



COMPARATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CRMJ 4280/5280 (3 credit hours)

Fall 2020 (Classroom/On-line)(AG 4041) (MWF 2:30 - 3:20 pm)

Professor: Curtis R. Blakely, Ph.D.
Email: curt.blakely@uwyo.edu

Office: A & S 402
Office Hours: Monday 9:00 - 10:30 am
Tuesday 2:45 - 4:30 pm (and by appointment)

PREREQUISITES

CRMJ 1001 (Introduction to Criminal Justice), CRMJ 2210 (Criminal Law), and CRMJ/SOC 2400 (Criminology). Students must have junior standing to enroll in this course.

MY PURPOSE

My purpose is to help cultivate your creative, innovative and critical thinking skills. I am also here to help prepare you for future professional and educational endeavors.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will compare the incidence, trends, control, treatment and prevention of crime across nations using mainstream criminological theories. We will also examine criminal justice systems from an international perspective to determine “what works” - we will then apply these lessons to the American system. We will also explore forms of international cooperation and the challenges in the detection and control of transnational crimes.

COURSE OBJECTIVES / STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing this course, students will be able to:

describe crime patterns in different regions/countries around the world,

identify social, economic, political, and cultural factors that relate to global criminal justice policies and practices,

discuss the various typologies used to compare criminal justice systems, and

describe the relationships between governments and citizens in relation to crime prevention, detection and response.

The most effective way to increase our understanding of criminal justice systems is to approach our analyses from a critical perspective. It is important, therefore, that you demonstrate a mastery of this material as evidenced in your ability to think in a creative, innovative and critical fashion. It is also necessary that you communicate this mastery both verbally and in writing. A mastery of course material is essential for success in your professional and educational careers.

ON-LINE PLATFORM

All students (whether on campus or on-line) must be familiar with our course webpage on WyoCourses (<http://www.uwyo.edu/wyocourses/>). This platform houses the syllabus, assignments, discussion posts, exams and your scores (if applicable). Videos, power-points, and additional readings may be made available via the WyoCourses Platform (when this course moves to an on-line format).

Students must have access to a computer, MS Office, and internet connectivity that will allow them to complete this course. Students should check the course site and their UW email daily. Lack of access to needed technology is not an excuse for late and/or incomplete work.

Each student should behave in a professional manner befitting an intellectual environment. Disrespect, discourtesy and/or otherwise demeaning behaviors are inappropriate and will not be tolerated.

FORMAT OF WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Written assignments must meet the following requirements: 12 pt. Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins, and “Normal” style. Writing assignments must be of the specified length. When citations are used, they may be in APA or MLA format (or another format provided consistency is maintained).

REQUIRED READINGS

There is one required book for this course. All additional readings (if any) will be provided by the instructor. The book may be purchased/rented at the University Book Store or on-line.

Comparative Criminal Justice Systems (5th e) by Dammer and Albanese (ISBN-10: 128506786X or ISBN-13: 978-1285067865).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Preparation for and participation in class is important for student progress. Students are expected to attend, be on time, and be prepared for class.

Attendance will be taken randomly via a student sign-in sheet. We will ascribe to the university policy pertaining to attendance. If a student’s attendance becomes problematic, he/she will be notified. If that does not remedy the situation, notifications will be sent to the Department Chair and/or the student’s

academic advisor. Generally, an absence is not excused unless it is related to a legitimate health issue, is military/work related, is due to a school sponsored activity, is family related, or is death related (documentation may be requested). If a student “signs in” then leaves before the class ends, he/she may be considered absent (unless previous permission is obtained).

There will be three tests. Tests may be comprised of matching, short answer, fill-in the blank and essay questions. A review session (to prepare students for the exam) may be held during the class meeting preceding each exam (when possible). Tests will be based largely on lecture/class discussion. The first exam is worth 150 points with each of the two remaining exams being worth 250 pts. The total number of points possible via tests is 650 points (65% of your grade). Once an exam is graded, it will be returned for student review during the next class meeting (when possible). Makeup exams will not be given unless previous permission is obtained, or an emergency exists. I reserve the right to make Test 3 (i.e. the final exam) optional.

There may be 2 graded assignments, each worth 50 pts, for a total of 100 points or 10% of your grade. If these tasks are not assigned (due to time constraints), each student will be awarded full credit.

There will be a writing project that will account for the remaining 250 points or 25% of your grade. This will consist of a paper that will be 4-6 pages in length (8-10 pages if you are taking this course for graduate credit).

The total possible number of points a student can earn in this course is 1000 (650 points via tests, 100 points via assignments and 250 points via term paper). Of course, the total points potentially earned by exam may change if the Test 3 option mentioned above is implemented.

