A. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor
George Lange III, JD
Room 339, Hardy Hall
228-214-3310
george.lange@usm.edu

Course Materials

Methods of Instruction
Readings.
Assignments.
Examinations.

Official Communication. Information concerning this course is conveyed by Canvas, email, and phone. This includes changes in assignments, class dates/times, exam schedules, etc., which are effective when posted, emailed, or otherwise conveyed. Students are individually responsible for timely acquiring course information by regularly accessing Canvas and USM emails.

Office Hours: I am available to meet personally with students during the office hours below. Phone and email consultations are also available and welcomed. Office appointments outside of posted office hours will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Mondays: 11:45 am – 2:00 pm
04:45 pm – 6:45 pm
Wednesday: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
04:45 pm – 6:30 pm

Attendance. Class attendance is regarded as an obligation as well as a privilege, and students are expected to regularly access the Canvas homepage at least weekly

Absences, Deadlines, and Due Dates. Normally, students will be excused for exceeding deadlines and due dates only for documented and compelling unforeseeable circumstances beyond the student’s control. That said, life happens, and the instructor reserves the right to excuse any student for any reason, as circumstances warrant.

Deportment. Southern Miss recognizes the value of all individuals and strives to provide every student a full opportunity to achieve success by creating a climate in which faculty, staff, and students treat each other with dignity and respect, in the classroom, outside the classroom, and online. This includes accommodating the instructor’s reasonable requests to participate in classroom activities and demonstrations, as well as fully participating in class discussions. Each student, as well as the instructor, is entitled to a classroom and online environment that is free from distraction, promotes learning, and is conducive to the teaching-learning experience.

Conversely, no student is entitled to behave in a way that adversely affects the educational processes of the university or the rights of others. To those ends, individual students are required to comport themselves in accordance with these values and standards during all interactions with other students and the instructor, subject to appropriate disciplinary measures for willful refusal to comply, including failure or disenrollment from the class and/or suspension from the university.

All student activities in the University, including this course, are governed by the University’s Policy on Classroom Responsibilities of Faculty and Students, as outlined in the Student Survival Guide. Students who engage in behavior that disrupts the learning environment may be asked to leave the class.

Withdrawal. The official university policy for course withdrawal must be followed to avoid receiving an “F” for this course. You cannot simply stop attending. If circumstances arise that require withdrawal, please confirm with the instructor that you have been officially dropped. The last day to add/drop without Academic/Financial Penalty is August 23. After this date, no tuition refund whatsoever will be issued, and all approved drops will result in a grade of W. After October 27, no course withdrawals are permitted, meaning the student will receive an actual course grade.
Academic Integrity. All students at The University of Southern Mississippi are expected to demonstrate the highest levels of academic integrity in all that they do. Forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to):

1. Cheating (including copying from others’ work)
2. Plagiarism (representing another person’s words or ideas as your own; failure to properly cite the source of your information, argument, or concepts)
3. Falsifying documents
4. Disclosing test or other assignment content to another student
5. Submitting the same paper or other assignment to more than one class without the explicit approval of all faculty members involved
6. Unauthorized academic collaboration with others
7. Conspiracy to engage in academic misconduct

Engaging in any of these behaviors or supporting others who do so will result in academic penalties and/or other sanctions. If a faculty member determines that a student has violated our Academic Integrity Policy, sanctions ranging from resubmission of work to course failure may occur, including the possibility of receiving a grade of “XF” for the course, which will be on the student’s transcript with the notation “Failure due to academic misconduct.” For more details, please see the University’s Academic Integrity Policy. Note that repeated acts of academic misconduct will lead to expulsion from the University.

Specific Examples. Academic dishonesty includes (1) acquiring or using a published test bank; (2) copying from another student’s test, paper, or computer file; (3) using unauthorized materials during a test; (4) collaborating during a test with any person by giving or receiving information without authority; (5) stealing, buying, or otherwise obtaining non-administered or unauthorized tests; (6) selling or giving to another non-administered or unauthorized tests; (7) bribing anyone to obtain test information; (8) taking a test in substitution for another student, or permitting another person to take a test in substitution for oneself; (9) submitting for academic credit, as one’s own work, any work prepared by another, in total or in part; (10) supplying to another student any theme, report, or other work for use by that person in fulfilling academic requirements; (11) plagiarism, defined as incorporating another’s work into one’s own work, without proper acknowledgement, when the latter is offered for academic credit; (12) duplicity, defined as offering for academic credit in two or more classes identical or substantially unchanged work without instructor approval; and (13) submitting false documents, to include add/drop forms, substitutions, and special requests.

These examples are not exhaustive and other cheating behavior not specifically listed here may nonetheless subject the student to appropriate disciplinary action. If in doubt, ask the instructor prior to engaging in the suspect behavior. Students on disciplinary suspension may not enroll in any course offered by The University of Southern Mississippi until one full semester has passed (spring, summer, or fall).

