



School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

**CJUS 2120 Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice
Spring 2023**

Course Description:

An extensive study of current issues and trends affecting today's professionals in The American Criminal Justice System.

Instructor:

Chad Uhiren, M.A.

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Phone: (901) 756-2370

Meeting Time(s):

6th Period

Text:

Siegel, Larry J. & Worrall, John L. (2019). *Essentials of Criminal Justice*. 11th edition.
ISBN-10: 1337557773 ISBN-13: 9781337557771

***Note: The textbook will be essential to success in the course. Students will be responsible for purchasing/renting their own textbooks.*

Class Requirements:

Class grades will include a short paper, quizzes/classwork, a portfolio and tests.

Grades:

- **Tests (30%)**
- **Paper (20%)**
- **Quizzes/Classwork (20%)**
- **Portfolio Project (30%)**

Paper

You will complete a **THREE** (full) page, double-spaced research paper. There must be *at least* five sources not including the course textbook. The information must be referenced and included in your bibliography. ***Topics must be preapproved by the instructor.*** Topics will be submitted within the first few weeks of class. More specific information will be forthcoming.

Tests/Exams/Quizzes:

- will cover all materials provided in texts, handouts, lecture comments, and multimedia presentations.
- quizzes may be given throughout the semester and without notice
- tests will be given after completion of assigned readings/chapters
the semester exam/final will be cumulative.

Classwork:

This will consist of various in-class assignments, including daily bell work exercises.

Portfolio (Online via Schoology):

Since this class is largely based around contemporary issues, it is vital that the student explore current, real-world events that deal specifically with our Criminal Justice system. The topics will be assigned on weekly basis. Students will then locate a news article, case, etc. that reflects the issue at hand (Examples: *law enforcement recruitment efforts/challenges, excessive force issues, race relations, ethics, etc.*) There should be a **PLETHERA** of articles to choose from. The student will print off the article AND will also produce a typed, double-spaced, **ONE** full page summary of the article. The portfolio will be checked periodically throughout the semester for compliance and grading. Students should plan on completing **ONE** entry per week.

Each week will have a specific topic which will correspond to what we are covering in class. For a list of the weekly topics, please refer to the **Portfolio Table of Contents** document.

While there may occasionally be article replications among students, be aware that if you have the same exact articles for every entry, along with the same exact summaries, cheating will be suspected and your grade will be impacted. Therefore, **DO YOUR OWN WORK!!!!**

Academic Integrity:

Please see the website of the Office of Student Judicial and Ethical Affairs (<http://saweb.memphis.edu/judicialaffairs>) for information about *Academic Dishonesty*. Students will be held to the standards put forth in that document.

Cell Phone/Electronics Usage: All electronic devices (including cell phones) will **NOT** be allowed in class unless told otherwise by the instructor.

Note: Since this is a Dual Enrollment course, 4 points will be added at the end of each grading quarter as well as the semester exam.