

CrJu 4499
Senior Seminar in Criminal Justice

Fall Semester 2013

Classroom: Burruss Building 372

Prerequisite Course: CrJu 3301

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TUE/THUR 1400 (2pm) to 1515 (3:15pm) hours

Final Exam: 05 DEC 2013

Drop Date: 11 OCT is the Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty

This course has a limited enrollment (by course design and approval) of 25 students

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is the capstone course designed for senior-level students **to apply learning** from previous criminal justice courses and courses from their specific major concentration. This course addresses current issues and trends in criminal justice to integrate knowledge concerning criminal justice policy. Each student is required to prepare, submit and present on an instructor-approved criminal justice topic.

COURSE GOALS

After completing the course, the student will be better prepared to: demonstrate an intricate familiarity with the various facets of the criminal justice system in America; and **develop an understanding of the interlocking relationships** between the various components in the criminal justice field.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing the course, the student will be able to: fully integrate basic criminal justice principles and practices underlying this field of study and work; access and correctly interpret contemporary criminal justice research findings; *analyze, synthesize, and evaluate complex criminal justice issues*; and communicate at a professional level, both orally and in writing.

- Demonstrate the ability to think in a disciplinary perspective using current issues and trends in criminal justice policy in case study research.
- Articulate how false assumptions, prejudices, and cultural bias create weak arguments or logical fallacies.
- Explain the application of the scientific method to criminal justice tasks and case study research.
- Detail sound scientific thinking which creates changes in current criminal justice policy.
- Provide examples of how critical thinking can prevent and solve crimes, as well as, impact criminal justice policy.
- Obtain reasonable conclusions based on trends in criminal justice.
- Present an informed argument in oral and written form on past, present, and future criminal justice policy.

Required Text

Vaughn, L. (2010). *The Power of Critical Thinking: Effective Reasoning about Ordinary and Extraordinary Claims*. 3rd Ed. New York, NY: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-537792-7

Suggested Reading

Yin, R.K. (2009). *Case Study Research: Design and Methods*. 4th Ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. ISBN: 978-1-4129-6099-1

Course Requirements

Students complete two examinations, one research/writing requirement, and work as a part of a team conducting an Informational Brief. ALL students are required to present an oral argument/presentation as a part of a team.

Mid-Term Exam- Includes Chapters 1-, lecture, films, classroom discussions, guest speaker presentations

Final Exam- Includes Chapters 6-9, lecture, films, classroom discussions, guest speaker presentations

Research/Writing Requirement - Minimum of 2500, Maximum of 3500, words paper.

Informational Briefing Team Member – See guidance to follow.

Each Researcher is tasked to read one book and view one film. The book and film cannot match selections made by other team members and films required as homework assignments are not included in this task. Researchers will provide a 3x5 card with book and film selection on 03 SEP.

Exam Make-Up Policy- If you miss an exam, call or Email me. I will work with you to complete the requirement. You must complete a make-up within one week of the date the exam was scheduled.

Students with Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments must notify me as soon as possible. Verification is required. All discussions will remain confidential.

Grading

Your final grade reflects your performance on the examinations, research/writing requirement, your team informational brief and your part therein, your class participation, and attendance. Your final score is calculated using the following guide:

Mid-Term Examination	25%	08 OCT
Research/Writing	25%	07 NOV
Team Informational Brief	25%	12,14,19,21,26 NOV
Final Examination	25%	05 DEC

Missing eight hours of learning will result in dropping a letter grade for the course; miss more – drop more.

Exams Grades

100-90 = A
89-80 = B
79-70 = C
69-60 = D
59-0 = F

Exams are 50+ multiple choice exams utilizing a provided Scantron answer sheet.
Homework assignments are testable material.

Research papers(The Critical Investigative Assessment) and briefings are graded using the following format:

A= 95 (Outstanding)
B= 85 (Excellent)
C= 75 (Satisfactory)
D= 65 (Unsatisfactory, but passing)
F= 0-59 (Failing)

Case Study Research Project: The Critical Investigative Assessment

The learning goal for this paper is to determine your erudition from this course in an in-depth case study. Your research/writing requirement examines American's most famous murder: John F. Kennedy. You are assigned a hypothesis of the crime to research. Your learning, paper, and informational brief should reveal your understanding of criminal justice systems, the scientific method, and the employment of critical thinking skills. Use the APA writing style and a minimum of six references: three academic sources and three additional credible media sources. Wikipedia is not a trusted source; however, their list of books and references may provide direction. Use a 12-point Times New Roman font; staple in top left corner (no cover, spines, or notebooks). Print front and back and three-hole punch the paper. Paper must be "original" ink; no photocopies of papers will be accepted. FOLLOW APA RULES. Peer reviews are encouraged.

