of and be able to:

1. Identify ethical dilemmas and issues in the Criminal Justice profession.
2. Describe special offender programs.
3. Identify approaches to minimizing street-level drug trafficking.
4. Explain how sanity applies to court proceedings.
5. Explain the cycle of violence and how it pertains to criminal behavior.
6. Describe the different methods of investigative psychology in the criminal justice system.

Reading Materials:

No course text required for this course. All reading will be provided by the instructor.

Course Approach:

Teaching strategies will emphasize the development of student learning objectives listed above based upon application of knowledge and skills which may include: lecture, active class participation/discussions, written examinations, research assignments, videos for assessment and discussions, and learning activities in the classroom.

Course Requirements:

Students are expected to be present and be prepared for each class session via completion of reading assignments for each class session. Students are expected to be prepared to critically discuss assigned material and participate in all aspects of classroom learning activities. *Participation* in class discussions and projects are essential for understanding and passing this course. The following student activities are required:

- **Discussion Questions/response:** Each week a discussion question will be posted. You are required to answer the discussion question in full. This includes supporting your assertions with references if applicable. Additionally, you are required to respond to a minimum of two classmates in each discussion post.. All original discussion posts are due on Wednesday with responses due on Saturday. Discussion and responses are worth 40% of your final grade.
- **Assignments:** You will be assigned a variety of papers to write on topics chosen by the professor. Your papers must adhere to APA standards including font, spacing, title page, references (both in text and in a bibliography), and formatting. No abstract is required. While there is no length requirement, please ensure that your paper is long enough to completely cover the topic assigned. Assignments are worth 35% of your final grade.
- **Presentation:** The format (i.e., power point/prezi) will be based on your discretion and available resources. You will record yourself giving the presentation using zoom and upload the file(s). Your grade will reflect: content, organization, and time management. The presentation is worth 25% of your final grade. You will also be automatically assigned to respond to two of your classmates presentations. You are required to respond in a manner that contributes to the research. This may include insight, questions, etc. A simple “great job” is not sufficient. There must be substance in your response. ** Responses are included in the final overall grade of this assignment.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO PLANNED EXTRA CREDIT FOR THIS CLASS.

Grading System:

Point Distribution & Scoring System:	% of Final Grade
Assignments	35%
Presentation	25%
Discussions/Responses	40%
	100%

Late Policy:

No late work will be accepted in this class without a documented emergency. Generally, a valid excuse is a personal medical emergency. If you miss class and would like to make-up material you must present a valid doctor’s excuse as soon as possible documenting the date and time of the excused absence (regardless of the reason). Simply not feeling well is not an excused absence. All assignments are opened the week prior to the due date so turning in assignments early is suggested. If you are aware that you are going to miss a deadline and would like to ask for an extension, you **MUST** do so in writing **PRIOR** to missing the due date.

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, essay plagiarism, using unapproved notes/material during quizzes/exams, and assisting others with quizzes/exams.

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.

The success of the Honor Code is made possible only with the acceptance and cooperation of every student. Each student is expected to maintain the principles of the Code. Example of Honor Code violations include:

- Giving or receiving information from another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized sources for answers during an examination;
- Illegally obtained test questions before the test;
- Any and all forms of plagiarism – submit all or part of someone else’s work or ideas as your own;
- The destruction and/or confiscation of school and/or personal property.

A violation is reported either to the professor involved, who will report it to the Dean of Students, or directly to the Dean of Students.

Violations of the Honor Code are serious. They harm other students, your professor, and the integrity of the University. Alleged violations will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs. If found guilty of plagiarism, a student might receive a range of penalties, including failure of an assignment, failure of an assignment, and withholding of the final course grade until a paper is turned in on the topic of plagiarism, failure of the course, or suspension from the University.

Violations of Academic Integrity: Violations of the principle include, but are not limited to:

- Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise.
- Fabrication and Falsification: Intentional and unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification is a matter of inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.
- Multiple Submissions: The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work for credit (including oral reports) more than once without authorization.
- Plagiarism: Intentionally or knowingly presenting the work of another as one’s own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source).
- Abuse of Academic Materials: Intentionally or knowingly destroying, stealing, or making inaccessible library or other academic resource materials.
- Complicity in Academic Dishonesty: Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.
- Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:
 1. Copying or borrowing liberally from someone else’s work without his/her knowledge or permission; or with his/her knowledge or permission and turning it in as your own work.
 2. Copying of someone else’s exam or paper.
 3. Allowing someone to turn in your work as his or her own.
 4. Not providing adequate references for cited work.

5. Copying and pasting large quotes or passages without properly citing them.

A general note on professionalism.

Students are expected to handle themselves professionally during class. Professionalism includes attending and being prepared for class (e.g., reading the required material), arriving to class on time, and being engaged, active participants in the classroom experience. It is my intent to treat each student as an adult, and as such, require standards of professionalism that are highly consistent with the “real world.”

I intend to discuss controversial criminal justice/social issues in a frank and forthright manner because I believe it is important to do so. As professionals, each student must direct comments or responses to the class and to me in a professional manner.

We must all respect the opinions of one another. I would also request that if you are offended by the comments of a fellow class member or myself that you come to me during office hours to discuss the problem with me personally. In many cases these instances can be used as valuable learning experiences and I will do my best to rectify any problems.

Classroom Etiquette

A general note on classroom behavior: Disrespectful, rude, and unprofessional behavior will not be permitted in this classroom. If you present a pattern of problem behavior, you will be removed from the class.

Student Expectations Disability Access

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services. Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations from the Counseling Center by the end of week three of the class in order for the instructor to plan accordingly. Failure to provide written documentation will prevent your instructor from making the necessary accommodations. Please refer any questions to the Dean of Students.

Incomplete Grades:

The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. Incomplete grades are given only in situations where unexpected emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. Your instructor is the final authority on whether you qualify for an incomplete. Incomplete work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester or the “I” will automatically be recorded as an “F” on your transcript.

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. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and 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](tel:8087354845).
- Any priest serving as a sacramental confessor or any ordained religious leader serving in the sacred confidence role.

Religious Observances: Students are expected to notify their instructor one week in advance if they intend to miss class to observe a holy day of their religious faith.

Marianist Educational Values

The five characteristics of a Marianist Education are:

- 1. Educate for Formation In Faith**
- 2. Provide an Excellent Education**
- 3. Educate in Family Spirit**
- 4. Educate for Service, Justice, and Peace**
- 5. Educate for Adaptation to Change**

Tentative course schedule, subject to change based on course progression.

Course Schedule			
Week	Date (Week Of)	General Topic	Module
1	10/07/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ethics ● Syllabus Quiz ● Introduction ● Assignment ● Discussion 	1
2	10/14/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Corrections ● Assignment ● Discussion 	2

3	10/21/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Narcotics ● Discussion ● Assignment ● Research Topic 	3
4	10/28/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mental Health ● Assignment ● Discussion 	4
5	11/04/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Juvenile Delinquency ● Discussion ● Assignment 	5
6	11/11/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Violence ● Discussion ● Assignment 	6
7	11/18/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organized Crime ● Discussion 1 ● Discussion 2 	7
8	11/25/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Investigative Psychology ● Discussion ● Assignment 	8
9	10/02/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Police Psychology ● Discussion 	9
10	10/09/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presentation of Findings 	10

NOTE:

It is the discretion of the instructor to follow this schedule strictly or with the autonomy of spending more time on relevant topical areas. Modules may also be covered out of order if there are extenuating circumstances. Students are responsible for outside reading assignments and relevant topics discussed.