

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO- Valencia Campus
SYLLABUS

Soci 2120-501: Introduction to the Criminal Justice System

(Formerly Soc 205-501: Crime, Public Policy, and the Criminal Justice System)

FA 2019, 16 Weeks, Online

Instructor: Jeremy E. Baker	Preferred Contact: Email
Office Hours/Location: N/A	Primary Email: profjebaker@unm.edu
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Catalog Description

This course provides an introduction to social issues that are currently affecting the criminal justice system in the United States. The course will cover the history of the US criminal justice system and how our system compares with other countries. We will address how the U.S. criminal justice system attempts to create and preserve a balance between sustaining order, maintaining individual rights, and promoting justice. Important themes also include, but are not limited to discussions of how crime and delinquency are measured, key correlates of crime, sociological approaches to researching crime, sociological theories of crime, the quality of crime data in the U.S. and how it is used to make public policy decisions, and the causes and consequences of mass incarceration in the United States.

Course Materials

Title: Criminal Justice Policy

Authors: Stacy L. Mallicoat and Christine L. Gardiner

Year: 2014

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Citizenship and/or Immigration Status: All students are welcome in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status. Your professor will respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. As for all students in the class, family emergency-related absences are normally excused with reasonable notice to the professor, as noted in the attendance guidelines above. UNM as an institution has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community. The Administration's welcome is found on our website: <http://undocumented.unm.edu/> "

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the current practices and functions of the criminal justice system.
2. Understand and communicate how crime data is collected and measured and how this data informs the claims of policy makers and public policy outcomes.
3. Demonstrate the ability to compare and contrast the institutional practices and stratification of the U.S. criminal justice system with other criminal justice systems in the developed regions of the world.
4. Communicate an understanding of sociological theories of the U.S. criminal justice system through academic research, in-class discussions, written assignments, and other methods.
5. Describe the functions of the social institutions connected to crime, e.g., polity, media, education, family.

Assessments

UNM-conducts ongoing assessments of student learning so that we can continue to improve the curriculum to give students the best education possible. The data collected for this assessment will be selected by the instructor or the department and may come from exams, projects, or other assignments. The assessment will focus on the learning outcomes in this syllabus (listed above). The data from this assessment will be collected and reported anonymously. Data summaries will be reported to the department, to the Office of Instruction, and posted on the web. The information collected will be used to make improvements to curriculum and teaching. This assessment is not a reflection of your grade and is not a grading exercise; it is simply an evaluation of how well students are mastering certain skills.

Grades and Grading Policies

Evaluation will be based on the following course activities and components, weighted as indicated:

Required Work and Grading

All formal writing assignments must follow ASA (American Sociological Association) format and be typewritten, double-spaced in a 12pt, Times New Roman font.

Assignments	
9 Weekly Discussions: 10 points each (Initial Post: 6 points, 2 comments-2 points each)	90 pts
5 Quizzes – 12.5 points each (Lowest quiz score dropped)	50 pts
1 Midterm Essay- 100 points each	100 pts
3 Exercises – 20 points each	60 pts
3 Exams – 100 points each	300 pts
Total	600 pts

There are 600 points possible in this course. Grades will be determined on a traditional percentage system, with the appropriate plus or minus sign.

Course Requirements	Percent	Points
Midterm Essay	17%	100/600
Discussion Boards	15%	90/600
Exercises	10%	60/600
Quizzes	8%	50/600
Exams	50%	300/600
Total	100%	600/600

Grade	Percent	Points
A+	100-98	600-588
A	97-93	587-558
A-	92-90	557-540
B+	89-87	539-522
B	86-83	521-498
B-	82-80	497-480
C+	79-77	479-462
C	76-73	461-438
C-	72-70	437-420
D+	69-67	419-402
D	66-63	401-378
D-	62-60	377-360
F	59% and below	359 and below

Weekly Assignments and Discussion Posts

Students are responsible for posting discussion questions, and prompts that I have posted on our UNM Blackboard Learn site.

The following will be expected of students on Discussion Boards

- In this class, we will be frequently discussing controversial topics. You do not have to agree with everyone, and you are expected to express your opinions. However, you must also respect the opinions of others. Intentionally homophobic, racist, sexist, ethnocentric, or otherwise discriminatory statements or behavior will not be tolerated. Such statements not only derail our work, but can be very hurtful to your fellow student.
- Each week, students are expected to make one initial post and at least two comment posts to fellow students or the professor.
- Students may receive a maximum of six points for initial posts and a maximum of two points for each comment
- Initial posts are to be at least 300 words and are to be made by Wednesday at 11:59 PM
- Comment posts are to be at least 100 words and are due by Sunday at 11:59 PM
- Students may not turn in late posts

Quizzes

Open book quizzes on Blackboard Learn will be available at the beginning of the semester and will shut on the scheduled days according to the syllabus. Quizzes can be completed before the deadlines, but not after. Students have one hour, and one attempt, to complete these open-booked quizzes. Quizzes cannot be made up.

