

**UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING**  
**College of Arts and Sciences**  
**Department of Criminal Justice/Sociology**

**CRMJ 5000 – Survey of Criminal Justice**  
3 Credit Hours

Fall 2018  
W 4:00 PM - 6:50 PM

**Professor:** Dr. Jamie Snyder

**Email:** jsnyde29@uwo.edu

**Office:** Building A&S, Room 311

**Office Hours:** Mondays, Wednesdays, 11:30am-1:00pm; by appointment

**Required readings:**

All required readings will be posted online in WyoCourses.

**Prerequisite:** Graduate Student Status

**Course Description:**

Covers historical and contemporary readings in criminal justice. Three areas will be focused on: Police, Courts, and Corrections.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Discuss crime trends and measurement in the United States
- Describe the historical development of the criminal justice system
- Discuss major issues in the CJ system today

**Major Topics**

- Crime/measurement/trends
- Police
- Courts
- Corrections

**Course Requirements:**

**Zoom**

The weekly meeting for this course will be conducted using Zoom, a video-conferencing service provided by the University. Students will need to have a computer with a microphone and video camera. **Students are required to attend the Zoom meetings each week.** This time will be utilized for discussion and lecture. We will meet via Zoom for approximately 2 hours each Wednesday starting at 4:00pm.

Your grade for the course will be based on two exams – Mid-term, and Final, and two class discussion leads/summaries.

**Mid-term Exam:**

The mid-term exam will cover the material from the first half of the class. It will be in essay format. Students will be provided the questions one week prior to the due date. You will be given limited choice in which questions you wish to answer.

- The exam is due 7:00pm Wednesday (10/17/18). Submit your answers as one Word document (.doc, .docx, or .rtf). NO late exams will be accepted.
- Your answers should be organized (paragraphs, introduction, evidence/argument, conclusion), grammatically and structurally sound, and should address questions completely.
- Use APA 6<sup>th</sup> edition to cite references. Include a reference page in APA 6<sup>th</sup> edition format.
- You should base your answers on the reading for the course, other readings, and knowledge gained from other courses.
- Your answers are positions, not opinions. Positions are supported by evidence, sound reasoning, and critical analysis.
- More information regarding the exam will be discussed in class.

Total number of points: 100

**Final Exam:**

The final exam will cover the material from the second half of the class. It will be in essay format. Students will be provided the questions one week prior to the due date. You will be given limited choice in which questions you wish to answer.

- The exam is due 7:00pm Friday (12/14/18). Submit your answers as one Word document (.doc, .docx, or .rtf). NO late exams will be accepted.
- Your answers should be organized (paragraphs, introduction, evidence/argument, conclusion), grammatically and structurally sound, and should address questions completely.
- Use APA 6<sup>th</sup> edition to cite references. Include a reference page in APA 6<sup>th</sup> edition format.
- You should base your answers on the reading for the course, other readings, and knowledge gained from other courses.
- Your answers are positions, not opinions. Positions are supported by evidence, sound reasoning, and critical analysis.
- More information regarding the exam will be discussed in class.

Total number of points: 100

**Article Summaries and Class Discussion Lead:** Each week (Starting week 4), certain students will be required to write a summary of that week’s readings AND lead the discussion for that week. Discussions will be held on Zoom. When writing a summary for that week, students should consider the following:

- What is the main issue being discussed in the articles?

- What types of factors contribute to the issue being discussed?
- What are two suggestions for addressing the issue?
- Questions or critiques regarding the articles.

On your assigned week, you will be required to turn in your summary of that week's articles **and** participate in leading discussion. Students will receive two grades, one for your written assignment and one for leading the discussion. You must attend class to receive credit. There will be no make-up opportunities.

Article Summary: 50 points each – Total 100 Points

Class Discussion Lead: 25 points each – Total 50 Points

**Class Participation:** All students are expected to knowledgably contribute to class discussions. This means being prepared to discuss the readings, asking and answering questions, and engaging in respectful debate. Class attendance is imperative to successfully complete this class. Students are allowed to miss **ONE** class without penalty (not the week the student is the leader) – further absences may result in course grade reduction. On the Zoom conference calls, attendance will be taken at the beginning and end of class. To be counted as present, a student must be present at both the beginning and end of class. Calling in using a telephone will not count as attending class.

## **Course Policies**

### **Missing an Examination:**

Make-up examinations will not be given without a documented (e.g., doctor's note) and valid excuse (e.g., severe illness, family emergency, etc.). With emergencies, you must contact me via email within 24 hours of the missed examination; however, you still need to provide proper documentation. Failure to contact me within 24 hours **and** provide me with proper documentation will result in a zero for the missed examination. If, with the proper notification of 24 hours **and** documentation is given, a make-up examination is given, it will be an alternative version to the original examination (e.g., it can be in any format – all essay, all fill-in the blank, all short answer, a combination of formats, etc.). If a make-up examination is scheduled and you fail to complete the make-up examination at the scheduled time, you will receive a zero on the examination.

