Instructor: Yudu Li
Email: yudu.li@utrgv.edu
Office: SBSC 334
Phone: (956) 665-2339
Time: 4:40 - 7:20 PM Thur.
Office Hours: Wed. & Tus. 10:00 -11:30 AM, or by appointment.

1. Required Class Materials

Please see the class schedule at the end of this syllabus for the reading materials including book chapters, reports, and journal articles.

2. Course Description

This course is intended to provide students with a comprehensive overview of the foundations of modern police and explore some contemporary salient research topics in the area of law enforcement. These topics are closely related to the policing in a democracy, including but not limited to the development of police, functions of law enforcement, measurements of law enforcement performance, ethical issues of police, police discretion, community and police relationships, and strategies employed by law enforcement to fulfill their obligations to society.

3. Course Objectives

a) Understand the historical development of the police.
b) Be able to recognize some salient policing research topics.
c) Understand the core research and practice issues related to these topics.
d) Develop a basic knowledge of policing strategies.
e) Enhance reading comprehension and writing skills.

4. Course Requirements and Grading

This course has three assignments, weekly reading assignment, term paper, and class participation. The following is an overview of the assignments.

There are 300 points in total to be earned in the class:

A. Weekly reading assignments and discussion questions (10 X 10=100 points).
a) Students are required to read all the weekly reading assignments and submit a list at least four discussion questions of each reading assignment. The list must be submitted to the
course instructor as a coursed message before **11:59 PM each Wednesday**.

**B. Class attendance and participation (50 points)**

Students are expected to attend class regularly and actively participate in class activities. Poor attendance and participation will reduce your performance on your class grades. Students who **miss three or more sessions** without acceptable excuses will fail the class.

**C. Group leading discussion (50 points).**

a) Every student will be assigned to one group and the class discussion will be led by a group each week.

b) Each group will have a group leader and the leader is responsible for assigning the reading assignments to group members, formalizing PPTs, and conducting peer evaluation.

c) The leading discussion is supposed to be done in a format of PPT presentation and all the PPTs are to be submitted to the course instructor before **midnight each Wednesday**.

d) Grading is based on the students’ understanding of the weekly policing topics, presentation, leading discussion, responses to questions from the class, and evaluation from the team leader.

**D. Writing assignment and presentation (100 points)**

a) At the end of the class, students are required to submit a paper related to one policing research topic that students are interested in. The paper should be at least 15 pages without counting references. Papers should use standard APA style: 12-inch Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins, a cover page, and reference list. (70 points)

b) The writing assignment is due at **11:59 PM, December 10, 2018**.

c) Students **are required to present their essays** at the end of the class. The presentation is supposed to be 5 to 7 minutes. (30 points)

**5. Extra Credit (15)**

The extra credit for this class is specifically designed for the student who participates in a ride along with a police department. In order to obtain the extra credit, students should:

a. Contact the police departments themselves and set up a ride along with the police department they are interested in.

b. Write an essay at maximum three-page without counting the cover page about this experience upon completion of the ride along.

c. The essay should cover the following information, including but not limited to, what activities he/she and the police officer did in the ride along, what did he/she learn from the ride along, did the experience consist or contradict the knowledge he or she learnt in class, and any other interesting findings or topics related to policing.

d. The essay should use standard APA style as discussed above.

e. Ride along and the related assignment could be done at any point throughout this semester, but should not conflict with the class schedules.
6. Grading Scale

Letter Grades are based on the completion of the class assignments listed above. Students are expected to participate substantially and collegially in the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>270-300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>240-269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>210-239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>180-209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59% or less</td>
<td>&lt;179</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Attendance:

UTRGV’s attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for the observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

8. Class Content Warning

This course will touch on some topics and issues which may be offensive or disturbing to some individuals. This may include but is not limited to violence, sexual violence, offensive/foul language, controversial laws, practices, or treatments, and cases of fictional or real criminal investigations. Anyone who does not act professionally and respectfully will be asked to leave class for the day at the instructor’s discretion and may be subject to University conduct policies.

9. Emails to the Instructor

Email is the preferred mode of communication between students and the instructor, and include the following information to guarantee a response:
   a) Emails must be sent from your UTRGV email accounts.
   b) At least the course title “Policing in a Democracy” or “CRIJ 6303” as the subject
   c) Clear, full sentences explaining your reason for the email and what you need from the instructor.

10. Students with Disabilities:

If you have a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects your academic performance) and would like to receive academic accommodations, please inform your instructor and contact Student Accessibility Services to schedule an appointment to initiate services. It is recommended that you schedule an appointment with Student Accessibility Services before classes start. However, accommodations can be provided at any time.

**Brownsville Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and
can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at accessibility@utrgv.edu.

**Edinburg Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at accessibility@utrgv.edu.

11. University Calendar of Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 22 (Wed.)</td>
<td>Payment Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 24 (Fri.)</td>
<td>Waitlist Ends&lt;br&gt;Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) and receive a 100% refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 27 (Mon.)</td>
<td>Fall classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 30 (Thurs.)</td>
<td>Last day to add or register for Fall classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 31 (Fri.)</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) and receive an 80% refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 3 (Mon.)</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday. No classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 10 (Mon.)</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) and receive a 70% refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 12 (Wed.)</td>
<td>Census Day (last day to drop without it appearing on the transcript)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 17 (Mon.)</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) and receive a 50% refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 24 (Mon.)</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw (drop all classes) and receive a 25% refund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 14 (Wed.)</td>
<td>Last day to drop (DR grade) a class or withdraw (grade of W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 22 – Nov. 24 (Thurs. – Sat.)</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday. No classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 6 (Thurs.)</td>
<td>Study Day. No classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 7 – Dec. 13</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 14 – Dec. 15</td>
<td>Commencement Exercises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 17 (Mon.)</td>
<td>Grades Due at 3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Mandatory Course Evaluation Period:

Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (http://my.utrgv.edu); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades.

13. Scholastic Integrity:

As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity, and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and
the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

14. Sexual Harassment, Discrimination, and Violence:

In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “responsible employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect in an environment free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

15. Course Drops:

According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.
### 16. Tentative Class Schedules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>Introduction and syllabus review</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td>Emergence/development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Police behaviors/role</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sept. 20</td>
<td>Police subculture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sept. 27</td>
<td>Police discretion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Oct. 4</td>
<td>Do police matter?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oct. 11</td>
<td>What matters? (First)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Oct. 18</td>
<td>What matters? (Second)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oct. 25</td>
<td>Measuring what matters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nov. 1</td>
<td>Community and policing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nov. 8</td>
<td>Future policing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>ASC meeting</td>
<td>No class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nov. 22</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
<td>No class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Nov. 29</td>
<td>Class presentation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dec. 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Study Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
<td>Writing assignment due at 11:59 PM</td>
<td>No class</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Weekly Reading Assignments

**Topic one: Emergence/evolvement of Modern Police & the United States Police**


**Topic Two: Police Behaviors/role**


**Topic Three: Police Subculture**


**Topic Four: Police discretion**


**Topic Five: Do police matter?**


**Topic Six: What matters? (First)**


**Topic Seven: What matters? (Second)**


**Topic Eight: Measuring what matters**


**Topic Nine: Communities and policing**


and justice, 271-311.


**Topic Ten: Future of Policing**


