

University of Massachusetts Lowell
School of Criminology & Justice Studies
The Criminal Justice System: CRIM.1010
Fall 2016

Professor: Matthew M. Sweeney, M.A. **Office Location:** HSSB Rm 477
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Class Meetings: M/W: 12:30-1:45 **Class Location:** O'Leary Library 327
Office Hours: M/W: 10:30-12:00

Course Description: This course presents a brief history of the Criminal Justice System and an analysis of its structure and function. This course required of all CJ majors and is a prerequisite for all other courses in criminal justice.

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Analyze the structure found in the criminal justice agencies (police, courts, and corrections).
 2. Classify various crimes, criminal, and victims.
 3. Differentiate the various constitutional limits on criminal law.
 4. Outline the various missions, roles, and strategies of policing in America.
 5. Describe relationship between the police and the Constitution in regard to arrests, searches, and interrogations.
 6. Explain courtroom procedures including trial, plea, and sentencing.
 7. Understand institutional vs. community-based punishments.
 8. Explore the constitutional and historic aspects of the juvenile system.
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Required Textbooks and Materials:

Siegel, Larry J., John L. Worrall. (2017). Essential of Criminal Justice. 10th. Ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning. (ISBN-13: 9781305633766)

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Class Participation Policy: Attendance and class participation are an integral part of this course, as there will be information discussed in class that is not found in your textbook. You are expected to attend every class, show up on time, stay until the end of class, and fully participate.

Teaching Style: This course will be presented through lectures and interactive discussions. Student input is vital to learning, and all students are encouraged to participate in classroom discussions. It is crucial that students read the assigned chapters **prior** to attending class. Appropriate videos and supplemental material will be used throughout the course. Any additional materials used in class is subject to testing.

Chapter Quizzes: There will be eleven (11) weekly chapter quizzes throughout the course via the Blackboard learning system. Chapter quizzes are based on the reading assignments for that week. Each quiz will consist of 15 multiple choice/true and false questions and students will have 20 minutes to complete each quiz. The quiz will open on Monday morning and the quiz will close on Saturday at 9:00 pm. Therefore, it is important to read the chapters BEFORE each week's class. A missed chapter quiz will result in a score of ZERO (no points) for that assignment. Late chapter quizzes will not be allowed. The three lowest quiz scores will not be counted against the total score.

Examinations: There will be FOUR online exams throughout the semester which MAY contain a combination of multiple choice questions, short answers, true/false questions, and essays. We will discuss the outline of the exams in more depth as the dates of the respective exams approach. A **missed exam results in a zero (no points).** Make up exams are rarely in the same format as the missed exam. Exams will be administered via the Blackboard learning system. Exams will open at 12:00AM on the date identified in the Syllabus and close promptly at 11:59PM on the same date. At that time, all progressing submissions will be automatically submitted. Students will have up to 75 minutes to complete each exam worth 50 points.

Late Assignments: Any assignment not submitted by the assigned time and date is considered late, which will result in a zero - no points. Late quizzes or assignments will NOT be accepted! If there is a legitimate circumstance for a student to miss an exam or quiz, prior notification is encouraged. Please inform the instructor as soon as possible and provide any relevant documentation to affirm the excused nature of any absence. Students are responsible for providing the documentation within a reasonable timeframe so accommodations can be made regarding the missed assessments. The instructor reserves the right to accept or decline circumstances devoid of official documentation.

Academic Integrity: The faculty expects a high level of responsibility and academic honesty from its students. It is imperative that students demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in their scholastic work. Cheating or plagiarizing of any kind will not be tolerated. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action. All policies and procedures will be followed in accordance with the UML Academic Integrity Policy. This policy can be found at:

**<https://www.uml.edu/Catalog/Undergraduate/Policies/Academic-Policies/Academic-Integrity.aspx>

Students with Disabilities: Please notify the instructor as soon as possible if you are a student who qualifies as a person with a disability as defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, or the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA). The instructor will help to direct you to any available on-campus academic resources as necessary. Please provide relevant documentation from the Office of Disability Services as soon as possible.

Email Usage: UML encourages all official student email correspondence to be sent only from the student's UML email account, and faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UML student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of

confidence in the identity of all correspondence and the security of the transmitted information. Please allow the instructor a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours to respond to any email correspondence. This time may be extended on Weekends and Holidays. I am rather responsive to emails and I make an effort to respond, but in some circumstances internet access may be inaccessible for the instructor.