Midterm Essays

The Midterm Essay will be worth 100 points. Essays will follow ASA format and must be submitted to Blackboard Learn as a **Word document attachment (.doc file format)**. (While there are technically other ways to submit papers, Learn is not a perfect system, and one of the ways it is least perfect is paper submission. If your paper is not submitted in this way, it will likely be lost). Further details on the Midterm will be available on Learn.

Formatting of Essays

All formal writing assignments must follow ASA format and be typewritten, double-spaced in a 12pt, Times New Roman font.

Late Policy

I will not accept late Blackboard Learn assignments without a valid doctor's excuse. If you are having technical problems, you may email me your response to profjebaker@unm.edu by the due date, **Sunday 11:59 PM**. I will not accept essays more than two days after the assigned date. For each day the essay is late, the assignment will be marked down half a letter grade, so make sure to turn in your essays in a timely manner and in the appropriate format (attached as a Word doc.).

Extra Credit

I do not grant extra credit.

When can you expect your work to be graded?

My goal is to have all of your submissions for each week by the end of the last day of the following week. If I am unable to meet this deadline, I will make an announcement stating such.

Attendance and Participation Policy

- Attendance and overall participation will be measured by weekly work on Blackboard Learn. Students are responsible for submitting all essays, comment posts, exercises, and exams by Sunday 11:59 PM (Mountain Time), and completing initial discussion posts by Wednesday at 11:59 PM (Mountain Time). Students who miss more than 2 weekly assignments will be dropped. Two incomplete assignments equal one absence.
- Excused absences include documented hospitalization or other documented, unexpected extreme emergencies; if excessive absenteeism that falls under the purview of “excused absences” continues, I reserve the right to drop students from the course. Please note: doctor’s appointments, child-care, court dates, and job scheduling conflicts do not count as excused absences by virtue of the online nature of this course.
- Students who miss the first week’s assignments and do not contact me by the end of the first week will be dropped.

Academic Honesty Policy

You are expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, including dismissal, against any student who is found responsible for academic dishonesty. Any student who has been judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty on quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others (plagiarism); and hindering the academic work of other students. A brief guide to what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it can be found here: <http://losalamos.unm.edu/library/docs/avoiding-plagiarism.pdf>.

You should take care not to leave your computer or thumb drive where others can steal or copy your work or make your files “public.” When using a public computer, you should make sure that you erase your work from the computer and remove your thumb drive.

4. Course Communications

Course Communications

UNM provides us with email addresses, and I like to use them. With that said, I expect you to communicate with me only using your UNM email address. In my experience, using outside addresses only creates confusion. My email address is profjebaker@unm.edu

You are expected to follow the rules of online etiquette (netiquette) in your communications with me and with each other. Classroom netiquette rules are posted in the online classroom.

Email Etiquette Policy

Please keep the following in mind when you write emails:

- Please avoid informal slang. Learning to write professional emails early on is a skill you need as you progress to higher academic levels and career pursuits.
- Emails that you write to me during the semester should include professional language, addressed with a subject heading including the type of question you are asking. For example, “Essay 1” would be an appropriate subject heading for a question regarding the first essay.
- Emails should also include a salutation. For example, “Dear Mr. Baker” or “Hello Mr. Baker” would be an appropriate salutation. Part of Composition is learning when and how to use proper diction and registers of language, and in a formal setting like a college course, professional titles are appreciated.
- Please close with an appropriate phrase and sign your email with your name. Some examples of appropriate phrases are “Sincerely,” or “Thank you for your help.”
- Use short paragraphs (in general, 3-4 lines maximum) to make the email easy to read.

- Be sure to proofread your email for grammatical or spelling errors.

Faculty Email Response Time

You can expect a response from me within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends to course messages, email messages, text messages, or phone calls. When you receive a communication from me, you should attempt to reply within 48 hours.

Unexpected Cancellations

You can find information about unexpected cancellations of events or assigned work (e.g., exams, chats, discussions) in the **Announcements** section of the online classroom.

