Syllabus
CJ 480
Fall 2017
Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.
Walker Science Building, Room 120

Instructor: R. Alan Thompson, Ph.D.
Office: AKH #121
Phone: 601-266-6172 (Direct) or 601-266-4509 (Front Desk)
Email: Alan.Thompson@usm.edu (this is the best method of contact)

Office Hours:
Monday: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.; 3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday: Research, Service & Faculty Development (may be available by appointment)
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.; 3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday: Research, Service & Faculty Development (may be available by appointment)
Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Important Notes:

• It is best to make an appointment with me directly by email in advance if you wish to meet.

• There will be instances when I am not in the office or available at the stated times due to meetings or other professional obligations. Students are encouraged to wait or leave a message at the front desk in the event that I am unavailable for an unannounced / unplanned visit.

• I am generally available other days and times by appointment arranged in advance through email. At certain times I will be working in other areas on campus so please feel free to contact me by email and arrange a meeting date and time at an alternate location.

• I often work with the door partially closed so just knock and I will respond. You should wait to be invited in.

Course Purpose & Objectives

This course is designed to expose students to practical police operations and establish a foundation for the development of specific job-related skills that they can be reasonably expected to perform after entering an occupational role in law enforcement. In doing so, it will help students develop an appreciation for their chosen occupation and hopefully create a competitive edge over other job applicants.
Course Requirements

This course incorporates principles of active learning and requires students to participate in a series of practical operations that constitute a significant portion of the final grade. A “pre-operational briefing” will take place on the class meeting preceding the “practical operation,” which itself will then be reviewed during a “post-operational debriefing” the following class meeting.

Pre-Operational Briefings:

The purpose of the pre-operational briefing is to introduce the topic, review relevant information, and prepare for the practical operation. Students will be expected to make meaningful contributions through assignments and tasks that are to be completed and submitted ahead of the pre-operational briefing and no late work will be accepted. Additional information regarding the expectations and requirements associated with the pre-operational briefings will be provided in class and over the course of the semester as the process evolves. Student contribution to and participation in each pre-operational briefing will be evaluated on a scale of 0-50 points (maximum total of 250 points). Students are encouraged to seek guidance from the instructor where questions exist or arise regarding this particular course requirement.

Practical Operations:

The practical operation will begin promptly at 9:00 am (unless otherwise stated) on the Saturday following the pre-operational briefing and will expose students to the fundamental skills associated with a particular law enforcement-related function. All students are expected to fully engage and participate in the practical operation so that the faculty instructor and subject matter experts may evaluate their individual performance using various criteria relevant to the subject matter. Additional information regarding the expectations and requirements associated with each practical operation will be provided as the class evolves. Student participation in and performance during each practical operation will be evaluated on a scale of 0-100 points (maximum total of 500 points). Students are encouraged to seek guidance from the instructor where questions exist or arise regarding this particular course requirement.

Post-Operational Debriefings:

The purpose of the post-operational briefing is to engage in reflective thought and assessment following the practical operation. Students will be required to submit written assignments as part of the post-operational debriefings. These assignments are due at the beginning of each post-operational debriefing or as otherwise specified and no late work will be accepted. Additional information regarding the expectations and requirements associated with the post-operational briefings will be provided in class and over the course of the semester as the process evolves. Student contribution to and participation in each post-operational briefing will be evaluated on a scale of 0-100 points (maximum total of 500 points). Students are encouraged to seek guidance from the instructor where questions exist or arise regarding this particular course requirement.

Class Presentation:

Each student will be required to make a presentation at the end of the semester. Details regarding the nature, content and structure of the presentations will be described in greater detail during the semester. Student contribution to and participation in the class presentation will be evaluated on a scale of 0-100 points (maximum total of 100 points). Students are encouraged to seek guidance from the instructor where questions exist or arise regarding this particular course requirement.
**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance at all class meetings is absolutely imperative. There is no mechanism for making up class content that is missed. Unexcused absences will have a significant adverse effect on the final course grade. The attendance portion of the final grade will be reflected in the grade for each component of the course (pre-operational briefings, practical operations and post-operational debriefings). Thus, if a student misses a given class meeting / function then s/he will not receive credit for that portion of the final course grade. This means that even a single absence from a practical operation could very well result in almost an entire letter grade deduction from the final grade for the course.

