

**The University of New Mexico—Valencia
Syllabus for CJUS 2130/Police & Society
Spring 2023, online**

Instructor: Linda Silber, PhD

Office hours: Office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:30-8 p.m. on Zoom and by appointment.

Cell phone: (505) 227-1136 (You can call between 9 a.m.-9 p.m. On holidays/weekends I will have a slower response.)

Email: lsilber1956@unm.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this class, we look at how law enforcement in the U.S. is structured as an institution, how it functions, and how it has changed over time. The backdrop to the course is coming to a better understanding of policing strategies, the scope of policing, police culture and socialization, as well as how policing is organized generally. We also examine police effectiveness and accountability, discretion, police deviance and ethics, and contemporary issues such as use of force, and policing special populations such as mentally ill and homeless people. We also compare our system of law enforcement with those of other developed societies. I expect people to have a point of view about what they are studying and writing about, and that's fine. It would be strange if you did not! I fully recognize that policing is a sensitive topic. As always, keep an open mind. We may also take an optional field trip, which could be in conjunction with another class. I will let you know in the next few weeks if this is a happening thing.

FYI: A cool thing is coming up soon, which is also an extra credit opportunity! On March 28 from 10-2, ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms) will be holding a workshop on our campus focused on illegal firearms. If you attend for at least one hour, and write a one half to one page response to what you found interesting about the workshop, you will receive 5 extra credit points. It's a workshop that is specifically for law enforcement, and I plan to attend myself.

Also, this is a fully online class. The class operates on a schedule with deadlines, just as with face-to-face classes. And it will go fast since it's only eight weeks! If you miss assignments, you will fall behind. 😊 If you don't have time to devote to the class, consider taking it in the regular semester since this class is essentially "double time." I also know that "life happens," especially in our Covid world. If something has thrown you off and you need an extra day or two to turn in an assignment, let me know.

I should note that there will be a 15-minute virtual check-in every week, which you will get credit for. I will let you know how I am organizing the check-in so it does not become a problem for you. The idea behind the weekly check-in is to make sure that everyone is on track, and if they are not, to help them get back on track.

I am a sociologist by training, and I have taught criminal justice classes on a regular basis since 2015. It's always fun to interact with students about the course material, which is both interesting and disturbing. YIKES!

For information and resources about Covid-19, please visit <https://www.unm.edu/coronavirus/>

If you are sick, please let me know so that we can work together so you are able to complete your assignments.

Last year, Valencia received a grant to provide non-academic assistance to all students, which might also be helpful to you. <http://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/pasos/pasos-resource-center/index.html>

Prerequisites: Students must meet prerequisites in English and mathematics by achievement of minimum placement scores on the Accuplacer or ACT or through completion of course work. However, there are no CJUS prerequisites for taking the class.

Required textbooks, in the order in which we will read them:

Buerger, Michael E., J. Liederbach, and S. P. Lab. 2022. *Policing: The Essentials*. Oxford University Press. ISBN for the paperback edition: 978-0-19-092197-2

Horace, M. and R. Harris. 2018. *The Black and the Blue: A Cop Reveals the Crimes, Racism, and Injustice in America's Law Enforcement*. ISBN for the paperback edition: 978-0316-44009-7.

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU CANNOT DO WELL IN THE CLASS WITHOUT BUYING AND READING THE TEXTBOOKS! IN FACT, I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN PASS THE CLASS. I WILL POST THE FIRST TWO CHAPTERS IN THE WEEK 1 MODULE, BUT AFTER THAT, YOU WILL NEED TO HAVE THE TEXTBOOKS.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify current practices and functions of law enforcement in the U.S.
2. Analyze and evaluate this information using sociological and criminological theories, concepts, and research methods.
3. Compare U.S. practices and theories with other law enforcement systems.
4. Communicate an understanding of policing through academic research and written assignments, as well as presentations.
5. Apply sociological perspectives on policing to your own life and experience.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Weekly check-in

Everyone participates in a weekly check-in for 15 minutes each week for 1 extra credit point per week, and two “free” points for everyone, for a total of 10 points. There will be time set aside to do this, and if this time doesn't work for you, we'll meet at another time. The purpose of the check-in is to make sure that your questions and concerns about the course, and your progress in it, are addressed.

