The University of New Mexico—Valencia
Syllabus for CJUS 2130/Police & Society
Spring 2024, online
Instructor: Linda Silber, PhD
Office hours: Office hours are Wednesday 7:00-8 p.m. on Zoom and by appointment.
Cell phone: (505) 227-1136 (You can call between 9 a.m.-9 p.m. any day of the week BUT I don't text. 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, police misconduct, 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 recognize that policing is a sensitive topic. As always, keep an open mind.

FYI: 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." If something has thrown you off and you need an extra day or two to turn in an assignment, let me know by the due date. I am happy to accommodate late work once or twice a semester.

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 don't open all the modules because I am still working on them.

There will be a 15-minute virtual check-in every week, which you will get credit for. It is OPTIONAL but helpful! There will be several check-ins during the week, based on which days/times are best for the class, and I will let you know when they will be held after I survey the class in the first week. The idea behind the optional weekly check-in is 1) get to know other students; and 2) to clarify assignments. Everyone attends only one **check-in per week. Also, you can do a check-in over the phone or via email if the virtual meetings won't work.**

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!

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 FOUR CHAPTERS OF POLICING: THE ESSENTIALS IN THE WEEK 1 MODULE, BUT AFTER THAT, YOU NEED THE TEXTBOOKS.

*Also, I have placed both books on reserve in the UNM Valencia library, so that's an option if you are desperate. *

 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**
   Participate in an OPTIONAL weekly check-in for 15 minutes each week for 2 extra credit points per week. The purpose of the check-in is to make sure that your questions and concerns about the course are addressed, and to help build community in the class. ***This will count as extra credit, so you will not see any points in Canvas, and I will add the points manually each week.***

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 11:59 p.m. Please note that these papers are super important for the basis of your learning as there are no tests or quizzes. I will ask every student to meet with a Writing Center tutor for the first paper.

3. **Short response papers**
   Everyone completes **four out of five 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 several articles or view media that are connected to the topic we're studying, then write a short 1–2 page response to it. There are "soft" and "hard" deadlines. I suggest turning in the response papers Wednesday by 11:59 p.m. so that all the work doesn't pile on and

become overwhelming, but I required that it be turned in Sunday by 11:59 p.m. Each short response paper is worth 15 points.

4. **Discussion board**
   Students participate in four out of five online discussion boards in weeks 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. **You decide which week to skip.** The discussion board is an opportunity to discuss the weekly paper questions with others and get their ideas and insights. The initial post should be between 100-200 words, and explores two questions from the weekly paper that you find the most interesting. Each student also responds to two other student posts. The responses to other students should be between 50-100 words in length. The initial post is due Saturday by 11:59 p.m., and the responses are due Sunday by 11:59 p.m. **PLEASE NOTE: IF THE POSTS TO OTHER STUDENTS ARE LATE, YOU WON'T GET CREDIT SINCE THE POINT IS TO INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER.** The discussion boards are worth a possible total of 20 points each.

5. **Reflection paper**
   Everyone completes a reflection paper in which they apply a particular aspect of law enforcement to their own life, or the life of someone you are close to and know well. 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 write about anything that we are studying on the topic of law enforcement BUT you must apply the relevant information to your own life, or the life of someone you are close to and know well. This paper is worth 50 points. There are reflection paper samples on our website as well as guidelines. The draft of the paper is due May 6 by 11:59 p.m. while the final paper is due May 11 by 11:59 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:

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140 POINTS   WEEKLY PAPERS (7 @ 20 points each)
 60 POINTS   SHORT RESPONSE PAPERS (4 @ 15 points each)
 80 POINTS   DISCUSSION BOARD (4 @ 20 points each)
 10 POINTS   DRAFT OF THE REFLECTION PAPER
 50 POINTS   REFLECTION PAPER
  5 POINTS   SURVEY FOR THE WEEKLY CHECK-IN
  5 POINTS   SYLLABUS QUIZ
  5 POINTS   INTRODUCTION
  5 POINTS   MID-SEMESTER SURVEY
  5 POINTS   STUDENT EVALUATION

365 POINTS  TOTAL
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Grade	Percent	Points
A	100-90	365-329
B	89-80	328-292
C	79-70	291-256
D	69-60	255-219
F	59% and below	218 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 two weeks of class, which includes several assignments per week, 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!!!!**

Late Work Policy (thanks to Fabiola Torres)

You should plan to submit your work on time, but if you are unable, late work will be accepted with a penalty of 10% deduction per day. However, if you think you MAY have a problem getting an assignment in, contact me no later than the due date to let me know, and then we can talk about a solution. In general, I have no problem with people submitting work up to two days late once or twice over the semester IF they notify me no later than the due date. I know that "life happens" to all of us from time to time!

