

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY and CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE 4499/02 – SENIOR SEMINAR in CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CRN #10004
SYLLABUS – SPRING 2017

Instructor: Asst. Prof. Peter Fenton
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Office: 4065 Social Sciences

Class times: Monday/ Wednesday
3:30 pm – 4:45 pm
Room 1105 Kennesaw Hall
Office hours M/W 2:00 – 3:30 pm

TEXTS:

Worrall, J. L. (2015). *Crime Control in America: What works?*, 3rd Ed. Boston, MA: Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-13-349548-5.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

3 Class Hours 0 Laboratory Hours 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: [CRJU 1101](#) and [CRJU 3301](#)

This is a 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 a research paper on an instructor-approved criminal justice topic.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Consider a variety of current issues and challenges in the field of criminal justice and possible solutions.
2. Work in small groups to conduct research and prepare both written and verbal responses to assigned work.
3. Engage in discussions with peers regarding relevant criminal justice topics.

This is a seminar course, which means that students will be required to come to every class prepared to participate. This means that all assigned readings must be done BEFORE class; the professor will serve primarily as a facilitator, not as a lecturer.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Attend class regularly.
2. Read assigned material and come to class prepared.
3. Participate in class discussions and activities.

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS:

Reaction Papers. Students will complete four reaction papers during the course. The purpose of reaction paper assignments is to provide you with an opportunity to think about the course materials and topics. Each assignment will be taken from readings and class discussions. Your position itself will not be graded. That is, it does not matter whether you agree or disagree with the professor or other students. What does matter is how well you make your case. Reaction papers are limited to three double-spaced, typewritten pages, using standard APA format. Each paper is worth 10% of the final grade. Late submissions will be penalized 10 points per calendar day.

White papers/presentations. Students will be assigned to one of five groups; the composition of these groups will change for each of the two assignments. Each group will be assigned to consider, research, and report on a current criminal justice problem or issue. Working together, members of each group will prepare a white paper of 10-12 typed, double-spaced pages, addressing the nature of the problem or issue and possible solutions. Groups will make a brief presentation in class, summarizing the content of their white paper. Additional information about the white paper assignments will be given in class. Each white paper assignment will be worth 30% of the final grade.

No “extra credit” work will be assigned. Don’t even ask.

USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES: Students are not permitted to use laptop or tablet computers, cell phones, or other electronic devices during class, except in the case of a documented disability requiring the use of such device. Any student discovered using an electronic device during class will be directed to secure it and will be counted as absent for that day’s class.

EXCEPTION: A student may use a laptop computer (not a tablet or cell phone) only if the student first submits a written acknowledgement that the laptop is to be used **EXCLUSIVELY** for the purposes of taking notes or accessing an electronic copy of the textbook for this class. The instructor reserves the right at any time to observe the screen content of any device used during class. If content other than class notes or other relevant material is visible, the student will be counted as absent for that day, will be required to shut off the device, and will not be allowed to use it in class thereafter.

RECORDING: Students may not record (audio, video, still photography) the lectures or class discussions without prior permission from the instructor.

Students do not have my consent to use recording devices in the classroom or in my office.

GRADING: The final grade will be assigned as a letter grade, based on the following scale:

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

A grade of Incomplete will be given only in rare circumstances, for good cause shown, such as a serious illness that precludes completion of the course. An Incomplete will not

be given solely for failure to complete assignments on time. The instructor and the department chair shall have sole discretion in granting an Incomplete grade.

Grades, announcements, and schedule changes will be posted on D2L. Students are urged to check their D2L site regularly. All electronic communications with the instructor regarding course-related matters must be submitted through the D2L mail feature, NOT the standard KSU email system.

ATTENDANCE: Regular class attendance is directly related to academic success, and is particularly critical in a class offered in seminar format. Therefore, attendance in class should be a priority, and a mandatory attendance policy will be enforced. Each student will be allowed a maximum of three absences during the semester. These are at the student's discretion – no doctor's notes or other documentation is required. However, upon the fourth and subsequent absence, 5 points will be deducted from the student's final grade for each class missed.

Roll will be called at the start of each class. Students who arrive late are solely responsible for checking in with the instructor **IMMEDIATELY AFTER CLASS**. Two late arrivals are the equivalent of one absence.

The only exceptions to this policy are for documented mandatory military service or a court subpoena or summons.

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section III of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's 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 or intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which may include an informal resolution by a faculty member resulting in a grade adjustment or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject the student to the minimum one-semester suspension required by the Code of Conduct.

Cheating or plagiarism in any form will result in a grade of F for the course. In addition, a report will be filed with the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.

CAMPUS POLICIES: Students are responsible for reading and familiarizing themselves with the following campus policies:

Academic Honesty/Integrity Statement

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Confidentiality and Privacy Statement (FERPA)

<http://enrollmentservices.kennesaw.edu/training/ferpa.php>

University – Student Rights Statement

<http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=2263>

Ethics Statement

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Sexual Harassment Statement

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

Course Accessibility Statement (ADA statement)

<http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds/institutional-policies.php>

Disruption of Campus Life Policy

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

COURSE SCHEDULE
(Tentative)

Date	Topic	Readings
January 9	Syllabus Review; Introduction	
January 11	Identifying and evaluating crime control	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 1 and Appendix
January 16	HOLIDAY – no class	
January 18	Identifying and evaluating crime control; Crime control perspectives	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapters 1 & 2, Appendix
January 23	Crime control perspectives First reaction paper due	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 2
January 25	Traditional policing	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 3
January 30	Traditional policing; Proactive policing, directed patrol, and other advancements	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapters 3 and 4
February 1	Proactive policing, directed patrol, and other advancements	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 4
February 6	Community involvement in policing	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 5
February 8	Community involvement in policing	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 5
February 13	Prosecutors and crime control	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 6
February 15	Prosecutors and crime control Second reaction paper due	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 6
Date	Topic	Readings
February 20	Crime control through legislation	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 7
February 22	Crime control through legislation	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 7
February 27	Crime control in the courts and beyond	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 8
March 1	Crime control in the courts and beyond	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 8
March 6	Sentencing	<i>Worrall</i> : Chapter 9
March 8	Preparation for first white paper presentations	

March 13	First white paper presentations	
March 15	First white paper presentations	
March 20	Probation, Parole, and intermediate sanctions	<i>Worrall: Chapter 10</i>
March 22	Probation, Parole, and intermediate sanctions	<i>Worrall: Chapter 10</i>
March 27	Rehabilitation, treatment, and job training	<i>Worrall: Chapter 11</i>
March 29	Rehabilitation, treatment, and job training Third reaction paper due	<i>Worrall: Chapter 11</i>
April 1-7	SPRING BREAK	
April 10	Individual, family, and household crime control	<i>Worrall: Chapter 12</i>
April 12	Individual, family, and household crime control	<i>Worrall: Chapter 12</i>
April 17	Crime control in the community and in schools; Reducing criminal opportunities through environmental manipulation	<i>Worrall: Chapters 13 & 14</i>
April 19	Crime control in the community and in schools; Reducing criminal opportunities through environmental manipulation Fourth reaction paper due	<i>Worrall: Chapters 13 & 14</i>
April 24	Putting it all together and explaining crime trends	<i>Worrall: Chapter 15</i>
Date	Topic	Readings
April 26	Putting it all together and explaining crime trends	<i>Worrall: Chapter 15</i>
May 1	Preparation for second white paper presentations	
May TBA	Second white paper presentations	