Written case studies (The Critical Investigative Assessment) are scored based on:

Quality of research
Quality of presentation in the written form
Adherence to research guide

Oral Presentations are scored based on:

Presenting objectively essential facts
Transition and use of visual aids
Protocol and professionalism
Answers to questions from peers and evaluators

Class Activities

Class time is devoted to discussion, lecture, film/video, and reviews. Guest lecturers and films are a part of this course and exam questions may be taken from the information. Changing circumstances may lead to adjustments in course assignments and scheduling. *If you miss a class, you are responsible to contact me to learn about any changes that may have occurred.*

Team Assignments

Twenty-five students are divided into 5 teams of 5 students. Assignments are made by the professor and changes are NOT permitted. Teams hypothesis are as follows:

Team Oswald: Hypothesis...Lone Gunman: Lee Harvey Oswald (and Jack Ruby)

Team Mafia: Hypothesis...Mafia (and Jack Ruby)

Team LBJ: Hypothesis...LBJ and Texas Connection (and Jack Ruby)

Team Government: Hypothesis...US Government/CIA/FBI (and Jack Ruby)

Team Castro: Hypothesis...Castro/Cuba/Russia (and Jack Ruby)

Laptop Computers/Tablets/Cell Phones are NOT allowed in my classroom unless you have a documented learning disability or you are using an electronic version of the textbook. ALL Bluetooth devices must be removed. Cell phones must be placed on silent or off. No texting during class; if you do, you will be asked to leave. ***Laptops are permitted for use during team meetings.***

Weather- If weather prevents us from meeting, follow the schedule and continue your reading or research. Listen to local radio. The bottom line: use common sense and I do not want anyone hurt. Safety is EVERYONE'S Responsibility!

Academic Honesty

The University Catalog contains the general policies and regulations on the Academic Honesty policy. I advise you to read and follow the academic policy. The bottom line: Do The Right Thing! Plagiarism equals an "F." Cut and paste will get you an F; don't do it.

The student is responsible for upholding the provisions and policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University.

Plagiarism and Cheating

No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.). Unless specifically authorized, the presence and/or use of electronic devices during an examination, quiz, or other class assignment is considered cheating. Engaging in any behavior which a professor prohibits as academic misconduct in the syllabus or in class discussion is cheating. When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated, and when the ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, electronic based information or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in a project, they should be duly acknowledged. No student may submit the same, or substantially the same, paper or other assignment for credit in more than one class without the prior permission of the current professor(s).

<https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct>

Disruption of Campus Life Statement

It is the purpose of the institution to provide a campus environment, which encourages academic accomplishment, personal growth, and a spirit of understanding and cooperation. An important part of maintaining such an environment is the commitment to protect the health and safety of every member of the campus community. Belligerent, abusive, profane, threatening and/ or inappropriate behavior on the part of students is a violation of the Kennesaw State University Student Conduct Regulations. Students who are found guilty of such misconduct may be subject to immediate dismissal from the institution.

Class Schedule (Remember a syllabus is a plan and a plan is point from which we deviate.)

20 AUG

Introductions

Review Syllabus

Team Assignment

Lecture: Case Study Research

Assignment: Read Chapters 1,2,3

22 AUG

Lecture: Introduction to critical thinking, the scientific method, and case study research.

27 AUG

Review Chapter 1

Assignment: Read Chapters 4,5

29 AUG

Review Chapter 2

03 SEP

Turn-In 3x5 card with book and film selection

Team Meeting #1

05 SEP

Review Chapter 3

Homework Requirement:

Films on Demand: JFK: Three Shots that Changed America, Part 1 (90:00); item 43075.

Determine issues, conclusions, reasons, arguments, ambiguous context, value conflicts, assumptions, and fallacies in reasoning presented in the film.

10 SEP

Review Chapter 4

12 SEP

Lecture: Case Study Research
Team Meeting #2

17 SEP

Review Chapter 5

19 SEP

Lecture: Briefing Protocol and Presentation Guidelines
Team Meeting #3 (include discussion of selection of specific briefing tasks)

24 SEP

Lecture: Case Study Research

26 SEP

Review Chapters 1-5

Homework Requirement:

Films on Demand: JFK: Three Shots that Changed America, Part 2 (51:00); item 43076.