Academic Integrity

Having academic integrity is paramount to your success in any class. Plagiarism or cheating is not tolerated. Any instance of this will result in a grade of zero for that assignment. Here is the link to the UNM Academic Dishonesty Policy:

https://policy.unm.edu/regents-policies/section-4/4-8.html. The policy states:

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or who otherwise fails to meet the expected standards. Any student 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 is defined as:

"Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

Please note that the AI Policy for the class is located on the class website, and you should read it!

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 in a Zoom meeting or over the phone.

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 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 and won't be able to help you.

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/accessiblity.html.
UNM-Valencia Learning Commons (Tutoring)

Tutoring is available to you in math, science, writing, and other subjects through the Learning Commons: Learning and STEM Centers and Writing Center. In-person tutoring is in these centers in the LRC (the building that also has the library). Tutoring in Zoom and, for writing, through email, is also available. Making use of tutoring is a fantastic way to use your resources and set yourself up to learn deeply and well in your courses. To schedule an appointment, please go to: Learning Commons Bookings

If you are making an email appointment with the Writing Center, email your draft to tutor@unm.edu after you fill out the form above. If you have difficulty with the scheduling link above, would like an appointment in a subject not listed at that link, or have a question, email tutor@unm.edu. You'll get answers during business hours Monday through Friday. The webpage, with more details about available hours, is here: Learning Commons: Tutoring Services webpage.

Resources to support study skills and time management are available through Student Learning Support at the Center for Teaching and Learning.

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. 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. 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.

To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact Accessibility Resource Center at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone at 505-277-3506. The UNM-Valencia Equal Access Services (Sarah Clawson, Coordinator), at (505) 925-8840 or by email at sjclawson@unm.edu.

Credit Hour Statement
This is a three credit-hour course delivered online over eight weeks during the spring 2024 semester. Please plan for a minimum of 12 hours per week to learn course materials and complete assignments.

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:
Our classroom and our university should always be spaces of mutual respect, kindness, and support, without fear of discrimination, harassment, or violence. Should you ever need assistance or have concerns about incidents that violate this principle, please access the resources available to you on campus. Please note that, because UNM faculty, TAs, and GAs are considered "responsible employees" any disclosure of gender discrimination (including sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and sexual violence) made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported by that faculty member, TA, or GA to the university's Title IX coordinator. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct and reporting, please see: https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS/READINGS

WEEK 1 March 18-24
Introduction to the course and one another
Chapters 1 & 2 in *Policing: The Essentials*
Survey response due March 20 by 11:59 p.m.
Paper 1 due March 24 by 11:59 p.m.
Introduction due March 24 by 11:59 p.m.
Syllabus quiz due March 24 by 11:59 p.m.
Weekly check-in

WEEK 2 March 25-March 31
Chapters 3 & 4 in *Policing*
Paper 2 due March 31 by 11:59 p.m.
**Short response week 2 soft deadline March 27 by 11:59 p.m. Hard deadline March 31 by 11:59
p.m.**
**Discussion board: initial post due March 30 by 11:59 p.m. Responses to two other students due
March 31 by 11:59 p.m.**
Weekly check-in

**<u>Hi People! I know that March 31 is Easter Sunday. If you want to turn in your assignments one day later
(or earlier), it's fine with me. I will not mark them late if you turn them in a day late even though the
calendar specifies March 31.</u>**

WEEK 3 April 1-7
Chapters 5 & 6 in *Policing*
Paper 3 due April 7 by 11:59 p.m.
Short response week 3 soft deadline April 3 by 11:59 p.m. Hard deadline April 7 by 11:59 p.m.
**Discussion board: initial post due April 6 by 11:59 p.m. Responses to two other students due April
7 by 11:59 p.m.**
Weekly check-in

WEEK 4 April 8-14
Chapters 7 & 8 in *Policing*
Paper 4 due April 14 by 11:59 p.m.
Short response week 4 soft deadline April 10 by 11:59 p.m. Hard deadline April 14 by 11:59 p.m.
**Discussion board: initial post due April 13 by 11:59 p.m. Responses to two other students due
April 14 by 11:59 p.m.**
Weekly check-in
Mid-semester survey due April 14 by 11:59 p.m.

WEEK 5 April 15-21
Introduction and pages 1-49 in *The Black and The Blue*
Paper 5 due April 1 by 11:59 p.m.
Short response week 5 soft deadline April 17 by 11:59 p.m. Hard deadline April 21 by 11:59 p.m.
**Discussion board: initial post due April 20 by 11:59 p.m. Responses to two other students due
April 21 by 11:59 p.m.**
Weekly check-in

WEEK 6 April 22-28
Pages 50-93 in *The Black and The Blue*
Paper 6 due April 28 by 11:59 p.m.
Short response week 6 soft deadline April 24 by 11:59 p.m. Hard deadline April 28 by 11:59 p.m.
**Discussion board: initial post due April 27 by 11:59 p.m. Responses to two other students due
April 28 by 11:59 p.m.**
Weekly check-in