

Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology  
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**CRIJ 2367.07 Police Systems and Practices**

**Professor: Brent Wilson**  
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**Semester/Year: Fall 2017**

**Credit Hours: 3**  
**Phone: 832-620-7187**  
**Office: None/On line only**

**Course Description:**

This is an introductory course on the role and function of the police in the criminal justice system and the broader society. Emphasis is placed on the development of policing and the roles of the police in contemporary America. Course content will emphasize issues and conflicts inherent in policing a democratic society. As a survey course, it examines the history of the police and the social values and value conflicts that underlay contemporary law enforcement. Moreover, the course includes an examination of important issues and topics.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be familiar with both the practical and philosophical components of the American police force.

**Course Objectives:**

This course has three primary objectives:

1. Learn fundamental principles and theories of American police,
2. Gain the factual knowledge of the operations and practices of the police, and
3. Know the impact of the importance of external environment on the police.

**Readings:**

1. Required Textbook: *Police in America: An Introduction*. 9<sup>th</sup> edition, By Samuel Walker & Charles Katz, 2018, McGraw Hill.

**Academic Honesty:** All students at this University are expected to engage in academic pursuits on their own with complete honesty and integrity.

Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and can result in the failure of a course and dismissal from the university. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit), the abuse of resource materials, and misrepresentation of credentials or accomplishments as a member of the college. The University's policy on academic honesty and appeal procedures can be found in the manual entitled Student guidelines, distributed by Division of Student Services. (Reference Section 5.3 of the SHSU Student Guidelines).

### **Student Academic Policies:**

**Disability Student Policy:** <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

**Services for Disabled Students:** <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

**Student Absences on Religious Holy Day Policy:** <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

**Withdrawals:** <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

**Make up Exams and Incomplete Grades:** Except for the gravest of emergencies, a grade of "incomplete" will not be allowed for this course. Any missing grades, whether for examination or assignments, will be assumed to be zeros and will be averaged as such.

**Use of Telephones and Text Messages in Academic Classrooms and Facilities:** Since this is a On Line course use of telephones do not apply. See <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-curriculum.html> for further review.

**Reading Assignments:** Each student is expected to have completed the reading assignments before each class session. Reading the assignments before each class session will enhance the student's understanding of daily lectures.

### **Grading Scale:**

<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>
360 - 400	A
320 – 359	B
280 - 319	C
240 - 279	D
Below 240	F

**Evaluation:**

Grades for this course will be comprised of three exams (300 points) and participation in weekly group discussion (100 points)

Exams cover both reading assignments and lecture material. Exams consist of 50 multiple choice questions (2 points each). This is an open-book exam, and each exam is limited to 60 minutes. The final exam is comprehensive including all the chapters that are covered in the class. The discussion is based on the weekly topic assigned to the students. Students may be assigned into several groups, depending on the number of enrollment in the class.

**Course Outline (weekly)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	08/23-08/27	Course Introduction
2	08/28-09/03	Chapter 1 – Police & Society
3	09/04-09/10	Chapter 2 – History of American Police
4	09/11-09/17	Chapter 3 - The Contemporary Law Enforcement Industry
5	09/18-09/24	Chapter 4 – Police Organizations
6	09/25-10/01	Chapter 5 – Police Officers I: Recruitment / Training for a Changing Society <b>FIRST EXAM</b>
7	10/02-10/08	Chapter 6 – Police Officers II: On the Job
8	10/09-10/15	Chapter 7 – Patrol: The Backbone of Policing
9	10/16-10/22	Chapter 8 – Peace Making & Order Maintenance
10	10/23-10/29	Chapter 9 – Police & Crime
11	10/30-11/05	Chapter 10 – Advances in Police Strategy <b>SECOND EXAM</b>
12	11/06-11/12	Chapter 11 - Police Discretion
13	11/13-11/19	Chapter 12 – Legitimacy and Police - Community Relations

14	11/20-11/26	Chapter 13 – Police Corruption
15	11/27-12/03	Chapter 14 – Accountability of the Police
16	12/04-12/07	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>