

**Brazosport College
Syllabus for
Police Systems and Practices (CRIJ 2328)**

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce the student to the exploration of the profession of police officer. Topics include organization of law enforcement systems, the police role, police discretion, ethics, police-community interaction, and current and future issues.

PREREQUISITES

None

COURSE OBJECTIVES and STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through the duration and upon conclusion of this course, the student should:

1. Define the role of the police in the criminal justice system.
2. Describe/recognize influences which led to the formation of local, state, and federal policing.
3. Examine how the personalities of the staff and supervisors of a police department can affect morale of a department and of the community.
4. Examine/describe how police crime control efforts are affected by both people in the community and the police department itself.
5. Describe the types of services routinely provided by police in American communities.
6. Define order maintenance and describe its importance as a function of the police and to define discretion and discuss its use in the maintenance of order by police.
7. Describe/discuss ways the characteristics of the community, the police organization, and police officers affect types and levels of police corruption.

TEXTBOOK OR COURSE MATERIAL INFORMATION

Gaines, Larry K., and Kappeler, Victor E. (2014). *Policing in America 8th Ed.*. Waltham, MA: Elsevier. **ISBN: 978-0-323-31148-9**

Required course materials are available at the Brazosport College bookstore, on campus or online at <http://www.brazosport.edu/bookstore>. A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college bookstore. The same textbook is/may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

LAB REQUIREMENT: None

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. Brazosport College offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist students with special needs. Please contact Phil Robertson, Special Populations Counselor, 979.230.3236, for further information.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Brazosport College assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct including academic honesty. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone. Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the Brazosport College Student Guide for more information. This is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu>. Click on the CATALOGS AND SCHEDULES link under STUDENTS.

Academic dishonesty violates both the policies of this course and the Student Code of Conduct. In this class, any occurrence of academic dishonesty will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for prompt adjudication, and will, at a minimum, **result in grades of ZERO “0” on the affected assignments** in this course. Sanctions may be imposed beyond your grade in this course by the Dean of Student Services.

ATTENDANCE AND WITHDRAWAL POLICIES

Typically, all students are expected to attend class regularly and participate in class discussions. This online environment is no different. You are expected to manage your time such that you are able to participate in the required course discussions with your instructor and classmates. Exams will have prescribed dates of when they will become available and when they will “close.” Arrangements **must** be made in advance if the student will be unable to complete any assignment for which there is a “window” for completion!

Therefore, the “online” week will run as follows:

Day 1 = Wednesday 12:00 am (This is actually midnight Tuesday Night!)
Day 2 = Thursday
Day 3 = Friday
Day 4 = Saturday
Day 5 = Sunday
Day 6 = Monday
Day 7 = Tuesday 11:59 pm

Tips for online success and for not getting behind in your online course:

- 1. Check in to your online course EVERY DAY**
- 2. New discussion posts or announcements may be available**

3. **DO NOT plagiarize and do not “cut and paste” your discussion postings from any other source than yourself**
 4. **Contact me immediately with any questions or concerns**
 5. **Check your student email DAILY in case there are notifications from me**
- Plan ahead for assignments that have deadlines such as exams**

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO WITHDRAW FROM CLASS IF THE STUDENT IS UNABLE TO FULFILL COURSE OBLIGATIONS OR REQUIREMENTS. INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT WITHDRAW STUDENTS! STUDENTS WHO ABANDON CLASS AND WHO DO NOT WITHDRAW WILL RECEIVE THE APPROPRIATE LETTER GRADE FOR THE COURSE BASED ON THE STUDENT’S PROGRESS TO DATE!

Last day to withdraw for Fall 2015 is October 30, 2015

Grades due by December 11, 2015 @ 10 am

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING POLICY

Course grade will be determined by the student’s performance on the following objectives:

Exam 1	200 Points
Exam 2	200 Points
Exam 3	200 Points
Discussion Question and Participation Responses	200 Points
Writing/Research Assignment	200 Points

A=	900-1000
B=	800-890
C=	700-790
D=	600-690
F=	0-590

I will use the Course’s email feature to communicate with you individually about your grades and progress in the course.

TESTING

The exams for this semester will cover the course material contained in your course textbook and may include topics from the weekly discussions.

Students will be notified in advance of the exact dates or “window” of the exams.

MAKE-UP POLICY

Any makeup assignments, exams, homework, etc. shall require the student to consult with and receive approval from the instructor before any credit may be awarded. However, typically with online courses, **no** late assignment submissions are allowed.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students are expected to fully participate in this course. The following criteria are intended to assist you in being successful in this course:

- a. understand the syllabus requirements
- b. use appropriate time management skills
- c. communicate with the instructor
- d. complete course work on time, and
- e. Utilize online components (such as Desire2Learn) as required.

It will be the responsibility of the **student** to contact the instructor with questions or concerns about the course format, structure, or requirements.

Students should always consult the “Course Calendar” and the “Overview and Checklist” link each week for a summary of each week’s deliverable objectives!

In addition, students are expected to behave in a manner consistent with the adult environment that they are in. The online learning environment requires students to post messages and interact with each other. A polite, respectful tone in your postings and messages will be expected. In addition, messages posted and exchanged in the classroom shall be made in plain English without symbols or text-message type abbreviations. The following link may provide helpful information concerning “Netiquette.” <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

PROJECTS, ASSIGNMENTS, PORTFOLIOS, SERVICE LEARNING, INTERNSHIPS, ETC.

Weekly attendance and participation in discussion questions will be counted as **20%** toward a student’s overall grade. The instructor will post various topics for class discussion in the discussion forum each week.

Each student will be required to respond to each topic with **one** initial post to the topic and **two responses** to other students’ postings. Therefore, each topic posted by the instructor will require a total of **3** responses from each student. The instructor will typically post 1 to 3 topics per week.

It is not necessary for each student to reply to EVERY post that comes in as a discussion question answer from another student!

The intent is that if students engage each other during the discussion, the discussion will become more fruitful and longer lasting.

A student's initial response to the discussion question shall be no less than **150 words** to receive full credit.

Participation responses to other students' postings shall be such that something of substance is added to the discussion. A reply consisting of "I agree" or "Good point" **does not** add substance to the discussion! **100 words** or more worth of reply to another student's posting will be considered acceptable.

Your initial post(s) to the discussion question(s) will be worth one half of your weekly discussion/participation points

Your additional responses to student and instructor posts will account for the remaining one half of your weekly discussion/participation points.

Discussions will open at 12:01 am on Day 1 of each week.

Discussions will close at 11:59 pm on Day 7 of each week so that the class may move on to another discussion topic.

There are no late submissions allowed for your discussion responses!

During the course, students will be required to complete a writing or research assignment to which the topic and due date will later be determined. The writing assignment will also account for 200 points towards a student's overall course grade.

OTHER STUDENT SERVICES INFORMATION

Information about the Library is available at <http://www.brazosport.edu/library> or by calling 979.230.3310.

For assistance with online courses, an open computer lab, online and make-up testing, audio/visual services, and study skills, visit Learning Services next to the Library, call 979.230.3253, or visit <http://www.brazosport.edu/learningservices>.

For drop-in math tutoring, the writing center, supplemental instruction and other tutoring including e-tutoring, visit the Student Success Center, call 979.230.3527, or visit <http://www.brazosport.edu/studentsuccesscenter>.

The Student Services provides assistance in the following:

Counseling and Advising	979.230.3040
Financial Aid	979.230.3294
Student Life	979.230.3355

To reach the Information Technology Department for computer, email, or other technical assistance call the Helpdesk at 979.230.3266.