

The Police in America

January 2009

Course: **CRJ 260**

Credits: 3


January 2 – 4, 2009
January 9 – 11, 2009

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Text

The Police in America 6th edition
Samuel Walker & Charles M. Katz
McGraw- Hill
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Course Description

Historical developments constantly demand that the style of American policing adapt to meet society's ever-changing protective expectations. The most recent event, the "War on Terror" has once again reshaped the demands on American policing agencies. This course will evaluate the concepts central to policing from its origins through to the current concepts of community policing and problem-oriented policing. This course will be taught by a twenty-year police veteran who has personally experienced the movements of which he will describe. 

Course Objectives

Through this course, the intent is to assist the student to develop and use critical thinking skills to:

1. Gains understandings of the critical role police play in today's society as well as understand how police departments function.
2. Gain an understanding of how the police departments are structured and their strategies in combating crime.
3. Distinguish the effects one's race and gender has on how laws are enforced, and punished and to understand the racial inequality present in the criminal justice system.

Course Outcomes

Students will learn how modern police departments function; understand their structure, and their strategies used in combating crime. Students will also get an insight on how police are hired and also what rights they have as far as bargaining and grievances.

Student Assignments

Each student is expected to do high quality work in completing the following assignments:

1. To regularly attend all class periods and read all assigned readings.
2. Students will participate in a group project. The project will consist of two parts, one the written report and the second will be the oral presentation of the project.

All written assignments are due on the dates announced in class. The syllabus provides an expected outline, however, student learning is difficult to predict so all dates are subject to change. If a written assignment is not submitted on the date required, on letter grade will be deducted for every day that it is late. Written assignments will not be accepted after the fifth day in which it is considered late. The student will receive a zero for that assignment. Additionally, late assignments will be graded without comment.

There is no “final exam” in this course.

Project

Groups will consist of 3-4 students each. Groups will be given information about a fictitious town wanting to form a police department. Groups will form a police department and will include the following: Budgets. deployment of police officers, department structure

Attendance Policy

The point of establishing a participation grade is to enforce a work routine similar to what is found in professional settings outside of the academic world. Any student may miss a four hour slot of class time without affecting the participation grade. Beyond four hours, the student will receive a 0 for class participation.

Classroom Protocol

Appropriate classroom behavior is implicit in the Cedar Crest College Honor Code. Such behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations and any other behavior that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students' access to their Cedar Crest College education. Anyone who will be arriving late because of another class must notify me in advance.

Sleeping, or the appearance thereof, is strictly prohibited. Any student who sleeps, or appears to sleep through a lecture will receive a 0 for class participation. If the student makes a habit of sleeping after being spoken to, she/he will fail the course.

The use of cell phones is strictly prohibited. All cell phones must be turned off or placed on "quiet" or vibrate mode. If a student is observed texting during a lecture, presentation or film, the phone will be taken from the student and she/he will receive a 0 for class participation.

Furthermore:

Students are expected to have prompt and regular classroom attendance in accordance with the policy stated on the syllabus.

Faculty are expected to make clear on the first day of class reasons for specific classroom decorum and repercussions for non-compliance. Faculty should be aware of setting boundaries and procedures for exceptions to expectations stated in the syllabus.

Students need to understand that open discussion is encouraged and expected in order to foster an advanced learning environment. However, all students should use caution when sharing personal information. There is a point to which personal experiences are detrimental to the learning environment.

Honor Philosophy

The Cedar Crest College Honor Philosophy is based upon the principle that, as a self-governing body, students have the ability to create an atmosphere of trust and support. Within this environment, individuals are empowered to make their own decisions, develop personal regard for the system under which they live, and achieve a sense of integrity and judgment that will guide them through life.

Grading

1 st Written Examination	45%
Oral presentation	45%
Class Participation	10%

Course Outline

Week 1

Reading Assignment Chapters 1-7

- 1. Police and Society**
- 2. The History of the American Police**
- 3. Contemporary Law Enforcement Industry**
- 4. Police Organizations**
- 5. Police Officer I : Entering Police Work**
- 6. Police Officers II On the Job**
- 7. Patrol: the Backbone of Policing**

Week 2

Reading Assignment Chapters 8-15

- 8. Peacekeeping and Order Maintenance**
- 9. The Police and Crime**
- 10. Innovations of Police Strategy**
- 11. Police discretion**
- 12. Police-Community Relations**
- 13. Police Corruption**
- 14. Accountability of the Police**
- 15. The future of Policing in America**

Project due Sunday Jan 11, 2009

Oral presentations will be presented after lunch