CRIJ 2328:  
Police Systems and Practices

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randolph.hicks@angelo.edu

Course Description/Overview

This course provides an overview and analysis of the American system of law enforcement, examining the origins, development, roles, and operations of policing in a modern democratic society. Students will develop a detailed understanding of the issues involved in policing a democratic society and will examine critical issues and new advances in law enforcement.

Required Materials

The Police in America: An Introduction (8th ed.),  
McGraw-Hill. Author, Year.

The textbook and the instructional materials for this course are designed to help the student understand the courts system and criminal procedure in the United States. The included Powerpoint and lecture note help summarize the material from each chapter. All reading material referenced in this course is required.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Technical skills and computer resources required for this course

As with all online courses, students must be able to operate a computer and have the necessary technical skills to navigate around a web page. Additional technical skills are not a prerequisite for this course, however your computer must meet certain minimum requirements to operate Blackboard.

You must have an adequate computer and internet connectivity in order to participate fully in the class. A table describing supported browsers can be viewed on Blackboard's support site.

Time spent on this course

Students can expect to spend a minimum of 6 hours per week to complete all the readings and assignments. The lessons themselves take as long as the student will require to read the materials and watch or listen to media presentations.

Course Objectives
When you finish this course you should be able to:

1. State the nature of the police profession.
2. Describe police organization and function.
3. Compare and contrast the various styles of policing which are practiced.
4. Describe police discretion and recognize the role of police ethics.
5. Discuss the various methods used by police, such as patrol, community-oriented policing and problem solving, and investigation.
6. Discuss a variety of special problems and challenges faced by police

**Grading Policies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lesson Quizzes</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>The instructor requires students to take a set of lesson-based fundamental quizzes (all multiple choice questions) at the conclusion of the lecture by 11:59 pm for Module 1-3 and 5-7 on Sunday and Wednesday for Module 4 and 8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>By Sunday 11:59 pm of Week 4, the students will be required to complete this 60 minute midterm exam. The total of 40 questions will cover the materials discussed over the course. The exam will have two sections included: (1) 30-item multiple choice section; and (2) 10-item true/false section.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>By Friday 11:59 pm of Week 8, the students will be required to complete this 60 minute midterm exam. The total of 40 questions will cover the materials discussed over the course. The exam will have two sections included: (1) 30-item multiple choice section; and (2) 10-item true/false section.</td>
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Grades
Angelo State University employs a letter grade system. Grades in this course are determined on a percentage scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Cumulative Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 - 100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80 - 89 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 - 79 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 - 69 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 % and below</td>
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</table>

Final Exam
The comprehensive final exam will be available during the last week of class and will be due on Thursday, week 8.

Course Organization:

Module 1: Ch 1. Police and Society
         • 1st Lesson Test due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, week 1

Module 2: Ch 2. The History of the American Police
         Ch 3. The Contemporary Law Enforcement Industry
         • 2nd Lesson Test due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, week 2.

Module 3: Ch 5. Police Officer I: Entering Police Work Ch 6. Police Officer II: On the Job
         • 3rd Lesson Test due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, week 3.

Module 4: Ch 7. Patrol: The Backbone of Policing
         • 4th Lesson Test due by 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, week 4

Midterm Exam
Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7
The midterm exam will be posted when the course opens. Due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, week 4

Module 5: Ch 8. Peacekeeping and Order Maintenance
         • 5th Lesson Test due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, week 5.

Module 6: Ch 9. The Police and Crime
         • 6th Lesson Test due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, week 6.
Module 7: Ch 10. Innovations in Police Strategies  
Ch 11. Police Discretion  
• 7th Lesson Test due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, week 7.

Module 8: Ch 12. Legitimacy and Community Relations  
• 8th Lesson Test due by 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday,

Final Exam: Chapters 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12  
The final exam will be posted when the course opens.  
Due by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, week 8

Administration

Feedback

As the instructor of this course, it is my goal to respond to all communication within three working day. For a more immediate response telephone me at 325-2771422.

This is an online course and attendance is not taken. However, failure to complete scheduled requirements, to communicate or respond to e-mails from the professor, is an indication something is wrong. Therefore, we have made both a significant component of the course grade as an enticement to keep you engaged in the learning process. Failure to participate or communicate on the part of a student will result in an appropriate reduction of your grade and possibly in your failure of this course.

Late Work

Late work creates a serious problem; telephone the instructor.

Incompletes

The University policy on grades of "Incomplete" is that the deficiency in performance must be addressed satisfactorily by the end of the next long (16 week) semester or the grade automatically becomes a "F". Grades of "Incomplete" will only be awarded to students who have demonstrated sufficient progress to earn the opportunity to complete the course outside of the normal course duration. The award of an "Incomplete" will only be made in rare circumstances, with the concurrence of the student and the professor on what specific tasks remain and when they are due for the grade to be changed to a higher grade. The determination of the need to award an "Incomplete" is entirely up to the professor's personal judgment.

Add/Drop dates

Students may add this course up to Friday of the first week of class.

Students may drop this course up to the 4th week of class as specified by the University Administration.

University Policies

Academic Integrity

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with the university Academic Honor Code and the ASU Student Handbook.
Accommodations for Disability

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by emailing studentservices@angelo.edu, or by contacting:

Office of Student Affairs
University Center, Suite 112
325-942-2047 Office
325-942-2211 FAX

Student absence for religious holidays

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.