

Department of Criminal Justice
Public Policy and Practice in Criminal Justice
CRJU 405
California State University, Fullerton
Spring 2006

General Information:

Instructor: Raymond E. Foster, MPA
Day/Time: Monday 7:00PM to 9:45PM
Location: MH464
Office Hours: Monday 4PM to 6PM
Office Location: UH541
Office Telephone: (909) 599-7530
Email: raymond@hitechcj.com
Website: <http://www.hitechcj.com/criminaljusticepolicy/>

Course Objectives:

This course is designed to familiarize students with criminal justice policy by providing an overview of the formation, implementation, quantitative and qualitative evaluation, and ethical aspects of policy making in the criminal justice system. The course will examine policy in the context of intentions, outcomes and consequences. Moreover, the course will focus on contemporary and historical issues as a means for examining the various components, methodologies and outcomes.

Learning Goals:

Students will be able to

1. analyze the context of criminal justice policy making by examining the function of various political, economic, legal, and social influences.
2. identify points of permeability between the components of the criminal justice system.
3. explain several current issues facing justice policy makers.
4. model the flow of discretion, power, and clients in the criminal justice system.
5. explain how the open nature of the criminal justice system affects policy decisions and outcomes.
6. discuss the various policy evaluation methodologies.

Required Readings:

Hancock, B. & Sharp, P. (2004) Public policy, crime, and criminal justice. Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, 3/e

Course Requirements:

The following responsibilities apply to all students:

1. Attend class and take notes.
2. Read and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings by the dates identified in the course syllabus.
3. Complete four exams (at fourth week, ninth week (mid-term), Twelfth Week and Seventh Week (final)).
4. Prepare two, 3-5 page, academically sound, papers on issues identified by the instructor.
5. Participate in class and online activities and discussions.

Method of Evaluation:

Grades:

Exam One	10%
Exam Two (Mid-Term)	15%
Exam Three	10%
Final	20%
Paper One	15%
Paper Two	15%
Participation	15%
Semester Total	100%

A	94-100%
A-	90-93%
B+	87-89%
B	84-86%
B-	80-83%
C+	77-79%
C	70-76%
D+	67-69%
D	64-66%
D-	60-63%
F	Below 60

Grades:

In accordance with University Policy Statement (UPS) 300.020 the +/- system of grading will be used in this course:

Additional Information:

Examinations – Exam one, exam two (mid-term) and exam three will consist of multiple choice, true-false or short answer questions. All of the material in the exam one, exam two (mid-term) and exam three will come from the readings, lectures, videos and class discussions and **will be cumulative**. An in class review will be conducted prior to all examinations.

The final examination will consist of two essay questions **and will be cumulative**. Five potential final questions are posted on the course website. However, only two of them will be the final examination. The student should be prepared to answer all five at the time of final because the two questions to be asked will be announced at the final. Although this is not an “open book” test, students may use any notes they took during class or while studying during the final examination. An in class review will be held prior to the final. They must be the students notes – refer to the syllabus section on ethical conduct for further information. The student **MUST** answer both questions. Above average and superior responses to the final questions will include sourcing to the readings, lectures, videos and class discussions

Papers - Students are required to prepare a two (2) typed, 3-5 page, discussion and analysis of a course related issue. At a minimum, it is expected that the students will produce an academically sound and properly formatted work (APA format is strongly encouraged); with a minimum of three sources, not including the text book. The instructor will provide more

information concerning the papers during class. The papers will be graded on content as well as exposition.

Extra Credit – No extra credit is available for this course.

Attendance - Within the university setting, students are expected to attend class on a regular basis and participate in topic discussion to enhance the overall learning experience. As participation is directly related to attendance, **students missing four (2) class sessions will not receive any credit for attendance/participation.** Attendance will be recorded by a class roster that will be passed among the students during each class. It is the student's responsibility to sign the roster.

Participation – Participation is fifteen percent of the student's final grade. Participation will be measured by the use of a "student participation log" and participation in an online discussion group on class activities. To count toward the final participation grade, the online postings in the threaded discussion must be within 72 hours of the issue discussed in class. The log is available for download at the course website. The students are expected to obtain the log and keep a record of their participation. The log must be handed in at the time of the final. Instructions for accessing the online discussion will be given in class.

Masters Students – This course is available as an elective for Masters students. Masters students are expected to produce higher quality and more quantity of work. Therefore, the course requirements for undergraduate students only amount to 85% of a masters student's work load for this course. The additional 15% of the final grade will be a 5-7 page project paper as assigned by the instructor.

Ethical Conduct - Students should be aware that there are severe consequences for violations of academic ethical conduct. Primarily, we are concerned with cheating and plagiarism. Students who are determined to have cheated or committed plagiarism will face disciplinary action as identified within CSUF regulations. For additional clarification of cheating and/or plagiarism, refer to the CSUF website, the instructor, or University Policy Statement (UPS) 300.21.

Website - The course has two companion websites. At that website the students will find hyperlinks to the readings, important course downloads (such as the syllabus and class log) and hyperlinks to other course related multimedia presentations (such as PowerPoint presentations, short videos, etc). The second website will be used for the online threaded discussion that is part of the participation grade.

Additionally, the course will make use of Blackboard as provided by the university. At Blackboard, most website documents are available and grades will be posted shortly after review.

	Week One		
30-Jan	Course Orientation, Criminological Theory and Policy	None	
	Week Two		
6-Feb	Public Policy in the US	CH1/2	
	Week Three		
13-Feb	Social Policy and Crime, Exam One review Paper One Due	CH3/4	Paper One Due
	Week Four		
20-Feb	No Class, Campus Closed		
	Week Five		
17-Feb	Methods of Evaluation, Exam One	CH7	
	Week Six		
6-Mar	The Criminal Justice System, Policy in Law Enforcement	CH8/9/10	
	Week Seven		
13-Mar	Policy In Law Enforcement/Courts. Mid Term Review	CH11/12/14	
	Week Eight		
20-Mar	Policy in the Courts, Mid Term	CH13/15	
	Week Nine		
27-Mar	No Class, Spring Recess		
	Week Ten		
3-Apr	Policy in Corrections, Juvenile Policy	CH16/17	
	Week Eleven		
10-Apr	Juvenile Policy, Policy and Science	CH18/19/20	
	Week Twelve		
17-Apr	Nation Policies, Exam Three		
	Week Thirteen		
24-Apr	Twenty-First Century Alternative Views, Paper Two Due	CH22/23	Paper two Due
	Week Fourteen		
1-May	Terrorism and Criminal Justice Policy		
	Week Fifteen		
8-May	Twenty-First Century Alternative Views	CH24/25	
	Week Sixteen		
15-May	Course Review Master's Project Due		Master's Project Due
22-May	Week Seventeen - Final Per Schedule		