2. Weekly papers

Everyone completes **seven out of eight of the weekly papers**, each of which should be two-three pages, typed double-spaced. **You decide which week to skip based on your schedule.** Each of the weekly papers is worth 20 points. I will post the questions for the papers on Canvas. The weekly papers are due Sunday by 11 p.m. Please note that these papers are super important for the basis of your learning as there are no tests or quizzes. If writing is something you struggle with, consider seeking help from the Writing Center.

3. Short response papers

Everyone completes **five out of six short response papers** over the course of the semester. **You decide which week to skip based on your schedule.** These papers should be one-two pages, typed double-spaced. For each assignment, you read an article or view media that is connected to the topic we're studying, then you'll write a short response to it. The response papers are due Wednesday by 11 p.m. Each short response paper is worth 15 points.

4. **Small group participation takes place** in weeks 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. You meet virtually with your small group to discuss questions from the weekly paper for about 30 minutes. You can meet anytime during the week, but it must be in a virtual format, not emailing each other back and forth. Your group can also meet in person if you like. Each group emails me ONE document that is about 200 words in which you summarize the group discussion. Also, attach a photo of the group so that I can see who participated in the discussion. The email is due Sunday night by 11 p.m. The group participation is worth 10 points per week. It's also useful as it's a way to meet and get to know other people in the class. You will be assigned to a particular small group for the semester.

5. Reflection paper

Everyone completes one reflection paper in which they apply a particular topic that we are studying to their own life. The paper should be four-five pages, typed double-spaced. Please note that this is not a research paper; it is an application paper in which you can choose to write about anything that we are studying BUT you must apply the relevant information to your own life. This paper is worth 50 points. I will post reflection paper samples on our website as well as guidelines. The draft of the paper is due May 8 by 11 p.m. while the final paper is due May 13 by 11 p.m. I will look at any draft, regardless of its condition, as I think it's always useful to get feedback.

6. Formatting:

All writing assignments must be typewritten, double-spaced in a 12 pt. Times New Roman font. **Also, papers must be submitted to Canvas as either a Word.doc or .pdf. Google Docs are not compatible.**

GRADING

Grading will generally conform to the following:

- 140 POINTS WEEKLY PAPERS (7 @ 20 points each)
- 75 POINTS SHORT RESPONSE PAPERS (5 @ 15 points each)
- 50 POINTS SMALL GROUP PARTICIPATION (5 @ 10 points each)
- 10 POINTS DRAFT OF THE REFLECTION PAPER
- 50 POINTS REFLECTION PAPER
- 10 POINTS WEEKLY CHECK-IN (8 @ 1 point each with 2 free points for everyone)
- 5 POINTS SURVEY FOR THE WEEKLY CHECK-IN
- 5 POINTS SYLLABUS QUIZ
- 5 POINTS INTRODUCTION
- 5 POINTS MID-SEMESTER SURVEY
- 5 POINTS STUDENT EVALUATION

360 POINTS TOTAL

Grade	Percent	Points
A	100-90	360-324
B	89-80	323-288
C	79-70	287-252
D	69-60	251-216
F	59% and below	215 and below

Attendance and Participation Policy

• Attendance and overall participation will be measured by how often (and whether) you are on Canvas. I want to stress that everyone submits assignments on a schedule; it is not a class in which you can turn in all the work in the last week. That would be an impossible workload for anyone! Also, I totally understand that “life happens” from time to time. Send me an email if you need a one or two day extension. However, this should not be something that happen on a weekly basis.

• **Students who miss the first week of class, which includes a paper assignment and a weekly check-in, may be dropped from the course. If you fall behind it can be hard to catch up since the course is only 8 weeks! YIKES!!!!**

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 papers or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others (plagiarism); and hindering the academic work of other students.

Please do not to leave your computer or other devices 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 any connected devices.

