COURSE SYLLABUS

CJ 480-71E: Senior Seminar in Criminal Justice

Spring 2020

Instructor: Captain Heath Oakley
Office Location: Navarro College Department of Public Safety
                        3200 W. 7th Ave., Corsicana, Texas 75110
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 10AM-2PM
Office Phone: 903)875-7502
Office Fax: 903)875-7696
Email Address: heath.oakley@tamuc.edu
Class Location: Bain Center – Room 304
Class Time: 5:00PM – 7:29PM

Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: Refer to the Interaction with Instructor
                                         Statement

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:

Maguire, M., Okada, D., & Sardina, A. (Eds.). (2019). *Critical issues in crime and justice:*
        Thought, policy, and practice. (3rd ed.). Los Angeles, CA: Sage Publications.
ISBN: 978-1-5443-0799-2*

Required Reading(s) and Activities:

Alexander, M. (2012). *The new Jim Crow: Mass incarceration in the age of colorblindness*. New
        York, NY: The New Press.
ISBN: 978-1-59558-643-8*

*The ISBN: # was placed after the reference for the student's benefit. Note that ISBN: #
is not part of the citation or reference.

Supplement Reading(s):

Note: As supplemental readings or alternative readings are needed or utilized, the instructor will provide students with the material.

Course Description

This course will provide a review and discussion of significant current research and case studies in the criminal justice field. Students will also examine and apply methods of transferring theoretical perspectives, knowledge, and skills from academics, to the work environment. An overview of career opportunities, resume preparation, and job interviewing skills are also developed during this course.

Student Learning Outcomes

1.) The student will learn how to synthesize knowledge of the criminal justice system;
2.) The student will understand important issues and concerns in criminal justice and how these issues/concerns impact each other;
3.) The student will improve their ability to communicate (oral and written) effectively;
4.) The student will take part in job preparation activities that will prepare them for a position/career in criminal justice or a related field.

Note: The student learning outcomes (SLOs) will be reviewed and refined, as needed, to reflect the materials presented.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

This course will provide a variety of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes and objectives for this course. Each week you will work toward achieving these outcomes through in-class discussions, lectures, assignments and exams.

A core competency of this course is critical thinking. There are numerous texts and articles that articulate and define critical thinking that students can locate and review to improve in this area. Critical thinking requires students to think through situations, facts, and issues with an open mind and in an objective way to analyze and evaluate information in an informed manner. Critical thinkers consider all points of view and carefully consider other's perspectives.

Student Responsibilities

This course is designed so that the majority of the material will be covered during the class meeting dates and times. Attendance is required. However, eCollege will also be utilized and the course shell should mirror the face-to-face schedule. The grade book will be maintained on eCollege. It is recommended that you check your official university email daily. Please be sure to read and review the course outline/calendar for important due dates. Course deadlines are firm and no late work will be accepted without prior approval.

The course is designed so that each week begins on Monday (12:00AM) and ends on Sunday (11:59PM), with the exception of the first and last week of the course.

Students are expected to have properly formatted papers/assignments. The format standard for this course is the American Psychological Association (APA) style format. To aid in properly formatting written work for this course students can purchase:

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
ISBN: 9781433805615*

…or students can review the online manual locate at:

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

Discussion Forums
No on-line (D2L Brightspace) discussions.

Assignments
Three assignments valued at 100 points each for a total of 300 points (30% of the overall grade) will be assigned in this course.

Capstone Assignment
You are required to write a capstone paper valued at 250 points (25% of the overall grade) for this course. A capstone paper is exactly what it sounds like. It is a paper that will encapsulate all that you have learned as a CJ major at Texas A&M University-Commerce. This paper should be approximately 10-12 pages in length with a hard minimum of 10 pages. Papers can be longer, but if you are approaching the 15 page mark, then you need to narrow the scope of your paper. The paper must be typed, double spaced in 12-point font. A title page with your name on it must be included. Full references must also be provided (APA Format) in your paper. The title page, reference page or abstract page will not be inclusive of the page count. This paper must adhere to APA format as it relates to citations.

Exams
This course will have two exams. The mid-term will be valued at 150 points (15% of the overall course grade). The final exam will be valued at 250 points (25% of the overall course grade).

The mid-term exam will cover the material (class lectures and assigned readings) from Week 1-7 in the course outline. The mid-term exam will be taken in-class on Monday (March 2).

The final exam will cover the material (class lectures and assigned readings) from Week 9-15 in the course outline. The final exam will be taken on Monday (May 4).

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

900-1000	points = A or 90%-100%
800-899	points = B or 80%-89%
700-799	points = C or 70%-79%
600-699	points = D or 60%-69%
0-599	points = F or 59% or Below

Assessments

3 Assignments	300 points (30%)
Mid-term	150 points (15%)
Final	250 points (25%)
Capstone paper	250 points (25%)
Class Attendance	50 points (5%)
Total:	1000 points (100%)

Lack of participation will result in the deduction of points from your overall course grade.

