

# Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology

## Police Strategies CRIJ 4384.04 - Spring 2018

Instructor: Steve Dye  
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Class: Wednesday evening  
6:00 p.m. – 8:50 p.m.  
Classroom: A201  
Office Hours: By appointment

### **Textbook**

Ross, Jeffrey Ian, *Policing Issues: Challenges and Controversies*, Jones and Bartlett Publishing 2012

### **Course Description**

I began my career as a police officer in 1984, after graduating from Sam Houston State University, so this class will be taught from my perspective of 33 years in law enforcement and as the current Chief of Police for the Grand Prairie Police Department. This course is an analysis of police strategies with particular attention to current issues, challenges, and successes in today's law enforcement environment in the United States. My intent is for this class to be thought-provoking, interesting, rewarding, and an opportunity to learn new ideas and gain an additional understanding and perspective in regard to modern-day policing. We will have many classroom discussions on police strategies from a practitioner and academic viewpoint. My goal is for everyone to have a meaningful experience and learn more about law enforcement whether it be your career choice or toward a more civic-minded understanding of public service.

### **Course Objectives**

1. Understand the history of policing in the United States
2. Identify and discuss current issues facing law enforcement
3. Discuss challenges, failures, and successes in modern policing
4. Review recent, significant events in United States policing and discuss lessons learned
5. Learn more about specific, technical aspects of policing strategies
6. Discuss the future of American policing

### **Student Academic Policies**

Concerning Attendance, Academic Honesty, Disabled Student and Services for Disabled Students, and Absences on Religious Holy days may be found at:  
<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

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### **Attendance Policy**

Per university policy, regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student at Sam Houston State University. Attendance is defined as attending the entire class. One-third of your final grade will be based on your overall attendance and participation in this class.

### **Academic Dishonesty Policy**

Students are expected to do their own work. Under no circumstances will academic dishonesty be tolerated. Any student caught violating the student honor code will lose all designated points for that requirement. A second infraction will result in an F for the course and referral to the Dean for possible further disciplinary action. All intellectual dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating, is strictly forbidden.

### **Use of Telephones and Text Messages in Academic Classrooms and Facilities**

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-curriculum.html>

### **Cellphone Policy**

Cellular telephones and similar devices have become increasingly a part of everyday life. In the academic classroom, however, these devices can be a serious distraction and during tests they can be a serious problem. The technology is constantly changing and evolving. So, the present policy does not specify particular devices or device types. Rather, the policy applies to any device that performs the function of a telephone or text message. The use by students of electronic devices that perform the function of a telephone or text message during class-time is prohibited if deemed disruptive by the instructor to the conduct of the class. Arrangements for handling potential emergency situations may be granted at the discretion of the instructor. Failure to comply with the instructor's policy could result in expulsion from the classroom or, with multiple offenses, failure of the course. Any use of a telephone or text message or any device that performs these functions during a test period is prohibited, except when expressly permitted by the instructor. These devices should not be present during a test or should be stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen or used by the student. Even the visible presence of such a device during the test period will result in a "0" for that test. Use of these devices during a test is considered de facto evidence of cheating and could result in a charge of academic dishonesty.

### **Testing Policy**

There will be two exams (one mid-term exam and one final exam) as listed below in the course schedule. Each exam will be 50 questions (two points per question) in multiple-choice and/or true-false format. These exams are designed to help improve student understanding of the material and are based on class lecture, PowerPoint (when used), handouts, and the textbook. Each exam has a total value of 100 points.

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### Make-Up Exam Policy

Make-up examinations will be coordinated on a case-by-case basis if an exam had to be missed for a legitimate purpose.

### Communication

The preferential method of contacting me is via email. My phone number is also listed and I will schedule face-to-face meetings with you, as needed.

### Grading Policy

Mid-Term Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
Attendance and Participation	<u>100 points</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>300 points</b>

A = 270-300 points  
B = 240-269 points  
C = 210-239 points  
D = 180-209 points  
F = Below 180 points

### Course Schedule

DATES	TOPICS
January 17	Introduction; History of U.S. Policing (Chapter 2)
January 24	Understanding Community Policing
January 31	Discretion in Policing (Chapter 6)
February 7	Ferguson Case Study – Part 1
February 14	Ferguson Case Study – Part 2
February 21	Ferguson Case Study – Part 3
February 28	Ferguson Case Study – Part 4
<b>March 7</b>	<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>
<b>March 14</b>	<b>Spring Break – NO CLASS</b>
March 21	Tactical Capabilities in Policing / Active Shooter Threats
March 28	Recruitment, Education, and Training (Chapter 16)
<b>April 4</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
April 11	The PIO Function (Chapter 4)
April 18	Technology in Policing (Chapter 11)
April 25	Leadership and Cultural Change in Policing (Chapter 12)
May 2	Future of Policing in the U.S. (Chapter 18)
<b>May 9</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>

\*The class schedule may be modified or amended at the instructor's discretion.