Course Communications

Please communicate with me using your UNM email address rather than other email addresses. My email address is lsilber1956@unm.edu. You can expect a response from me within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends to course messages, email messages, or phone calls. When you receive a communication from me, you should attempt to reply within 48 hours. You can also call me on my cell phone at (505) 227-1136 between 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. any day of the week but I don’t text. On weekends and holidays, I will get back to you within 48 hours, and during the week I will get back to you within 24 hours. I have noticed that Canvas email can be slow. If you want a quicker response from me, email directly to my UNM email address at lsilber1956@unm.edu.

My goal is to grade your work within several days so that you get feedback on a regular basis. I may sometimes fall short of this goal, but it is important to me so I will try my best. Generally, I don’t email about grades, but I am happy to talk about them virtually or over the phone.

Each week I will send out an email to let you know what’s up for the week, and I will also post it in the weekly module. I will also post a short video. Please be aware that you will only be able to see one module (week) at a time. I can’t open all the modules because I am still working on them. 😊

Technical Needs Computer Requirements

Since this course is taught online, frequent use of a computer is required. You must have access to a computer and to the internet, and you 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 involve audio and video clips. You can access broadband networks at many libraries and on

campus. Some minimum hardware and software are required to complete the course. You may find this link helpful: <http://it.unm.edu/support/>

UNM Computer Account Policy

You are required to have a UNM campus account (NetID). You will use this account to access this course via Canvas, which is the learning management system for UNM. 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 Canvas is the same as your login for your UNM Main Campus account. For this class, you should check your UNM email (LoboMail) periodically, as this is the main communication method used by the university. You can access your email via MyUNM by clicking on the “MyUNM” link on either 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.

Support and Resources for Canvas, our learning management system

Here is how you access Canvas: <https://canvasinfo.unm.edu/students/index.html>. Note that Canvas 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. If you need support, use this link: <https://canvasinfo.unm.edu/support/index.html>. Also, here is a link to UNM’s policy on netiquette: <https://canvasinfo.unm.edu/students/intro-to-canvas/netiquette.html>, which refers to polite behavior while interacting with others either in virtual discussions or discussion boards.

Technical Support

If you are having technical problems with Canvas, you can contact free technical support in one of the following ways: ▪ Phone: 505-277-0857, Canvas support on Main Campus. ▪ UNM-Valencia Technology Support: <https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/technology-support/contact-ts.html>. You can also call Technology Support at (505) 925-8911 Monday through Friday from 8-5. Please don’t contact me about tech issues since I won’t know the answer to your questions.

Academic Support.

The Library at UNM has many electronic databases that you may find useful. You can link to the UNM-Valencia Library here: <http://valencia.unm.edu/library/index.html>. For more information about accessibility at UNM-Valencia, go to <https://valencia.unm.edu/about/accessibility.html>.

The Writing Center will work with you online or in person. <https://valencia.unm.edu/campus-resources/title-v-next-generation/writing-center.html>.

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. I have access to records of when you logged in, what course materials you opened during each session, and when you submitted coursework. This data allows me to evaluate class participation and to help me identify students having difficulties using online classroom features.

Course Evaluations and Surveys

UNM requests that all students participate in course evaluations because the information they provide is helpful in improving courses for future students. In the past, students in online classes have basically ignored the course evaluations, which makes it hard to know what is working well and what is not. MEH 😞--this makes me sad. Although I know they are a pain, surveys and evaluations are useful to me since I always want to improve. Also, there is a mid-semester survey, for which you'll get credit. Thank you!

Accommodations

I can make appropriate accommodations that will support you in this class by collaborating with you and the Accessibility Resource Center (<https://arc.unm.edu/>). It is important that you take the initiative to inform me of your accommodations needs, as I am not legally permitted to inquire. In accordance with University Policy 2310 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow.

Credit Hour Statement

This is a three credit-hour course delivered online over eight weeks during the spring 2023 semester. Please plan for a minimum of 12 hours per week to learn course materials and complete assignments. Support: Center for Academic Program Support (CAPS). Many students have found that time management workshops can help them meet their goals (consult CAPS website under "services").

