

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

**Sociology 209
Introduction to Criminal Justice
Spring 2005**

**Dr. Debbie Wilson
Office: 363C Journalism Bldg
Phone: 292-1386 (office)
292-6681 (messages only)
Hrs: 4:30-5:30 Mon. - Thurs.
E-mail: Wilson.1028@osu.edu**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the agencies responsible for detecting, prosecuting, and adjudicating criminal offenders. The first portion of the course will examine the historical development of the criminal justice system along with the origin and types of law. The primary methods used to measure crime, the frequency of crime, and problems with crime measurement will be discussed. The elements of a crime, causation, and criminal defenses will be presented.

The second portion of the course will address the roles and functions of the police. We will focus specifically on the U.S. Constitution and basic constitutional rights provided citizens in the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments. Primary principles governing police search and seizure and interrogation tactics will be discussed. Various types of police operations including community policing and problem oriented policing will be presented.

The final portion of the course focuses on the courtroom workgroup, criminal trials and sentencing procedures. The working relationship between judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys will be examined. We will study the formal stages of the criminal justice system beginning with arrest and proceeding through the sentencing stage. Legal and extra-legal factors influencing the proceedings at each stage will be discussed along with current problems plaguing the legal system. Numerous sentencing strategies will be examined along with their impact on our correctional system. Lastly, various types of jails and prisons will be examined in conjunction with trends in imprisonment.

REQUIRED TEXTS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, 1st Edition, James Fagin

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There are a total of 340 points to be earned in this course. Final course grades are based on three separate components. These components include: (1) midterm; (2) final exam; and (3) quizzes.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS - cont'd

Each of the two examinations is worth 120 points. Students are responsible for all assigned reading, material covered in class, and information presented by speakers and videos. The examinations will consist of multiple choice questions. The first examination will be given on April 28th during regular class hours. The second examination is scheduled for June 7th. The second examination will not be comprehensive; it only covers lectures and material assigned after the first examination. The format will be similar to the first exam.

There will be five quizzes worth 25 points each. Quizzes will be short answer and fill in; they will cover previous class discussions and the assigned reading for that class. Quizzes are not scheduled in advance, but rather will be announced in class the meeting prior to the quiz. The lowest quiz scores for each student will be dropped - leaving 4 quiz scores worth a total of 100 points. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.** The rationale for this policy is to recognize that students will have legitimate reasons for missing class. Dropping the lowest quiz score ensures that students will not be penalized for legitimately missing class on a scheduled quiz day.

MAKE-UP EXAMINATION POLICY

Make-up examinations will be given to students who have a valid medical excuse for missing the scheduled examination. Students must provide a written excuse from a doctor/emergency room. The make-up **MUST** be taken within one week after the scheduled examination. The make-up will be essay in format.

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Class attendance is highly encouraged and will be taken at the beginning of each class. I expect students to read the assigned material prior to class and come prepared to discuss it. Typically students who do not attend regularly do not perform well in the course. Also, note that important dates are subject to change - as announced in class. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE IN CLASS.** A change of date is not a sufficient excuse to make up an exam.

IMPORTANT DATES

April 28th
June 7th

FIRST EXAMINATION
SECOND EXAMINATION

READING SCHEDULE

The following is intended as a suggested reading schedule for student preparation for class. Additional readings may be assigned by the instructor in class and slight modifications to the assigned readings may be made from time to time. The required readings should be completed for each topic **before** the scheduled class.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
March 29 th	INTRODUCTION TO COURSE	None
March 31 st	CRIMINAL JUSTICE [CH. 1]	pp. 4-31
April 5 th	OVERVIEW OF CJ PROCESS [CH. 2]	pp. 34-67
April 7 th	CRIMINAL LAW [CH. 4]	pp. 106-139
April 12 th	CRIMINAL LAW [CH. 4], continued	pp. 106-139
April 14 th	VIDEO + CLASS DISCUSSION	
April 19 th	DUE PROCESS & POLICE PROCEDURE [CH. 5]	pp. 142-173
April 21 st	DUE PROCESS [CH. 5], continued	pp. 142-173
April 26 th	CATCH UP AND REVIEW FOR MIDTERM	
April 28 th	MIDTERM	
May 3 rd	RETURN EXAMS + DUE PROCESS [CH. 5]	pp. 142-173
May 5 th	DUE PROCESS [CH. 5], continued	pp. 142-173
May 10 th	POLICE PROFESSIONALISM [CH. 8]	pp. 228-261

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
May 12 th	COURTROOM PARTICIPANTS AND TRIAL [CH. 10]	pp. 298-331
May 17 th	COURTROOM PARTICIPANTS AND TRIAL [CH. 10]	pp. 298-331
May 19 th	VIDEO + CLASS DISCUSSION	
May 24 th	SENTENCING AND SANCTIONS [CH. 11]	pp. 334-365
May 26 th	JAILS AND PRISONS [CH. 12]	pp. 370-401
May 31 st	JAILS AND PRISONS [CH. 12], continued	pp. 370-401
June 2 nd	CATCH UP AND REVIEW FOR FINAL	
June 7 th	<u>2ND EXAM</u> [Tuesday - 11:30 - 1:18 pm]	

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

THIS MATERIAL IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS UPON REQUEST. PLEASE CONTACT AN ADVISOR IN UNDERGRADUATE SERVICES 292-1175. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THEIR NEEDS KNOWN AND SEEKING AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE IN A TIMELY MANNER.
