

CRM 1829: Introduction to Criminal Justice
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology
Eastern Illinois University
Doudna Fine Arts Center 1210, MWF 2:00-2:50PM
Fall 2020

Professor: Dr. Caitlin Lynch

Office: Blair Hall 3131

Office Hours: MWF 12:00AM-1:30PM and by appointment

Email: clynch2@eiu.edu

Course Description: This course provides students with a comprehensive assessment of the criminal justice system in the United States. It is divided into five distinct areas of inquiry:

1. **Foundations of Criminal Justice:** An introduction to crime and the criminal justice system, the nature and extent of crime, and the law
2. **Law Enforcement:** The history of policing, the structure and challenges of law enforcement, and police and the rule of law
3. **Courts:** The courts and actors of the court, pretrial stages, the criminal trial, and sentencing
4. **Corrections:** Correctional responses in the community, institutional corrections, prison life, and reentry
5. **Juvenile Justice:** An introduction to the juvenile justice system, juvenile due process, and causes and consequences of juvenile delinquency.

Student Learning Objectives: By the end of the course, students will have a basic understanding of the foundations of criminal justice, policing, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice. Students will understand the historical and structural framework of each component of the criminal justice system, both as an individual component and in relation to the other components, and the ethical and controversial issues surrounding each area of inquiry.

Required Readings: Rennison & Dodge. *Introduction to Criminal Justice* (3rd Edition). Additional readings will be posted on Desire2Learn (D2L) in the corresponding module for each topic.

Desire2Learn (D2L): This course utilizes D2L for communication and course management purposes. D2L can be accessed using a panther ID and password.

Course Outline:

DATE	TOPIC	WORK REQUIREMENTS
Week 1: August 24-28	Course Expectations Introduction to Crime the Criminal Justice System	Read Chapter 1
Week 2: August 31- September 4	Criminal Justice and the Law	Read Chapter 3 and additional readings on D2L
Week 3: September 9-11	History of the Police in the United States	Read Chapter 4 and additional readings on D2L
Week 4: September 14-18	Police Organizations and the Role of the Police	Read Chapter 5 and additional readings on D2L
Week 5: September 21-25	Challenges in Police Work	Read Chapter 6 and additional readings on D2L
Week 6: September 28- October 2	Police and the Rule of Law	Exam 1 Friday, October 2nd Reflection Essay #1 due Friday, October 2nd via D2L
Week 7: October 5-9	The Courts and the Judiciary	Read Chapters 7 and additional readings on D2L
Week 8: October 12-14	The Prosecution and the Defense	Read Chapter 8 and additional readings on D2L
Week 9: October 19-23	The Criminal Trial and Sentencing	Read Chapter 9 Fall Break October 16
Week 10: October 26-30	Community Corrections	Read Chapter 10 and 11
Week 11: November 2-6	Institutional Corrections	Read Chapter 12 and additional readings on D2L
Week 12: November 9-13	Prison Life and Life After Prison	Exam 2 Friday, November 13th Reflection Essay #2 due Friday, November 13th via D2L
Week 13: November 16-20	Introduction to the Juvenile Justice System	Read Chapter 13
Week 14: November 23-27	Thanksgiving Break	
Week 15: November 30- December 4	Juvenile Delinquency	Juvenile Delinquency readings on D2L
Week 16: December 7-11	Course Wrap-up	Reflection Essay #3 due Friday, December 11th via D2L
Final Exam (Exam 3) Wednesday, December 16th 2:45PM-4:45PM		

Work Requirements:

Exam 1:	30 points
Exam 2:	30 points
Exam 3 (Final Exam):	40 points
In-Class Assignments:	25 points
Reflection Essay #1:	25 points
Reflection Essay #2:	25 points
Reflection Essay #3:	25 points
Total:	200 points

Grading Scale:

A: 180-200 points
B: 160-179 points
C: 140-159 points
D: 120-139 points
F: 0-119 points

Exams: Exam 1 will cover the units on the foundations of the criminal justice system and the police, and will be given in class on Friday, October 2nd. Exam 2 will cover the units on courts and corrections, and will be given in class on Friday, November 3rd. The final exam (Exam 3) will be administered during the scheduled final exam period on Wednesday, December 16th from 2:45PM to 4:45PM. While the final exam is not cumulative per se, it will include several key topics that have been addressed throughout the semester that are integral to the study of the criminal justice system, along with the juvenile justice system. Readings will not be assigned the during week of an exam to allow for students to study for the exam. Exams will be comprised of entirely multiple-choice questions, drawing from assigned readings and material discussed during class. Exam materials will be provided.

In-Class Assignments: In-class assignments will be given sporadically throughout the semester in the form of quizzes, video responses, and short answer questions to incentivize attendance. These assignments cannot be made up without documentation supporting an excused absence.

Reflection Essays: Reflection essays shall be 2-3 pages each. Detailed instructions, prompts, examples, and rubrics for the reflection essays can be found in D2L. All three reflection essays are to be submitted via D2L and are due by 11:59PM on their corresponding due date.

Attendance

Although roll is not formally taken, attendance in class is expected. Success on assignments, essays, and exams is highly dependent upon being present for the lecture. If you miss class for any reason, you are encouraged to obtain the notes from a classmate or meet with me during my office hours.

Academic Fraud

Plagiarism and cheating are academic fraud. Academic fraud is a serious matter and will result in an automatic F in the course, in addition to being reported to the Student Standards Board for further disciplinary action. For more information refer the “Student Conduct Code” which can be found here:

<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>.

Accommodations for Disabilities

Students with documented disabilities are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services (217-581-6583) to discuss any necessary academic accommodations.

Fire Statement

In case of fire, activate the fire alarm & exit the building. When a fire alarm sounds, everyone must exit the building & cannot re-enter the building until allowed by the building coordinator or fire department official. Fire alarms are located at the north & south ends of the corridors just inside the fire doors. The closest exits for all classrooms in Blair are on the north & south ends of the building. Under no circumstance should the elevator be used.

Severe Weather/Tornadoes

In case of a tornado warning, proceed to the center of the hallway on the first floor, near the posted severe weather signs. Under no circumstances should you attempt to leave the building.

COVID-19

The University is asking all of us to take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including wearing face coverings when we are in class together, walking around campus, in the library, or participating in office hours. EIU’s policy is intended to protect all of us on campus, as well as the community, your roommates, and loved ones at home. Additionally, students are expected to not attend class if they are ill and to consult the student health clinic if they have any COVID-19 like symptoms. COVID-19 campus practices including face coverings, avoiding campus if sick, sanitizing surfaces, social distancing, and hand washing are based on the best available public health guidance. As a faculty member, I am responsible for ensuring students engage in practices that reduce risk. If you have a health condition that prevents you from wearing a mask, please contact Student Disability Services. If you are unable to follow EIU’s COVID-19 guidelines, you may be asked to leave class or office hours as compliance with public health guidance is essential. Accommodations for instruction and make-up work will be made for students with documented medical absences according to IGP #43.

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the professor.