The grading scale is as follows:

- A** = 100 - 90%
- B** = 89 - 80%
- C** = 79 - 70%
- D** = 69 - 60%
- F** = 59% and below



Test #1	150 points
Test #2	250 points
Test #3	250 points
Writing Assignment #1	50 points
Writing Assignment #2	50 points
Paper	250 points
Total	1000 points

Throughout the semester, students may also be given non-graded writing assignments that must be completed. While these assignments will not count toward your final course grade, they are designed to prepare you for the examinations, may be used for attendance purposes and to help you become a more proficient writer. They may also count as extra credit at my discretion.

I reserve the right to raise (at my discretion) a student's final grade if the student has made substantial effort and has demonstrated continuous improvement in this course. I also reserve the right to modify course material, the way they are delivered, or other procedures provided students are given adequate notice.

If you miss class, it is your responsibility to get notes from a classmate.

COURSE GRADE GUIDANCE

With written assignments, it may be helpful to think of your work as being graded along a continuum, ranging from superior to unacceptable. Below are broad comments that provide insight into the grading of written work in this course. Always remember that your job as a writer/communicator is to make your audience's task of understanding your message as effortless as possible!

- A Range** **Superior Work.** Demonstrates exceptional ability to creatively and appropriately organize and express ideas. Provides a comprehensive and thoughtful response to all assigned questions/tasks. Lacks "distractions" that include problems with word use, sentence structure and punctuation.

- B Range** **Excellent Work.** Demonstrates a high level of organization and expression of ideas exceeding that which is found in "C" level work but is not as comprehensive, thoughtful, or is expressed as fully or that reaches the same level of quality as do those responses that warrant an "A" grade.

- C Range** **Fair Work.** Demonstrates moderate skill in organization and expression of ideas. Provides an acceptable response to all assigned questions/tasks but is not of the same quality as "B" level work since it lacks a comprehensive presentation, lacks full or precise thought-development, or reflects issues with word use, sentence structure and/or punctuation.

- D/F Range** **Marginal & Unacceptable Work.** Demonstrates little to no ability to organize and express ideas in an understandable manner. Provides an incomplete response to some or all the assigned questions/tasks, may have substantial problems with thought-development, word use, sentence structure and/or punctuation. These responses fall below expectation.

MISSED ASSIGNMENTS / EXAMS

It is highly recommended that students take the exam on the announced date. If an emergency arises, please contact me immediately. If prior arrangements cannot be made, notify me as soon as possible. All missed assignments/exams must be submitted/completed within 7 days (of the original assignments/test date) unless other arrangements have been made with the instructor.

CLASS RULES / ENVIRONMENT

Each student should remain silent during class unless conversing with the instructor or participating in a class project/discussion. Talk occurring between students is distracting.

Only registered students should attend course meetings unless previous permission is obtained.

Please silence all telephones prior to class. Tape recording is not allowed unless permission is given by the instructor.

I am not allowed to release grades by email/phone – so if you want to know your progress, come see me!

Any student that causes a willful disruption in class may be removed/disciplined per policy.

ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a physical, sensory, cognitive, or psychological disability and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. I highly recommend that you register with, and provide documentation of your disability to, Disability Support Services (DSS), 128 Knight Hall. You can reach them at: 307.766.3073 (also TTY).

DIVERSITY / NON-DISCRIMINATION

The University of Wyoming values an educational environment that is diverse, equitable and inclusive. The diversity that students and faculty bring to class, including age, country of origin, culture, disability, economic class, ethnicity, gender identity, immigration status, linguistic, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, worldview, and other diversities are valued, respected, and considered a resource for learning.

Civil discourse is an essential aspect of the search for and transmission of knowledge. Words and actions that promote and encourage self-worth, respect and dignity are consistent with the University's mission. Conversely, words or actions that reflect prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination are antithetical to the mission of the University. Every effort within the context and protection of the First Amendment will be expended to eliminate such conduct from the campus community. Teaching students to live productively in a multicultural/multiethnic society is a process that must take place within a constructive and harmonious environment. It is the obligation of the faculty, staff, students and the administration of the University of Wyoming to provide this environment.

INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL DUTY TO REPORT UNDER TITLE IX

The University of Wyoming is committed to maintaining a respectful, safe, and non-threatening environment for its faculty, staff, students, contractors, and visitors and will address and resolve all complaints of sexual misconduct.

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 protects individuals from discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities which receive federal financial assistance. Under Title IX, the

University has a responsibility to take immediate and effective steps to respond to sexual violence and/or sexual harassment. Title IX mandatory reporters are required to report any allegation of sexual misconduct. Mandatory reporters at the University include every administrative officer, dean, director, department head, supervisor, and all instructional personnel.

Questions concerning Title IX should be referred to UW's Title IX Coordinator, Jim Osborn (307.766.5200 or report-it@uwyo.edu) or the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html>).