Title IX

In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered "responsible employees." 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/universitypolicies/2000/2740.html>

Respectful and Responsible Learning: We all have shared responsibility for ensuring that learning occurs safely and equitably. UNM has important policies to preserve and protect the academic community, especially policies on student grievances (Faculty Handbook D175 and D176), academic dishonesty (FH D100), and respectful campus (FH CO9). TUNM follows the UNM policies as stated in the Pathfinder – Student Handbook, which can be found at this link: <http://pathfinder.unm.edu/>.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS/READINGS

WEEK 1 March 20-26

Introduction to the course and one another
Chapters 1 & 2 in *Policing: The Essentials*

Paper 1 due March 26 by 11 p.m.

Introduction due March 22 by 11 p.m.

Syllabus quiz due March 24 by 11 p.m.

Survey response due 3/22 by 11 p.m.

Weekly check-in

WEEK 2 March 27-April 2

Chapters 3 & 4 in *Policing*

Paper 2 due April 2 by 11 p.m.

Short response week 2 due March 29 by 11 p.m.

Virtual small group participation due April 2 by 11 p.m.

Weekly check-in

WEEK 3 April 3-9

Chapters 5 & 6 in *Policing*

Paper 3 due April 8 by 11 p.m.

Short response week 3 due April 5 by 11 p.m.

Virtual small group participation due April 8 by 11 p.m.

Weekly check-in

YO PEOPLE! I KNOW THAT APRIL 9 IS EASTER SUNDAY, SO I AM MAKING THE PAPER AND SMALL GROUP ASSIGNMENT DUE ON APRIL 8. BUT IF YOU WANT TO TURN THEM IN ON THE 9TH, IT'S FINE WITH ME!

WEEK 4 April 10-16

Chapters 7 & 8 in *Policing*

Paper 4 due April 16 by 11 p.m.

Short response week 4 due April 12 by 11 p.m.

Virtual small group participation due April 16 by 11 p.m.

Weekly check-in

WEEK 5 April 17-23

Introduction and pages 1-49 in *The Black and The Blue*

Paper 5 due April 23 by 11 p.m.

Short response week 5 due April 19 by 11 p.m.

Virtual small group participation due April 23 by 11 p.m.

Weekly check-in

WEEK 6 April 24-30

Pages 50-93 in *The Black and The Blue*

Paper 6 due April 30 by 11 p.m.

Short response week 6 due April 26 by 11 p.m.

Virtual small group participation due April 30 by 11 p.m.

Weekly check-in

WEEK 7 May 1-7 **THE END IS NEAR** ☺

Pages 94-142 in *The Black and The Blue*

Paper 7 due May 7 by 11 p.m.

Short response week 7 due May 3 by 11 p.m.

Weekly check-in

WEEK 8 May 8-13 **THE END** ☺

Pages 143-194 in *The Black and The Blue*

Paper 8 due May 12 by 11 p.m.

Reflection paper DRAFT due May 8 by 11 p.m.

Reflection paper FINAL due May 13 by 11 p.m.

Weekly check-in

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU SUCCEED

VETERAN SUPPORT SERVICES: For assistance, please contact Frances Duran (Campus Branch Registrar) at 505-925-8585 or fduran@unm.edu

SUPPORT SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DIFFERENT NEEDS: In accordance with University Policy 2310 and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if you are a student with documented physical or learning disability, please contact me as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. If you have require accommodation in the classroom or other academic setting, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of Equal Access Services at 505-925-8560.

Citizenship and/or Immigration Status: I welcome all students in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status. I respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. UNM has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community. (<http://undocumented.unm.edu/>)

Course/Campus Resources:

Campus Police: (505) 925-8570

Career Services: (505) 925-8840

Technology Support: (505) 925-8911

Testing Center: (505) 925-8560

The Learning Center: (505) 925-8907

The Library: (505) 925-8990

The Wellness Center: (505) 925-8830

The Writing Center: (505) 925-8548

Get LoboGuardian & be safe: <https://loboguardian.unm.edu/>

Stressed? Call Agora Crisis Center at 505-277-3013 or 855-505-4505

