

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE**  
**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**  
**Department of Political Science**  
**Criminal Justice Program**

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE 103**  
**SURVEY OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
Tuesday and Thursday – 12:30-1:45 (HHH 103)

*The fundamental concepts and contemporary issues associated with criminal law, policing, the judicial systems, and corrections are presented.*

**Instructor:** Justin W. Patchin, Ph.D.  
**Office:** Hibbard 429  
**Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 11:00-12:00, and by appointment  
**Phone:** (715) 836-4058  
**Email:** patchinj@uwec.edu (preferred method of communication)  
**Website:** <http://people.uwec.edu/patchinj/>  
**Twitter:** @justinpatchin

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

*This course will help the student:*

- become familiar with the organization of the American criminal justice system;
- understand important terms and concepts associated with crime and justice;
- understand the functions of the police, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice systems;
- learn about various careers available within the criminal justice system; and,
- critically assess popular portrayals of the criminal justice system in the media.

**TEXT**

Cole, G. F., Smith, C. E., & DeJong, C. (2019). *The American System of Criminal Justice* (16<sup>th</sup> ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson. (ISBN: 0-495-59965-4)

Additional readings will be handed out in class or be available online when relevant.

**OFFICE HOURS**

Students are encouraged to seek help from the instructor whenever necessary. Posted office hours will be available for walk-in assistance, and appointments can be scheduled for other times.

**ATTENDANCE**

Because your participation in class is encouraged so that you may most competently master course materials, **your regular attendance is expected**. There are several advantages for those who attend class on a regular basis. First, the vast majority of exam questions will be generated directly from lecture notes and in-class discussions. Attentive note taking, then, will ensure proper preparedness for all exams. Second, several times throughout the semester attendance will be taken and extra credit will be given to those who are present. This will allow students who are putting effort into their education the opportunity to receive bonus points, which will be added to the final point total at the end of the semester. It is estimated

that this will occur about five times, and therefore has the potential to raise a grade that is on the threshold.

It is the student's responsibility to contact another member of the class to get lecture notes and handouts missed as a result of an absence.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Autobiography**

The first assignment each student will complete is a brief autobiographical essay (less than one typed double-spaced page) that should address the following questions:

1. What is your major?
2. What is your dream job?
3. What criminal justice careers are you interested in?
4. Why did you enroll in this class?
5. What would you like to learn about in this class?
6. Have you had any experience with the criminal justice system?
  - a. As a victim (optional)?
  - b. As an offender (optional)?
  - c. As a practitioner (worker)?

The purpose of this exercise is for the instructor to assess student familiarity with the criminal justice system. Additionally, the instructor will incorporate issues discussed in these autobiographies in class in an effort to make the class more interesting for each individual student. This assignment is worth a maximum of ten points.

***Autobiography due:***

**Tuesday, 2/12**

### **Current Issues**

Students will also complete two assignments relating to current issues in the news. Students must select an article that was written in the two weeks preceding the due date (from a reputable newspaper, magazine or other written media source) which discusses some aspect of the criminal justice system. Students must integrate course material with individual analysis about the topic discussed in the article. The written portion should be 400-500 words in length. Papers must be typed, stapled, and double spaced with student's name, course, and date on the first page. Students also must submit a copy of the article referenced (or provide a link for online sources) with the completed assignment. Each current issues assignment is worth a maximum of twenty points.

***Current issues assignment 1 due:***      **Thursday, 2/28**

***Current issues assignment 2 due:***      **Thursday, 4/25**

### **In-class Assignments**

Occasionally, students will be asked to complete a short assignment in class. These assignments could take any form, but may include short pop quizzes on the assigned readings, reaction essays to videos, or position papers on a controversial debate discussed in class. Students will have time during class to complete each assignment and it will be due during or at the end of class. Only students who are in attendance on days of the assignment at the time they are completed will be eligible for these points (for exceptions to this rule, see University

Policies below). A total of thirty points will be available from a combination of these assignments.

***In-class assignments due:*            Random class periods throughout the semester**

### **Late Assignments**

All assignments (other than in-class assignments) are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Assignments that are turned in on the due date, but after the start of class, will be penalized 2 points. Assignments that are turned in the next calendar day late will receive half credit (even if there is no class on that day). **Assignments that are more than one calendar day late will not be accepted** (as consistent with University policy).