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Intellectual honesty is a cornerstone of all academic work and is a fundamental principle in each student's intellectual development. Therefore, the faculty and administration view any form of academic dishonesty as a serious matter. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities are acts which erode the University's educational and research roles and lessen the learning experience for both the perpetrator and for the entire campus community. The University of Wyoming expects students to understand and subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work. UW Regulation 6-802 defines academic dishonesty as: "An action attempted or performed that misrepresents one's involvement in an academic endeavor in any way or assists another student in misrepresenting his or her involvement in an academic endeavor. Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, cheating, fraud, violation of standards, multiple submissions, interference or obstruction, and/or complicity." All students should read the University's *Code of Conduct* (<http://www.uwyo.edu/dos/conduct/>). Specific information regarding Academic Honesty is available at the Dean of Students website (<http://www.uwyo.edu/dos/>) and in "UW Regulation 6-802" (http://www.uwyo.edu/generalcounsel/_files/docs/uw-reg-6-802.pdf). Academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade for an assignment/exam or for the course.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

This course is challenging and will require dedicated effort. To provide insight into successful scholarly behavior, here are some tips.

Reading: Students should actively read all assigned material as instructed.

Time Management: Students should prepare/study between six (6) and nine (9) hours each week to successfully complete this course. Students will also benefit from reviewing course material daily rather than waiting until exam time. Students who spend more time with the material increase their ability to retain information. When studying, students should draw on the readings, their notes, and discussions.

Additional Resources: We here at the University want students to succeed - as such, there are resources dedicated toward this end (<http://www.uwyo.edu/studentaff/step/>). Students are encouraged to seek out those University resources (or others) that best fit their needs. A few of these resources include:

Counseling Center: uccstaff@uwyo.edu, 766-2187, 766-8989 (after hours), 341 Knight Hall, www.uwyo.edu/ucc

Academic Affairs: 766-4286, 312 Old Main, www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs

Dean of Students: dos@uwyo.edu, 766-3296, 128 Knight Hall, www.uwyo.edu/dos

UW Police: uwpd@uwyo.edu, 766-5179, 1426 E Flint St, www.uwyo.edu/uwpd

Additional RESOURCES



COURSE SCHEDULE

Aug. 24 - 28 Chapter 1

Introduction

Aug. 31 - Sep. 4 Chapter 2

Measuring and Comparing Crime in and across Nations

Sep. 7 - 11 Chapter 3

Families of Law

Test #1 - Review

Sep. 14 - 18 Chapter 4

Six Model Nations

Tentative - Test #1

Sep. 21 - 25 Chapter 5

Law Enforcement: Functions, Organization, and Current Issues

Sep. 28 - Oct. 2 Chapter 6

Criminal Procedure

Oct. 5 - 9 Chapter 7

The Courts and Legal Professionals

Oct. 12 - 16 Chapter 8

After Conviction: The Sentencing Process

Oct. 19 - 23	Chapter 9 After Conviction: The Problem of Prison Test #2 - Review
Oct. 26 - 30	Chapter 10 Terrorism Tentative - Test #2
Nov. 2 - 6	Chapter 11 Transnational Organized Crime
Nov. 9 - 13	Chapter 11 Cont.
Nov. 16 - 20	Chapter 12 Juvenile Justice an International Perspective
Nov. 23 - 27	THANKSGIVING BREAK
Nov. 30 - Dec. 4	ON-LINE Chapter 12 Cont. and Course Wrap-Up
Dec. 14 - 18	ON-LINE FINAL EXAM DATE - TBA

COVID – 19 NOTIFICATION

COVID-19 POLICIES

During this pandemic, you must abide by all UW policies and public health rules put forward by the City of Laramie, the University of Wyoming and the State of Wyoming.

Wear face coverings when you are with others, stay the required physical distance apart from others, take required COVID tests for campus presence and travel, and report your health status in COVID app daily. For the health of our UW community, you should limit unnecessary personal travel.

As with other disruptive behaviors, we have the right to dismiss you from the classroom (Zoom and physical), or other class activities if you fail to abide by this policy.

HYFLEX, ZOOM, and WYOCOURSES EXPECTATIONS

I will do my best to make this course useful to you, and will respond to questions, concerns, and feedback as quickly as I am able.

MY COMMITMENTS

- Respond to questions within 24 hours,
- Provide timely and detailed feedback, and
- Respect you as a learner and an individual.

YOUR COMMITMENTS

- Abide by all COVID related policies and rules to promote the health and well-being of fellow students and your/my personal self-care,
- Give and receive feedback from me and your classmates respectfully and constructively in all interactions. This includes in Zoom chats, on WyoCourses boards, and within physical classroom spaces,
- Actively engage in civil discourse in a respectful manner. Limit your use of person-to-person Zoom chats, and always chat in all forums using professional language,
- Whenever you send class-related email or messages, please include a clear, specific subject line and use the body of the email or message to explain the purpose for the email and any attached materials. Conduct yourself professionally,
- You must meet all assignment deadlines and interact with all required course material/s throughout the week, and
- Ask for help if/when you need it.