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

**Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:** Any form of cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated. Anyone found to participate in these activities will receive an F for the assignment and possibly the course. Academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the University guidelines (UniReg 2-114). In addition, grade appeals will be handled according to these same guidelines. These guidelines can be found in the University Regulations.

### **General Courtesy Issues:**

We may discuss topics that are very sensitive in nature during the course of this class. I expect that all students treat one another with the utmost respect at all times. Any disrespectful behavior and/or language will not be tolerated and you will be dismissed from the class for that day.

Along with maintaining a professional and respectful manner, I expect that you come to class on time and prepared (e.g., having read the required material before class), remain for the entire

class period, be engaged in the class, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may be distracting to others. Therefore, do not come late to class and/or leave early (unless you otherwise have made arrangements with me), sleep, text message, read outside materials, or wear headphones during the class period. Also, please turn your cell phones off or on vibrate/silent. If you must take a call due to an emergency circumstance, please leave the classroom. If you engage in any of the above behaviors, you will be asked to leave the class.

### **Contacting Me:**

The best way to contact me is through email: jsnyde29@uwyo.edu. I check my email at least once per day, so you should receive a response from me within 24 hours. In emails, you **MUST** refer to the course in the subject line. Use proper email etiquette. It is very important to check your email on a regular basis as important class information (e.g., assignments, class cancellations, and changes in the syllabus) will be relayed via email.

### **Disability Services:**

It is University of Wyoming policy to accommodate students, faculty, staff, and visitors with disabilities. If you have a physical, learning, sensory, or psychological disability and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. You will need to register with University Disability Support Services (UDSS) in the Student Educational Opportunity offices, Room 330 Knight Hall, and provide UDSS with documentation of your disability.

### **WyoCourses:**

As a resource for this class, a WyoCourse site is available to you. This site provides the opportunity to have all of the course materials in one place that is accessible to everyone. Assignments and announcements will be posted to this site. As part of the requirements for this class, you are expected to check and use this site regularly. **Make sure to check your UW email as this is the address that will be utilized for any posted announcements.**

### **Title IX:**

The faculty and staff of the University of Wyoming actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct and discrimination. 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 notify Equal Opportunity Report and Response of any allegation of sexual misconduct. Mandatory reporters at the University include every administrative officer, dean, director, department head, supervisor, and all instructional personnel including your instructor. More information, including access to confidential resources, can be found at <http://www.uwyo.edu/reportit/policies/index.html>

### **Diversity**

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 social and cultural diversity is valued, respected, and considered a resource for learning.

## Final Grade Distribution and Scale:

Midterm exam	100 points
Final exam	100 points
Discussion leads	50 points
Article summaries	100 points
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Total:	350 points

Your grades will be determined by the following scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59% or less	F

## Course Outline

### **Week 1:**

Wed Aug 29 Course Overview/Introduction and Syllabus

### **Week 2:**

Wed Sept 5 Crime in the United States: Trends and Statistics  
UCR/NIBRS/NCVS

### **Week 3:**

Wed Sept 12 Policing History

### **Week 4:**

Wed Sept 19 Contemporary Issues in Policing Corruption – leader 1

### **Week 5:**

Wed Sept 26 Contemporary Issues in Policing Body-worn Cameras and use of force –  
leader 2

### **Week 6:**

Wed Oct 3 Courts History

### **Week 7:**

Wed Oct 10 Contemporary issues in Courts Plea bargaining - leader 3

### **Week 8:**

Wed Oct 17 *Midterm Exam Due 7:00pm in WyoCourses – no Zoom meeting*

**Week 9:**

Wed Oct 24 Contemporary issues in Courts Sentencing – Three strikes

**Week 10:**

Wed Oct 31 History of Corrections

**Week 11:**

Wed Nov 7 Contemporary Issues in Corrections Overcrowding – leader 1

**Week 12:**

Wed Nov 14 *Online Documentary Discussion – ASC – No Zoom Meeting*

**Week 13:**

Wed Nov 21 *No Class: Thanksgiving Break*

**Week 14:**

Wed Nov 28 Contemporary Issues in corrections Rehabilitation, treatment, and community corrections – leader 2

**Week 15:**

Wed Dec 5 Contemporary issues in corrections Death penalty – leader 3

**Final Exam: Due Friday Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm - WyoCourses**

**Class Cancellations:**

If it is necessary to cancel class, I will make every effort to contact you before you come to campus or class through sending an email. However, if that is not possible, students should wait at least 15 minutes before assuming class is cancelled. If an examination was scheduled the day of the cancellation, it will be held at the beginning of the next class period.

**Changes to the Course:**

The information in this syllabus (including grading, attendance, late policies, exams, and assignments) and class schedule are and may be subject to change. This information should be seen as tentative. However, you will be notified in class and via WyoCourses/email of any changes that may occur during the semester.