You should check Announcements each time you log in to the online classroom. You will receive information about campus emergencies via LoboAlerts. Confirm that you are signed up to receive notifications on <http://loboalerts.unm.edu>.

5. Technical Needs

Computer Requirements

Since this course is taught entirely online, frequent use of a computer is required. You must have access to a computer and to the internet, and you will need to be familiar with the use of a browser such as Internet Explorer, Chrome, Safari, or Firefox. Access at least part time, to a broadband (high speed) internet network, such as DSL, cable, wireless, or satellite, is strongly recommended since some of the assignments may involve audio and video clips. You can access a broadband network at many libraries and on campus.

Since this is an online course, some minimum hardware and software are required in order to complete the course. For recommended operating system requirements and web browser compatibility, see Blackboard Help for Students, Service Pack Q4 2015, here: <http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/support/browsers> Note that Learn works with a limited number of browsers and versions, so you should make sure you are using one of these. For all browsers, JavaScript and cookies must be enabled.

UNM Computer Account Policy

You are required to have a UNM campus account (NetID). You will use this account to access this course via Blackboard Learn. You will also use this account to register for classes through MyUNM, <http://my.unm.edu>. This account is also used to read and send e-mail (the UNM email address looks like NetID@unm.edu), print transcripts, check financial status, and check degree progress. The NetID and password for Learn are the same as your login for your UNM Main Campus account.

You are **required** to check your UNM email (LoboMail) periodically, as this is the main communication method used by the university. You may forward your LoboMail to another email address; however, this is not encouraged by UNM and not supported by UNM IT personnel.

https://unm.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/6701/kw/forward%20lobomail .

You can access your email via MyUNM by clicking on the “MyUNM” link on either the the Main Campus web page (<http://www.unm.edu>), or by typing in the web address <http://my.unm.edu> . You must then log in using your NetID and password. Email is available on the UNM Email tab.

6. Support and Resources for Online Learning

Training and Help for Learn

You can find video training on how to use Blackboard Learn at <http://ondemand.blackboard.com/students.htm> .

UNM has provided additional help and quick-start training materials for Learn at <http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/> and under the Support button inside the Learn classroom.

Technical Support

If you are having technical problems with Learn, you can contact free technical support in one of the following ways:

- Phone: 505-277-0857, option 2 – IT and Learn support on Main Campus.
- UNM-Valencia IT support: go to <https://valencia.unm.edu/about/accessibility.html>

7. Academic Support

Academic Support Center (ASC)

The Academic Support Center at UNM-LA offers tutoring and academic help. For more information, go to <https://valencia.unm.edu/about/accessibility.html> . Questions related to course organization or setup should be directed to me.

Libraries

The Libraries at UNM campuses have many electronic databases that you may find useful. You can link to the UNM-Valencia Library web site here: <http://valencia.edu/library>

8. UNM Policies

Drop Policy

If you decide to drop the class, it is your responsibility to do so; you should be aware of University-wide posted deadlines for tuition refunds and mandatory assignment of grades. You should not assume that I will drop you before a deadline if you simply stop attending a face-to-face class or stop logging in to an online class.

Dropping a course may affect your financial aid status and/or tuition refund. A drop will result in a grade of “W.” If you do not officially drop the class, you will receive the grade earned based on the syllabus grading criteria, which may be an “F.”

Students’ Online Classroom Participation May Be Monitored

The online classroom provides tools for the instructor to monitor students’ participation in online classes. In addition to seeing all of the posts and comments that are made in discussions and blogs, I have access to records of when you logged in, what course materials you opened during each session, and when you submitted exams and assigned coursework. This data is made available to me to enable evaluation of class participation and to help me identify students having difficulties using online classroom features.

Course Evaluations

You will be requested to participate in an online course evaluation near the end of the course. UNM requests that all students participate because the information they provide is helpful in improving courses for future students.

American Disabilities Act

“In accordance with University Policy 2310 and the American Disabilities Act (ADA), reasonable academic accommodations may be made for any qualified student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor’s attention, as the instructor is not legally permitted to inquire. The student is responsible for demonstrating the need for an academic adjustment by providing Student Services with complete and appropriate current documentation that establishes the disability, and the need for and appropriateness of the requested adjustment(s). However, students with disabilities are still required to adhere to all University policies,

including policies concerning conduct and performance. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow. Contact Accessibility Services at 505-661-4692 for additional information." The UNM Accessibility Resource Center's web site is at this link: <http://as2.unm.edu>

The UNM Online Accessibility Support policy statement is available here: <http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/students/accessibility-support.html>

Blackboard's Commitment to Accessibility statement is available here: <http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx>

Sexual Misconduct Policy

In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered "responsible employees" by the Department of Education (see pg 15 - <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity (oeo.unm.edu). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>

Other Policies – Student Handbook

UNM follows the UNM policies as stated in the **Pathfinder – Student Handbook**, which can be found at this link: <https://pathfinder.unm.edu/>.

