



Criminal Justice Policy (PUBAFRS7507)

Spring 2014

3 Credit Hours

Instructor: Kent H. Shafer

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Class Time and Location: Wednesdays 5:30 p.m.-8:10 p.m. Hagerty Hall 0062

Office Hours 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Hagerty Hall by appointment

Course Description:

This class is devoted to increasing the student's understanding of crime and society's responses to crime based on public policy and the criminal justice system. We will also examine the bureaucratic nature of government organizations and how this impacts the goals and effectiveness of the criminal justice system and its individual components.

Class sessions will be devoted to discussing and critiquing the assigned readings and assessing the state of knowledge and understanding of key theories and policy issues. Students are expected to participate in and contribute to class discussions each session. Students will be assigned two short (2-4 page) essay projects. For each essay, students will choose from a list of potential essay topics covering recent assigned readings. Students will be expected to use outside materials, along with assigned reading material to demonstrate their understanding of the complexities of criminal justice policy issues. In addition, students will be paired in teams of two and required to give two in-class presentations on an assigned chapter of the readings. The format for these presentations will be discussed in class but each presentation will last approximately 30-40 minutes and should demonstrate each student's understanding of the topic matter to the class and instructor. A term/position paper (15-20 pages) will be due at the end of the semester. Students will choose a major policy issue from the readings. Papers will address a policy problem, problem background, stakeholders involved, related issues and trends, followed by recommendations and justifications. Students will submit an outline for

the paper by Week 11, with term papers due by end of semester. Grading will be based on John Glenn School of Public Affairs grading rubric for position papers to be discussed in detail in class.

Students are expected to attend all class sessions, read assigned material in advance of each session and be prepared to discuss the material, and complete all assignments when due. Late assignments will earn a maximum of 50% of possible grade.

Class sessions will be complemented with guest lecturers who are professionals within the criminal justice community. These guests will provide students with “real world” perspectives on relevant policy issues and provide a forum for students to ask questions and add to their understanding of these issues.

In addition, students will be expected to keep abreast of developments and issues in the news that reflect upon the readings in the course.

Student Learning Goals and Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have a broad understanding of the issues and complexities facing the administration of criminal justice in America. They will also gain insight into the various components within the criminal justice system, the varying perspectives on how, and how effectively, these components achieve their goals, and how the bureaucratic nature of governmental organizations impacts individuals and organizations. Students will be able to use this knowledge to examine the effectiveness of criminal justice policies and formulate policy recommendations.

Student objectives include:

Short essay discussion of policy issues (2)

Oral presentations regarding policy issue (2)

Written position paper on a critical policy issue

Required Reading:

Crime and Public Policy

James Q. Wilson & Joan Petersilia

Oxford University Press (ISBN: 978-0-19-539935-6)

Bureaucracy

James Q. Wilson

Basic Books (ISBN: 13-978-0-465-00785-1)

Students can access textbook information via the Barnes & Noble bookstore website: www.shopOhioState.com as well as from their BuckeyeLink Student Center. This information is disseminated by B&N to all area bookstores. You may buy from a store of your choice and/or shop for books (always use ISBN# for searches) on line.

Students will be expected to reference additional, related materials. In addition to searching for articles in major journals and Google Scholar, several criminal justice web sites may be useful: The National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) <http://www.ncjrs.gov>; National Institute of Justice (NIJ) <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij> ; Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs> .

Grading Information:

Class Participation 10% (Includes attendance, involvement, and participation in student led presentations)

Essays 25%

Student Presentations 25%

Term/Position Paper 40%

Grading Scale:

93 -100	A	80 - 82	B-	68 - 69	D+
90 - 92	A-	78 - 79	C+	64 - 67	D
88 - 89	B+	73 - 77	C	63 -0	E
83 - 87	B	70-72	C-		

Schedule and Assignments:

Date	Text	Chapters	Topics	Additional	Written Assignment
January 8, 2014	Crime & PP	1-2	Crime in International Perspective		Introductions, Class Overview
January 15, 2014	Crime & PP	4-6	Juvenile Crime & Justice Families & Crime Street Gangs		Guest Speaker - Gangs

January 22, 2014	Crime & PP	7-9	Labor Markets & Crime The Community Race & Criminal Justice	Student Presentations	Essay 1 Assignment
January 29, 2014	Crime & PP	10-12	Gun Control Rehabilitation & Treatment Sex Offenders & Policy	Student Presentations Guest Speaker - Treatment	Essay 1 Due
February 5, 2014	Crime & PP	13-14	Drugs, Crime & Public Policy General Deterrence	Student Presentations (if needed) Guest Speaker - Drug Policy	Essay 2 Assignment
February 12, 2014	Crime & PP	15-16	Prosecution Sentencing	Guest Speaker - Prosecution	Essay 2 Due
February 19, 2014	Crime & PP	17-18	Community Corrections, etc. Prisons	Guest Speaker - Corrections	
February 26, 2014	Crime & PP	19-21	Changing Crime Rates Policing on Evidence Crime & Public Policy	Guest Speaker - Strategic Policing	
March 5, 2014	Bureaucracy	1-2	Organizations	Term Paper Discussion	
March 12, 2014				Spring Break	
March 19, 2014	Bureaucracy	3-6	Operators	Guest Speaker	Outlines Due 3/21/2014
March 26, 2014	Bureaucracy	15	Courts	Review of Outlines Student Presentations	
April 2, 2014	Bureaucracy	7-9	Managers	Student Presentations	

April 9, 2014	Bureaucracy	10-12	Executives	Student Presentations (if needed)	
April 16, 2014	Bureaucracy	17-20	Change	Term Paper Discussions	
April 23, 2014					Term Papers Due Submitted Electronically by 11:00p.m.

Academic Integrity:

The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's *Code of Student Conduct*, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's *Code of Student Conduct* may constitute "Academic Misconduct." Sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

In The Ohio State University's *Code of Student Conduct*, Section 3335-23-04 defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's *Code of Student Conduct* is never considered an "excuse" for academic misconduct. Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include The Committee on Academic Misconduct web page: <http://oaa.osu.edu/coam.html> *Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity*: <http://oaa.osu.edu/coamtensuggestions.html> *Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity*: www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.html

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

"Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>."