Course Evaluations:

Assignment	Portion of Grade
Chapter quizzes (8)	120 points (15 pts each)
FOUR (4) Exams	200 points (50 pts each)
Total	320 points

Grade Scale (in points):

	B+ 278 - 287	C+ 246 - 255	D+ 208 - 223	
A 298 - 320	B 268 - 277	C 236 - 245	D 192 - 207	F 0 - 191
A- 288 - 297	B- 256 - 267	C- 224 - 235		

Technology: To ensure a respectful and distraction-free environment, students may not use cell phones in the classroom. If you need a cell phone for emergency purposes, please let the instructor know before the start of class. Wearing earbuds, headphones, or any other type of audio equipment is forbidden while in class, unless they are related to a documented disability as a form of adaptive technology. Laptop computers are allowed, but for note-taking purposes only. The instructor reserves the right to prohibit laptop usage, or any other type of technological usage, if the privilege is being abused.

Classroom Etiquette: Comments and discussion are strongly encouraged in the college setting. However, please be sure to respect others when making comments in class. Be respectful of opinions that differ from yours and deliver comments in a non-aggressive fashion. Do not interrupt the instructor or other students. Please keep comments relevant to topics covered in class. Inherently, in Criminal Justice, there are numerous topics that are controversial or sensitive in nature. We will watch videos that may be uncomfortable and depict violent or illegal behavior. Please be aware that conversations may feel uncomfortable, but at no time is the instructor advocating a particular viewpoint or degrading a particular viewpoint. The instructor reserves the right to dismiss students for inappropriate or disruptive behavior.

Class Cancellations: If a class is unable to meet at the scheduled time, the class will continue on Blackboard. You are still required to do the readings for that class and quizzes will be due as noted. Test material will still be drawn from readings on cancelled class days and exams will continue as scheduled. Test material will be adapted to include only material provided in the reading.

Course Schedule:

****Required readings and assignments are to be completed before the start of class.****

Week	Dates	Readings/Assignments	Readings
Week 1	9/7	<u>The Nature of Crime, Law, and Criminal Justice</u> Crime and Criminal Justice	Chapter 1 Quiz
Week 2	9/12, 9/14	The Nature of Crime and Victimization	Chapter 2 Quiz
Week 3	9/19, 9/21	Criminal Law: Substance and Procedure	Chapter 3 Quiz
Week 4	9/26, 9/28	<u>The Police and Law Enforcement</u> Police in Society: History & Organization **No Class – EXAM NUMBER ONE**	Chapter 4 *No Quiz*
Week 5	10/3, 10/5	The Police: Role and Function	Chapter 5 Quiz
Week 6	10/11, 10/12	Issues in Policing: Professional, Social, and Legal	Chapter 6
Week 7	10/17, 10/19	<u>COURTS and Adjudication</u> Courts, Prosecution, and the Defense **No Class - EXAM NUMBER TWO**	Chapter 7 *No Quiz*
Week 8	10/24, 10/26	Pretrial & Trial Procedures	Chapter 8 Quiz
Week 9	10/31, 11/2	Punishment and Sentencing	Chapter 9 Quiz
Week 10	11/7, 11/9	<u>Corrections and Alternative Sentencing</u> Community Sentences: Probation, Intermediate Sanctions, and Restorative Justice	Chapter 10 Quiz
Week 11	11/14, 11/16	Corrections: History, Institutions, and Populations **No Class – EXAM NUMBER THREE**	Chapter 11 *No Quiz*
Week 12	11/21, 11/23	Prison Life, Living and Leaving Prison	Chapter 12 Quiz
Week 13	11/28, 11/30	<u>Contemporary Issues in American Criminal Justice</u> Juveniles Justice in the Twenty First Century	Chapter 13 Quiz
Week 14	12/5, 12/7	Criminal Justice in the New Millennium	Chapter 14 Quiz

THE FOURTH EXAM WILL BE ON DECEMBER 16, 2016 – SPECIFIC INFORMATION WILL BE DISCUSSED AS THE DATE APPROACHES.

****Readings and exam dates are subject to change. All changes will be announced in advance.**