Students are required to arrive to all class meetings on time and not leave until dismissed by the instructor. Do not come in if you are late and the door is closed. Do not get up and leave class early without permission. If the student is unable to meet this expectation, s/he will be counted as absent for the day unless the instructor is notified in advance and approval is given.

Students are responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from all class meetings unless otherwise notified.

During the semester, every student enrolled in the course will be required to meet periodically with the professor to assess their progress, participation, attendance and performance.

**Classroom Conduct Policy:**

Students are expected to be respectful to and supportive of one another.

All external instructors, subject matter experts, and guests will be treated with respect.

All students should refer to and read the Classroom Conduct Policy located at:

https://www.usm.edu/provost/classroom-conduct-policy

This policy guides student behavior in the classroom and provides measures for ensuring that the learning opportunities of others are not unnecessarily limited by inappropriate acts or omissions. The most significant section of this policy states that faculty members have ultimate charge over classroom behavior. This means that if you cannot adhere to reasonable expectations of classroom conduct as specified by the policy, syllabus and orally articulated standards that you can expect to be told to leave the classroom and will only be permitted to return when the professor is satisfied that appropriate classroom behavior will be observed.

Any student conduct that is deemed unsafe or inappropriate for the circumstance will result in immediate dismissal from that class session, will result in a loss of points for the exercise / assignments and, if egregious enough, may result in a failing grade for the course.

Private conversation between two or more students during class time is considered to be impolite, disrespectful, and disruptive behavior. In the event that private conversations reach such a point, the students will be required to leave the classroom and recorded as absent that day.

Only those students enrolled in the course are allowed to attend class meetings and practical exercises.

Students will observe policies prohibiting food, drinks, or tobacco products in the classroom unless otherwise noted.
The inappropriate use of cellular phones or other devices will not be allowed.

The use of recording devices in class is strictly prohibited unless instructor approval is obtained in advance.

**Important Note:**

This class is squarely based upon the practical realities of contemporary law enforcement. It is intended to expose students to the types of situations and encounters they are likely to experience upon entering the occupation. These real-world experiences can often be unpleasant and unsettling. A certain level of maturity, judgment and “thick skin” is required of those who work in law enforcement. In short, the job is not for the “faint of heart” or those who are easily upset or offended. With this in mind, students must clearly acknowledge that they will be exposed to such realities during this course. The practical operations are intended to approximate real-world situations and may expose students to the simulated threat of violence, adult situations, and harsh or profane language. Due consideration will certainly be given to developing and maintaining a classroom environment that is free from harm, but it is vitally important for students to understand that this course may contain elements that are not present in more traditional instructional settings.

**Course Requirements at a Glance**

- Pre-Operational Briefings (5 @ a maximum of 50 points each) 250 points
- Practical Operations (5 @ a maximum of 100 points each) 500 points
- Post-Operational Briefings (5 @ a maximum of 100 points each) 500 points
- Class Presentation (1 @ a maximum of 100 points) 100 points

**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1282 – 1350</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1147 – 1281</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1012 – 1146</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>877 – 1011</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>876 points or below</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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**Academic Integrity:**

All students should refer to and read the Academic Integrity Policy located at:

https://www.usm.edu/institutional-policies/policy-acaf-pro-012

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. Falsification of documents
4. Disclosure of test or other assignment content to another student
5. Submission of 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.” Note that repeated acts of academic misconduct will lead to expulsion from the University.

The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action.

The university and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

“Cheating” includes: 1) Copying from another student’s test paper, laboratory report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs; 2) Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test; 3) Collaborating, without authorization, with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work; 4) Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered test; 5) Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, to take a test; 6) Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test, and; 7) Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one’s own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of the rough and/or final versions of an assignment by a professional typist.

“Plagiarism” means the appropriation of another’s work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work into one’s own work offered for credit.

“Collusion” means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit.

“Abuse of Resource Materials” means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course material.

Students suspected of engaging in any of the above behaviors will be subject to the University’s disciplinary procedures (up to and including expulsion from the program and the University) and will also receive a final grade of “XF” for the course.