Disability Statement. If a student has a disability that qualifies under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies. Individuals with hearing impairments can contact ODA using the Mississippi Relay Service at 1.800.582.2233 (TTY) or e-mail Suzy Hebert at Suzanne.Hebert@usm.edu. Individuals with hearing impairments can contact ODA using the Mississippi Relay Service at 1.800.582.2233 (TTY) or e-mail Suzy Hebert at Suzanne.Hebert@usm.edu.

ODA Address: The University of Southern Mississippi
Office for Disability Accommodations
118 College Drive # 8586
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001
Voice Telephone: 601.266.5024 or 228. 214.3232
Fax: 601. 266.6035

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course Description. This introductory course provides an introduction to criminal law, criminological thought, and operational concepts relevant to the criminal justice system. It examines the agencies, actors, processes, and functions comprising our “system” of criminal justice, as well as the legal, ethical, and practical principles, concepts, and standards under which they operate.
Justification/Rationale. Perhaps no intellectual undertaking is more exciting, intriguing, and challenging than to explore how a free and democratic society governs the behavior of its citizens through criminal laws, processes, and sanctions. It goes to the very heart of our individual and collective sense of morality, decency, and justice. It implicates basic notions of personal liberty and freedom, raises assumptions about human nature, and sheds light on the relationship between citizen and state. This course examines the major criminal justice agencies and actors with a view to providing a solid grounding in the elements and nuances of our criminal justice system, and further, toward enhancing our understanding of the processes by which criminal wrongdoing is adjudicated and punished in contemporary American society.

Course Objectives
1. Examine the functions and structure of the police, courts, and corrections.
2. Identify and discuss the processes inherent in adjudicating criminal wrongdoing.
3. Consider the legal, ethical, and practical aspects of criminal justice operations.
4. Develop a better understanding of the criminal justice system as a whole.

C. SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Assignments and Tasks.
1. Readings as Assigned.
2. Module Examinations
3. A Final Examination

A. Exams. There will be four exams and a final exam covering material presented in the Text, Study Aids, and Supplemental Items, if any. Exams 1-4 are not cumulative. The final exam is cumulative. Study Aid questions are neither graded nor submitted for credit. That said, exam questions are taken from Study Aid questions. Exams 1-4 each consist of 25 multiple choice and true/false questions to be completed in 45 minutes during one continuous attempt. The Final Exam consists of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions to be completed in 90 minutes during one continuous attempt. On the scheduled date, each exam opens at 8:00 a.m. and closes at 11:55 p.m. The allotted time begins to run once an exam is accessed, and the exam will automatically close when time has expired, whether the exam has been completed or not, so plan accordingly.

Unexcused failure to complete an exam in the time allowed will result in the actual score for that exam. Unexcused failure to attempt an exam on the scheduled date will result in zero points for that exam. Every effort should be made to notify the instructor in advance if the student anticipates missing an exam, and the student is responsible for documenting the emergency necessitating that absence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Exam Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1: Module I</td>
<td>Monday, Sep 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2: Module II</td>
<td>Monday, Oct 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3: Module III</td>
<td>Monday, Nov 13</td>
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<td>Exam 4: Module IV</td>
<td>Monday, Nov 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam: Modules I-IV</td>
<td>Friday, Dec 01</td>
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D. EVALUATION AND GRADING

Evaluation Criteria. General University grading policies are located in the Academic Catalog under General Academic Information, and the grading policies of this course comply with those requirements. The course has been divided into numerous graded elements to afford multiple opportunities for earning a good course grade. In other words, your final course grade is not totally dependent on any given element. The weight in points for each graded element is shown below, and the final course grade is computed by adding the points earned in each graded element. The total points earned are then compared to the grading scale in determining your final course grade (subject to the penalty for excessive unexcused absences).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graded Elements:</th>
<th>Exams 1-4 400 points (100 points each)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>200 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>600 points</td>
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Grading Scale:

- **A**: 90% - 540 - 600 points
- **B**: 80% - 480 - 539 points
- **C**: 70% - 420 - 479 points
- **D**: 60% - 360 - 419 points
- **F**: Below 60% - 000 - 359 points

**COURSE CALENDAR**

**MODULE I (EXAM 1): CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE (Aug 16 – Sept 18)**

- 01. The American Criminal Justice System
- 02. Measuring Crime and Crime Theory
- 03. Criminal Law: The Foundation of Criminal Justice

**Module II (EXAM 2): THE POLICE (Sept 19 – Oct 23)**

- 04. Police History and Organization
- 05. Police and the Law
- 06. Critical Issues in Policing

**Module III (EXAM 3): THE COURTS (Oct 24 – Nov 13)**

- 07. The Criminal Courts: Structure and Process
- 08. The Trial
- 09. Sentencing

**Module IV (EXAM 4): CORRECTIONS (Nov 14 – Nov 27)**

- 10. Corrections History and Structure
- 11. Prisons
- 12. Corrections in the Community

**FINAL EXAM – DECEMBER 1**

*EXCLUDING LABOR DAY HOLIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
**EXCLUDING FALL BREAK, OCTOBER 19-20
***EXCLUDING THANKSGIVING BREAK, NOVEMBER 22-24

Notice. The instructor may modify this syllabus on timely notice to students, and may deviate from the course calendar and/or the prescribed course of instruction during any class period, at his discretion.