01 Oct

Team Analysis and Discussion: Results from student analysis of Film: Part 1 and 2

03 OCT

Review for Mid-Term Exam

08 OCT

Mid-Term Exam
Read Chapters 6-9

10 OCT

Review Mid-Term Exam
Team Meeting #4

15 OCT

Review Chapter 6

17 OCT

Discussion: Confusing "after this" with "because of this"
Lecture: Fallacies - The Art of Mental Trickery

22 OCT

Review Chapter 7

24 OCT

SA Shad Bierdeman, US Secret Service, The Murder of JFK and changes at USSS

29 OCT
Review Chapter 8

31 OCT
Review Chapter 9

05 NOV
Review Chapters 6-9

07 NOV
Team Meeting#5 /Research Paper Due

12/14/19/21/26 NOV
Team Decision Briefs

03 DEC
Review for Final Exam

05 DEC
Final Exam

TURNITIN.Com Information and Directions

Research papers for CrJu 4499 must be submitted to www.turnitin.com to determine originality and prevent plagiarism. This is not an option, it is required. Papers will not be accepted unless evaluated by the professor in Turnitin.

Class Name: 2013 Fall CrJu 4499
Enrollment Password: Lighthouse
Class ID Number: 6654562

Students must self-enroll by creating a user profile, using the class ID number, and class enrollment password. Papers are accepted by Turnitin in the following file types: Microsoft Word (doc and docx); Corel WordPerfect; HTML; Adobe PostScript; Plain Text (TXT); Rich Text (RTF); Portable Document Format (PDF).

Originality Report. The Originality Report (OR) provides a summary of matching or highly similar text found in a submitted paper. If quoted or bibliographic information is found in the paper to be similar or matching another source, it can be removed from the OR. Plagiarism is determined by the professor.

HARD COPY of paper is required in accordance with the class syllabus.

Students are encouraged to use the video tutorials found at the turnitin website. Enroll as soon as possible.

The Critical Investigative Assessment
Case Study Research Project Paper Format – DUE 07 NOV – 2 Copies
PRINT FRONT AND BACK

Follow APA rules.

1. Cover Page
 - a. Name
 - b. KSU Number
 - c. Team Assignment
 - d. Turnitin Number
 - e. Date
 - f. _____(insert blank line for grade)
2. Abstract/Executive Summary
3. Introduction Paragraph (Who, What, When, Where)
4. Case Study Hypothesis Assignment
 - a. Framework for examination/Protocol
 - b. Literature Review
5. Data Collection
 - a. Readings
 - b. Films Reviewed
 - c. Team Discussion Notes/Insight
 - d. Other (e.g. Interview)
6. The How Question
7. The Why Question
8. Hypothesis Evaluation
 - a. Proofs
 - b. Falsification
9. Conclusion
10. Team Member Evaluations (separate page for each team member)
 - a. Team Member Name
 - b. Attendance
 - c. Participation/Professionalism
 - d. Hypothesis Insight Contribution
 - e. Would you want this person on a future project at work? Why or why not?

Team Briefing and Slides

1. Introduction
 - a. Briefer A : Welcome, Introduce Self
 - b. Purpose and Procedure for Brief
 - c. Each Team Member Introduces Self
 - d. Briefer A: Explains Hypothesis Assignment
2. Body
 - a. Briefer B: Reviews all books read by team members
 - b. Briefer C: Reviews all films examined by team members
 - c. Briefer B: Explains CJ system failures
 - d. Briefer D: Explains Hypothesis Support and Evidence
 - e. Briefer E: Explains Hypothesis Falsification and Evidence
 - f. Briefer C: Reviews CJ system changes
3. Conclusion
 - a. Briefer A: ask for any questions
 - b. All Team Members assist in answering questions
 - c. Briefer A: Reviews Hypothesis
 - d. Briefer B: Reviews Falsification
 - e. Briefer C: Recommendations for future research
 - f. Briefer D: Concluding Statement: "This concludes the informational briefing by team _____. Thank you for you for your attendance and the team will remain here for a few minutes to meet the audience. Please be safe as you leave KSU today. Thank you. I will be followed by Dr. Crowder."
4. Critique by classmates and professor.