9. Course Schedule

Please have readings due no later than Wednesday of each given week		Readings Due: All in "Crime and the Punished"	Assignments Due:
Week 1: Getting Started: Politics and Policy	Mon Aug 19 *Lectures X.X posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read Criminal Justice Policy (CJP) Chapter 1 *Suggested Music:	Due Wed Aug 21 *Initial Post: Discussion 1(Intro) Due Sun Aug 25 *No Quiz *Exercise 1 (Orientation) *Exercise 2 (Political Literacy) *Comment Posts
Week 2: Research and Policy	Mon Aug 26 *Lectures X.X posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 2 *Suggested Music:	Due Sun Sept 1 *Quiz 1 *Exercise 3: Hypotheses
Week 3: Policy and Policing	Mon Sept 2 *Lecture X.x posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 3 *Suggested Music:	Due Wed Sept 4 *Initial Post (Discussion 2) Due Sun Sept 8 *Comment Posts

Week 4: Problems and Policing	Mon Sept 9 *Lecture x.x posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 4 *Suggested Music:	Due Weds Sept 11 *Initial Post (Discussion 3) Due Sun Sept 15 *Comment Posts
Week 5: Exam 1	*No Lecture *No instructor comments	*Review CJP Chapters 1-4	Due Sun Sept 22 *Exam 1
Week 6: Immigration	Mon Sept 23 *Lectures x.x posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 6 *Suggested Music: "Immigrants: We Get the Job Done," By K'naan, Snow Tha Product, Riz Ahmed, Residente.	Due Wed Sept 25 *Initial Post (Discussion 4) Due Sunday Sept 29 *Quiz 2 *Comment Posts
Week 7: The Drug War	Mon Sept 30 *Lectures x.x posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 8 *Suggested Music: "Reagan," by Killer Mike.	Due Wed Oct 2 *Initial Post (Discussion 5) Due Sun Oct 6 * Exercise 3: Citation and Reference Literacy *Comment Posts
Week 8: Midterm Essay (Fall Break)	*No Lecture *No Instructor comments	* No official readings. Read materials that apply to your Midterm *Suggested Music:	Due Sun Oct 13 *Midterm Essay (Prison Cooking)
Week 9: White Collar Crime	Mon Oct 14 *Lectures x.x posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 10 *Suggested Music: "Nobody Speak," by DJ Shadow.	Due Sun Oct 20 *Quiz 3
Week 10: Gangs	Mon Oct 21 *Lectures x.x posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 11 *Suggested Music: "Fuck the Police!" by NWA.	Due Wed Oct 23 *Initial Post (Discussion 6) Due Sun Oct 27 *No Quiz *Comment Posts
Week 11: Exam 2	*No Lecture *No instructor comments	*Review CJP Chapters 6, 8, 10, and 11	Due Sun Nov 3 *Exam 2
Week 12: Gender	Mon Nov 4 *Lectures x.x posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 14 *Suggested Music:	Due Wed Nov 6 *Initial Post (Discussion 7) Due Sun Nov 10 *No Quiz *Comment Posts

Week 13: Restorative Justice	Mon Nov 11 *Lectures x.x posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 15 *Suggested Music:	Due Wed Nov 13 Due Sun Nov 17 *Quiz 4
Week 14: Thanksgiving	Mon Nov 18 *No lecture *No instructor comments		
Week 15: Rehabilitation	Mon Nov 25 *Lectures x.x posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 19 *Suggested Music: "Hurt," by Johnny Cash.	Due Wed Nov 27 *Initial Post (Discussion 8) Due Sun Dec 1 *Comment Posts
Week 16: Emerging Issues	Mon Dec 2 *Lectures x.x posted *Instructor comments posted	* Read CJP Chapter 20 *Suggested Music:	Due Wed Dec 4 *Initial Post (Discussion 9) Due Sun Dec 8 *Quiz 5 *Comment Posts
Finals Week	Mon Dec 9 *No lecture *No instructor comments *Review CJP Chapters 14, 15, 19, and 20	Final Exam Due Wednesday Dec 11 at Midnight	