### **EXAMINATIONS**

Regular exams may include multiple-choice, true/false, short answer and/or brief essay questions and will cover all the material discussed since the previous exam. This includes the readings assigned in the textbook, additional readings handed out, or anything discussed in class. In short, anything discussed in class or in the text is a potential exam question. No materials may be referenced while taking the exam.

Each regular exam will be worth 40 points and the comprehensive (cumulative) final exam will be worth 60 points. Careful evaluation of all assigned readings, along with attentive participation in class discussions should adequately prepare students for all exams. Students who are having difficulty understanding a topic, concept, or approach discussed in either the text or in class are encouraged to seek assistance from the instructor immediately. Most problems can be resolved if addressed early in the semester.

<b><i>Exam 1:</i></b>	<b>Thursday, 2/21</b>
<b><i>Exam 2:</i></b>	<b>Tuesday, 3/19</b>
<b><i>Exam 3:</i></b>	<b>Thursday, 4/11</b>
<b><i>Exam 4:</i></b>	<b>Tuesday, 5/7</b>
<b><i>Comprehensive Final Exam:</i></b>	<b>Thursday, 5/23, 1:00pm</b> (same classroom)

Students must come to the exams on time and prepared. This means arriving early and bringing two number 2 pencils along with your student ID. Students who arrive more than 10 minutes after the start of the exam will not be allowed to take the exam. **ARRIVE ON TIME.**

Make-up exams are highly discouraged. If an emergency arises which necessitates that you miss a scheduled exam, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible. Some special considerations can be made in these circumstances. Make-up exams will be different from the regularly scheduled exam, and may be in a completely different form (i.e., essay or short answer). Exam results will be posted on the course website as soon as possible after the exam. Generally, they will be available within 24 hours.

**NOTE: 72 hours after the scheduled date, a missed exam will automatically become a 0 and cannot be changed for any reason, within the guidelines of University policy.**

**GRADES**

Grades will be determined based on the assignments, the four regular exams, and the final exam. A total of 300 points will be available. A cumulative outline of a student's standing in the course (updated regularly) will be available on the course website.

	<b>Points Available</b>	<b>Percent of Total</b>
<b>Autobiography:</b>	10	3.3
<b>Current Issues Assignment 1:</b>	20	6.6
<b>Current Issues Assignment 2:</b>	20	6.6
<b>In-class Assignments:</b>	30	10.0
<b>Exam 1:</b>	40	13.3
<b>Exam 2:</b>	40	13.3
<b>Exam 3:</b>	40	13.3
<b>Exam 4:</b>	40	13.3
<b>Final Exam:</b>	60	20.0
<b>Total</b>	300	100.0

Students who would like to challenge the grade received on any assignment may do so, in writing, to the instructor. The written challenge must be submitted to the instructor within 72 hours of when the grade was posted. A meeting will be set up between the student and the instructor to discuss the merits of the challenge and determine whether additional points may be warranted.

The final grade for the course will be determined by summing all of the points earned throughout the semester (including any extra credit earned). Final grades will be distributed using the following scale:

<b>Points Earned</b>	<b>Percent of Total Points Earned</b>	<b>Final Grade</b>
280	93.33	A
270	90.00	A-
260	86.66	B+
250	83.33	B
240	80.00	B-
230	76.66	C+
220	73.33	C
210	70.00	C-
200	66.66	D+
190	63.33	D
180	60.00	D-
Less than 180	Less than 60.00	F

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

It is expected that students will conform to the highest professional and ethical standards at all times. Students are encouraged to study together for exams. However, **any student found copying another student's exam will receive a "0" for that exam.** The standard of proof for such an incident is less than that of the criminal justice system; therefore, make certain that you do not act in any way that might lead the instructor to believe you were looking at

another student's exam. If a student witnesses this type of breach in professional conduct, it is his or her responsibility to report it to the instructor as soon as possible. I consider any academic misconduct in this course as a serious offense, and I will pursue the strongest possible academic penalties for such behavior. The disciplinary procedures and penalties for academic misconduct are described on the Dean of Students website (<https://www.uwec.edu/kb/article/information-for-students-academic-misconduct/>) and in Chapter UWS 14—Student Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Procedures. (See also University Policies below).