I have been asked in the past how one can calculate grade percentages based on the point system. I have included an example below:

To figure the percentage for a single grade, multiply the fractional grade by 100.

Points earned divided by Points available multiplied by 100
$12/15 \times 100 = 80\%$ $30/35 \times 100 = 85.7\%$ $55/70 \times 100 = 78.6\%$

To figure out a numerical grade, add up all your earned points (total earned points), add up all the possible points (total possible points available), and write that as a fraction:

Total earned points	12 + 30 + 55 = 97
Total possible points	15 + 35 + 70 =120
Multiply this fraction by 100	97/120 x 100 = 80.83333

In this example the grade would be a "B".

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2Lsupports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
    - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
    - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive

- o Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
  - o Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - o Speakers or headphones.
  - o *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.
    Pop-ups are allowed.
    JavaScript is enabled.
    Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - o Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/
  - o Adobe Flash Player *(version 17 or later)* https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
  - o Adobe Shockwave Player   https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
  - o Apple Quick Time   http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu**.**

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each

student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "click here" to submit an issue via email.

System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures

Attendance/Lateness
Attendance, as well as your participation and contributions in class activities, is required.
Late Work
As previously mentioned, no late work will be accepted without prior approval.
Missed Exams
Exams will be taken during class on the days assigned. The exam must be taken during this time. An exam cannot be made up; therefore, an effort to complete the exam during the assigned period must be made. If a problem still exists, then you should contact me immediately. Do not wait until the last minute to communicate an issue.
Quizzes
No quizzes will be given in this course.
Extra Credit
Extra credit may be provided at the instructor's discretion.

Academic Honesty

Students who violate university rules on scholastic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary penalties, including (but not limited to) receiving a failing grade on the assignment, the possibility of receiving an "F" in the course, and dismissal from the university. Policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. Incidents of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Department Head. Students should be aware that academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. The mid-term and final exams are not considered group assignments.

Drop Course Policy

Your grades in this class will be an accurate reflection of your time, effort, and commitment to the subject matter. Everyone begins the class with an "A". No curves will be assessed in the course. If you feel that you have dropped below an acceptable level in this course, it is your responsibility to contact your instructor for possible remedies, drop, or withdraw from the course.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook. http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedur
es/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week 1 (Jan. 13 – Jan. 19)
- Jan. 13 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Introduction
    - Lecture

Part I
- Maguire, M. & Okada, D. (2019).
  - pp. 1-92
- Assign Capstone Paper
  - APA format
  - Grading Rubric
    - Due Date: Monday, April 6

Week 2 (Jan. 20 – Jan. 26)
- Jan. 20 – TAMUC Closed

Week 3 (Jan. 27 – Feb. 2)
- Jan. 27 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Lecture
- Assign Assignment #1
  - Resume
    - Due Date: Monday, February 10

Part II
Maguire, M. & Okada, D. (2019).
pp. 93-170

Week 4 (Feb. 3 – Feb. 9)
- Feb. 3 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Lecture

Week 5 (Feb. 10 – Feb. 16)
- Feb. 10 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Lecture
- Assignment # 1 Due

Part III
> Maguire, M. & Okada, D. (2019).
>> pp. 171-248

Week 6 (Feb. 17 – Feb. 23)
- Feb. 17 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Lecture

Week 7 (Feb. 24 – March 1)
- Feb. 24 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Lecture
- Assign Assignment #2
  - Interview Preparation
    - Due Date: Monday, March 23
- Midterm Review

Week 8 (March 2 – March 8)
- Midterm

Spring Break (March 9 – March 13)
- TAMUC is closed

Supplement Reading
> Alexander, M. (2012).
> pp. 1-261

Week 9 (March 16 – March 22)
- March 16 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Lecture

Week 10 (March 23 – March 29)
- March 23 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Lecture
- Assignment # 2 Due

Part IV
> Maguire, M. & Okada, D. (2019).
>> pp. 249-335

Week 11 (March 30 – April 5)
- March 30 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Lecture
- Assign Assignment # 3
  - Portfolio/Presentation
    - Due Date: Monday, April 27

Week 12 (April 6 – April 12)
- April 6 – Meet in BC 202 at 5:30PM
  - Lecture
- Capstone Paper Due

Part V
    Maguire, M. & Okada, D. (2019).
        pp. 336-438

Week 13 (April 13 – April 19)
- April 13 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Lecture

Week 14 (April 20 – April 26)
- April 20 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
  - Lecture

Week 15 (April 27 – May 3)
- April 27 – Meet in BC 304 at 5PM
- Assignment # 3 Due
- Final Review

Week 16 (May 4)
- Final Exam