CJS 204: THE POLICE

Instructor: Steve Brooks
Time/Location: Tuesday, 2-3:30pm (Full Semester)  Patterson 105
Office Hours: Tuesday, 12:30-2pm or by appointment.  Patterson 309
Email: Brookssd@Westminster.edu

DESCRIPTION
In this course, we will examine the historical influences that have shaped modern policing in the U.S. We will also explore current trends, practices, philosophies and strategies that are used by police agencies at local, state and federal levels.

OBJECTIVES

• Understand the role of police in society.
• Understand the development of modern policing by studying historical influences.
• Identify the legal framework that shapes police policies and strategy (State and federal law, U.S. Constitution etc.).
• Understand department organization and practices.
• Identify current trends in policing and problems associated with those trends.
• Empathize with individual officers in regards to job stressors and hazards.
• Examine issues using the scope of “objective reasonableness.”
• Explore and better understand use of force.

ATTENDANCE
There is no attendance policy. Keep in mind that your participation grade will suffer the more classes missed.
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers should contact Ms. Faith Craig, Director of Disability Support Services, in 209 Thompson Clark Hall or at 724-946-7192 or at craigfa@westminster.edu.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

See the Westminster student handbook (p. 21) for policies regarding academic integrity.


I expect students to think for themselves regarding the materials that will be discussed in class and for the writing assignments. If you choose to use other material to support your position in one of these assignments you must cite your sources.

MATERIALS


GRADING SCALE

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
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ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

Exams: (60% of final grade) There will be three exams based on the reading materials and lectures. They will most likely be multiple choice and short essay questions.
Written Assignments:  (20% of final grade)  There will be three written assignments throughout the semester. The topics will be determined by where the classroom discussion leads us. I am most interested in critical thinking, problem solving and using the information learned in class.

Class Participation:  (20% of final grade)  Students are expected to participate in discussions during class. I understand that some students may be uncomfortable speaking in class, so feel free to express your thoughts in writing and submit them to me. I hope to have ample discussion during each class and I’m certain we won’t run out of material. If you want to find me during office hours and discuss class material I will consider this part of your class participation grade.

*NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.*

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Aug. 29  First Class/Introduction
Sept. 5  Chapters 1-4 (Critical Issues)
Sept. 12 Chapters 5-7 (Critical Issues)
Sept. 19 Chapters 8-10 (Critical Issues)
Sept. 26 Chapters 11-12 (Critical Issues)  (Exam #1)
Oct. 3  Chapters 13-16 (Critical Issues)  (Written Assignment #1 due)
Oct. 10 Chapters 17-20 (Critical Issues)
Oct. 17 Exam #2
Oct. 24 NO CLASS
Oct. 31 Emotional Survival (Have the entire book read by this time)
Nov. 7 Chapters 21-24 (Critical Issues)
Nov. 14 Chapters 25-28 (Critical Issues)  (Written Assignment #2 due)
Nov. 21 Chapters 29-30 (Critical Issues)
Nov. 28 Chapters 31-32 (Critical Issues)
Dec. 5 Chapters 33-34 (Critical Issues)  (Written Assignment #3 due)

*THURSDAY*, Dec. 14 1130-2PM, FINALS PERIOD (Exam #3)