## **EXPECTATIONS**

*It is expected that students will:*

1. Come to class on time and prepared. It is understood that the readings assigned for the class period will have been read so that the student can contribute to the discussion and ask the instructor about material that was not clear. The reading load of this course is moderate: the student will read approximately 30-50 pages of text each week.
2. Have access to email. Every student has a free email account through UWEC. Students should check their University email and the course web page at least daily as important notices and reminders will be sent to the class via these mediums. Students are responsible for this information, and must make arrangements with the instructor if a problem should arise.
3. Check with classmates to obtain notes and materials handed out in class when absent. Other important materials will be available solely through the course webpage. It is the student's responsibility to visit the site regularly to obtain this information.
4. Not interfere, in any way, with the learning environment in the classroom. Disruptive students will be asked to leave, and further disciplinary action may be taken if necessary.
5. Know and understand all of the information written in this syllabus.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

**Academic Honesty:** “The Board of Regents, administrators, faculty, academic staff and students of the University of Wisconsin System believe that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education and of the University of Wisconsin System. The University has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others’ academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards must be confronted and must accept the consequences of their actions.” CHAPTER UWS 14—STUDENT ACADEMIC DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

**Accommodations for Disabilities:** Any student who has a disability and is in need of classroom accommodations, please contact the instructor and the Services for Students with Disabilities Office in Centennial Hall 2106 at the beginning of the semester.

**Dropping this Course:** The last day to drop this course with no record is **Friday, February 15th**. The last day to withdraw from this course, resulting in a “W” on your transcript, is **Friday, April 19th**. See [https://www.uwec.edu/Registrar/calendar/upload/REVISEDAcademicRegistrationCalendar2018\\_2019.pdf](https://www.uwec.edu/Registrar/calendar/upload/REVISEDAcademicRegistrationCalendar2018_2019.pdf) for all important academic dates for the semester.

**Absences:** *Religious Observance:* If you wish to be absent from class to observe a religious holiday, make arrangements in advance with the instructor. *Missing Class to Participate in a Required Activity:* To be excused from this class to participate in a required activity for another course or a university-sanctioned event, you must provide the instructor with adequate advanced notice and a written authorization from the faculty member of the other course or from a university administrator. *Other Authorized Absences:* The instructor will provide an opportunity to make up any points missed in class as a result of an authorized absence. The student must contact the instructor before the absence, when known in advance, to make arrangements. In the event of an unexpected authorized absence, the student must contact the instructor within 72 hours of the absence to make arrangements.

**Liberal Education Learning Outcomes:** The UW-Eau Claire Liberal Education (LE) Core curriculum serves as a strong foundation for all of our academic programs. Our LE Core embodies the Power of [AND] in its design. It has been developed to ensure that you acquire the knowledge AND skills AND responsibility that you will need to actively engage in a global society. Through meeting the requirements of the LE Core you will develop the ability to think critically, creatively and independently. You will learn to integrate and apply your knowledge and develop the values essential to becoming a constructive global citizen. The outcomes below will empower you and prepare you to deal with complexity, diversity, and change in multiple settings. They will also develop highly marketable skills and lead to life-long learning and civic engagement.

**KNOWLEDGE:** Build knowledge and awareness of diverse peoples and cultures and of the natural and physical world through the study of arts, histories, humanities, languages, mathematics, sciences and technologies, and social sciences. This course emphasizes

**K2.** Use knowledge, theories, methods, and historical perspectives appropriate to the social sciences to explain and evaluate human behavior and social institutions.

*This course will focus specifically on the outcome highlighted above by introducing students to issues of crime and justice in the United States.*

*Students will understand the nature of substantive and procedural law, law enforcement, courts, and correctional institutions, and how all impact diverse populations within the U.S. Regular exams will assess the student's comprehension of these perspectives.*

### **Final Notes**

Incorrect dates, changes in the course outline, or other inconsistencies in this syllabus will be clarified in class and/or on the course website as needed. It is the student's responsibility to attend class to obtain that information.

PLEASE NOTE: The course will, on occasion, discuss issues of violence, victimization, and self-harm (including suicide and sexual assault). Videos may include testimony from victims or depictions of violence (e.g., abused individuals or images of deceased bodies). If you are concerned about any of this, contact the instructor for accommodation.