Disability Services Statement

If a student has a disability that qualifies under the Americans 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 the 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. Mailing address: 118 College Drive, # 8586, Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001; Telephone: (601) 266-5024; TTY: (601) 266-6837; Fax: (601) 266-6035’ Email: oda@usm.edu.
Important Dates to Remember

8/23  Last day to add / drop full term classes without academic or financial
8/23  Last day to drop full term classes without grade of W
8/23  Last day to drop full term classes and receive 100% refund (after this date, no tuition refund whatsoever)
9/4   Labor Day Holiday
10/19 – 10/20 Fall Break (dates subject to change)
10/27  Last day to withdraw from full term classes with grade of W (after this date, students will earn a letter grade)
11/1  Last day to file application for degree for Spring 2018 commencement without a fee
1/22 – 11/24 Thanksgiving Holidays
11/29  Last day of class (presentations)
12/13  Grades available for view in SOAR

Tentative Course Schedule

I. Course and Syllabus Overview
   • Description: This class meeting will outline course requirements and behavioral / performance expectations for successful learning.
   • Date: Wednesday, 8/16/17
   • Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
   • Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

II. Lecture
   • Description: TBD
   • Date: Wednesday, 8/30/17
   • Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
   • Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

III. Module 1 – Police Interactions with the Mentally Ill

A. Pre-Operational Briefing
   • Description: This lecture will focus on police interactions with the mentally ill and provide students with an overview of the practical exercises the following Saturday.
   • Date: Wednesday, 9/13/17
   • Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
   • Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

B. Practical Operation
   • Description: This session will involve practical exercises and allow students to learn, apply and engage de-escalation techniques in roleplaying simulations.
   • Date: Saturday, 9/16/17
   • Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
   • Location: TBD

C. Post-Operational Debriefing
   • Description: This session will provide an opportunity to reflect on the practical exercise through written assignments and class discussion.
   • Date: Wednesday, 9/20/17
• Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
• Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

IV. Module 2 – Standardized Field Sobriety Testing

A. Pre-Operational Briefing
• Description: This lecture will focus on the basics of Standardized Field Sobriety Testing and DUI detection in preparation for practical exercises the following Saturday.
• Date: Wednesday, 10/4/17
• Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
• Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

B. Practical Operation
• Description: This session will involve mastery and application of SFST skills.
• Date: Saturday, 10/7/17
• Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
• Location: TBD

C. Post-Operational Debriefing
• Description: This session will provide an opportunity to reflect on the practical exercise through written assignments and class discussion.
• Date: Wednesday, 10/11/17
• Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
• Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

V. Module 3 – Traffic Stops and Violator Contacts

A. Pre-Operational Briefing
• Description: This lecture will focus on the tactical considerations and practical “steps” involved in traffic stops and violator contacts.
• Date: Wednesday, 10/18/17
• Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
• Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

B. Practical Operation
• Description: This session will allow students to practice simulated traffic stops and violator contacts while incorporating de-escalation techniques and SFST instruction provided in the previous modules.
• Date: Saturday, 10/21/17
• Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
• Location: TBD

C. Post-Operational Debriefing
• Description: This session will provide an opportunity to reflect on the practical exercise through written assignments and class discussion.
• Date: Wednesday, 10/25/17
• Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
• Location: Walker Science Building Room 120
VI. Module 4 – Tactical Building Searches

A. Pre-Operational Briefing
   • Description: This lecture will provide an overview of tactical building searches.
   • Date: Wednesday, 11/1/17
   • Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
   • Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

B. Practical Operation
   • Description: This session will allow students to master the skills associated with conducting tactical building searches.
   • Date: Saturday, 11/4/17
   • Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
   • Location: Columbia Law Enforcement Training Academy

C. Post-Operational Debriefing
   • Description: This session will provide an opportunity to reflect on the practical exercise through written assignments and class discussion.
   • Date: Wednesday, 11/8/17
   • Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
   • Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

VII. Module 5 – Active Shooter Response

A. Pre-Operational Briefing
   • Description: This lecture will provide an overview of active shooter response.
   • Date: Wednesday, 11/8/17
   • Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
   • Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

B. Practical Operation
   • Description: This session will allow students to practice active shooter response while incorporating building search and de-escalation instruction provided in the previous modules.
   • Date: Saturday, 11/11/17
   • Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
   • Location: Columbia Law Enforcement Training Academy

C. Post-Operational Debriefing
   • Description: This session will provide an opportunity to reflect on the practical exercise through written assignments and class discussion.
   • Date: Wednesday, 11/15/17
   • Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
   • Location: Walker Science Building Room 120

VIII. Class Presentations
   • Description: This session will allow students to make a presentation that synthesizes course content.
   • Date: Wednesday, 11/29/17
   • Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.
   • Location: Walker Science Building Room 120