Seminar in Policing (CJ 640) - Fall 2017

Instructor: Philip E. Carlan, Ph.D.
Class Period: Monday (2:00-4:45)
Office Hours: Arthell Kelley
Monday  9:45-11:00; 1:15-2:00
Wednesday/Friday  9:45-11:00; 1:15-4:00
And by appointment.
Telephone & Email: 266-4514 • Philip.Carlan@usm.edu

Course Goals and Objectives
This course is a seminar designed to address relevant contemporary issues facing law enforcement administrators. At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Converse about plethora of perplexing social issues facing police organizations.
2. Evaluate pros and cons of policy formation and implementation related to modern social issues.
3. Incorporate basic principles of management and leadership within law enforcement settings.
4. Understand the complicated dynamics among police personnel, police leadership, and the public.

Attendance Policy
Due to the importance of interaction and discussion, it is imperative that students be physically and mentally present for class sessions. A one letter grade penalty will be assessed upon a second absence. No course credit will be issued (regardless of current standing) beyond two class absences.

Classroom Demeanor Policy
Students are expected to demonstrate professional behavior during class sessions. The barometer for assessing unprofessional behavior is the reasonable anticipation test, defined as anything for which a student should anticipate as unprofessional. Violation of this policy can result in removal from the class until the department head requests readmission. Specifically, electronic devices must be placed on vibrate at the beginning of each class period unless the instructor authorizes their use. Other examples include (but not limited to): disrespect toward class members, extensive conversation with another student (unless authorized as part of an exercise), disruption of the learning environment (e.g., noise from potato chip bag), leaving classroom without good cause, and gossip.

Withdrawal Policy
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 grade in the course).

Grading Scale
A  =  94+
B+  =  87-89
C+  =  77-79
D+  =  67-69
F  =  Below 60
A-  =  90-93
B  =  83-86
C  =  73-76
D  =  60-66
B-  =  80-82
C-  =  70-72
Research Paper (Due Date: Monday, November 27) – 20%
Each student is required to construct a written literature review on a contemporary police-management issue (topic must be approved in advance). A literature review should reflect a synthesis of knowledge, thus allowing formulation of a hypothesis. For the purpose of this project, it is not required that the hypothesis be tested, but a methodological plan for collecting such data is required (i.e., identify location of data and how it would be collected). The literature review must be a minimum of 12 pages (excluding the title page, abstract page and reference pages) and incorporate a minimum of 20 references (80% of which must be from scholarly sources). APA publication guidelines will be strictly enforced. More details on this project will be provided in classroom discussion.

Article Summaries/Reaction Papers (30%)
In consultation with the class, twelve (of the following fourteen) topics will be selected for examination. Each student is required to construct a summary and reaction to each assigned reading. Reaction papers are due at the beginning of the class session in which the readings are discussed. Each paper must be a minimum of two double-spaced pages. Each set of readings (which ordinarily will constitute five articles) will comprise 2.5% of the overall course grade (30% ÷ 12 = 2.5%); meaning each article summary will comprise approximately \(\frac{1}{2}\)% (assuming the customary five-article assignment).


Classroom Presentations (20%)
Each student is required to guide (via PowerPoint) two class sessions pertaining to assigned weekly readings. One presentation will be solo (15%); one presentation will be partnered (5%). Presentations must be in the form of teaching roles whereby you direct class conversations related to your opinions regarding the importance of each article’s findings and conclusions; please make every effort to promote debate, as this form of learning is highly successful. Your grade will be based on the extent of the assessments, quality of classroom preparation and direction.

Classroom Leadership (10%)
Active participation in classroom discussion is imperative for a successful seminar environment. As such, the following rubric will be used at the end of the semester to assign leadership points (presentation will not be included in the computation of this portion of the course grade):

10 = Extremely Interactive (routinely generates original stream of thought (i.e. questions/comments)
8 = Reasonably Interactive (routinely converses but rarely generates stream of thought)
6 = Moderately Active (occasionally speaks without being singled out for comment)
3 = Mostly Inactive (speaks, but only when singled out for comment)
0 = Inactive (never contributes in a meaningful way to classroom discussion)

Comprehensive Final Exam (Wednesday, December 6 @ 1:30-4:00) - 20%
Essay questions will be constructed from classroom lectures, discussions and assigned readings.
Exam/Project Make-Up Policy
Please make every possible effort to take the examination at the scheduled time. In the event of a missed exam, though, the make-up will be taken (if permitted) at the instructor’s discretion. To qualify for this privilege, the instructor must be notified prior to the exam or, in the case of an unavoidable emergency, as soon thereafter as possible.

ADA Syllabus 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.

Mailing Address:
The University of Southern Mississippi
Office for Disability Accommodations
118 College Drive #8586
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001

Contact Information:
Telephone: (601) 266-5024
TTY: (601) 266-6837
Fax: (601) 266-6035

Academic Integrity Syllabus Statement
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):

- Cheating (including copying from others’ work)
- Plagiarism (representing another person’s words or ideas as your own; failure to properly cite the source of your information, argument, or concepts)
- Falsification of documents
- Disclosure of test or other assignment content to another student
- Submission of the same paper or other assignment to more than one class without the explicit approval of all faculty members’ involved
- Unauthorized academic collaboration with others
- 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: https://www.usm.edu/institutional-policies/policy-acaf-pro-012 Note that repeated acts of academic misconduct will lead to expulsion from the University.