**CRMJ 103 – Survey of the Criminal Justice System – Tentative Schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
	<b>Part I – Introduction</b>	
Tuesday – 2/5	Introduction to class and syllabus	None
Thursday – 2/7	Crime and justice as public policy issues Defining crime; Types of crime The crime problem today	Cole & Smith: Chapter 1
Tuesday – 2/12	Crime victimization Causes of crime	Cole & Smith: Chapter 2 <b>Autobiography Due</b>
Thursday – 2/14	The goals of the criminal justice system Criminal justice in a federal system Operations of criminal justice agencies Decision making in the CJ system Crime and justice in a multicultural society	Cole & Smith: Chapter 3
<b>Friday – 2/15</b>	<b>***LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS WITH NO RECORD***</b>	
Tuesday – 2/19	Foundations of criminal law Substantive and procedural criminal law The Supreme Court today	Cole & Smith: Chapter 4
Thursday – 2/21		<b>Exam 1 – Part I</b>
	<b>Part II – Police</b>	
Tuesday – 2/26	The development of police in the U.S. Law enforcement agencies Police functions; Organization of the police Police policy; Police actions; Police and the community	Cole & Smith: Chapter 5
Thursday – 2/28	Who are the police? The police subculture Police response and action; Delivery of police services Issues in patrolling	Cole & Smith: Chapter 6 <b>Current Issues Assignment Due</b>
Tuesday – 3/5	Police abuse of power; Civic accountability Policing and new technology; Homeland security Security management and private policing	Cole & Smith: Chapter 7
Thursday – 3/7	Legal limitations on police investigations Plain view doctrine; Warrantless searches Questioning suspects; The exclusionary rule	Cole & Smith: Chapter 8
Tuesday – 3/12	Federal law enforcement – WACO Discussion	None
Thursday – 3/14	Federal law enforcement – WACO Discussion	None
Tuesday – 3/19		<b>Exam 2 – Part II</b>
	<b>Part III – Courts</b>	
Thursday – 3/21	The structure of American courts Effective management of the state courts To be a judge From arrest to trial or plea Bail: pretrial release; Pretrial detention	Cole & Smith: Chapter 9
Tuesday – 3/26	Spring Break – No Class	Be safe and responsible
Thursday – 3/28	Spring Break – No Class	Be safe and responsible
Tuesday – 4/2	The prosecutorial system The defense attorney: image and reality	Cole & Smith: Chapter 10
Thursday – 4/4	The courtroom: how it functions Plea bargaining; Trial: the exceptional case; Appeals	Cole & Smith: Chapter 11

Tuesday – 4/9	The goals of punishment Forms of the criminal sanction The sentencing process	Cole & Smith: Chapter 12
Thursday – 4/11		<b>Exam 3 – Part III</b>
Tuesday – 4/16	Video: Murder on a Sunday Morning	None
Thursday – 4/18	Video: Murder on a Sunday Morning	None
<b>Friday - 4/19</b>	<b>***LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW FROM THE CLASS***</b>	
	<b>Part IV – Corrections</b>	
Tuesday – 4/23	Development of corrections Organization of corrections in the U.S. Jails: detention and short-term incarceration The law of corrections; Correctional policy trends	Cole & Smith: Chapter 13
Thursday – 4/25	Community corrections: assumptions Probation: correction without incarceration Intermediate sanctions in the community The future of community corrections	Cole & Smith: Chapter 14 <b>Current Issues Assignment Due</b>
Tuesday – 4/30	The modern prison: legacy of the past Goals of incarceration; Prison organization Governing a society of captives Correctional officers Who is in prison? The convict world Women in prison; Prison programs Violence in prison; Prisoners' rights	Cole & Smith: Chapter 15
Thursday – 5/2	Prisoner reentry; Release and supervision Release mechanisms Parole supervision in the community Future of prisoner reentry Civil disabilities of ex-felons; Pardon	Cole & Smith: Chapter 16
Tuesday – 5/7		<b>Exam 4 – Part IV</b>
Thursday – 5/9	Youth crime in the United States The development of juvenile justice The juvenile justice system Problems and perspectives	Cole & Smith: Chapter 17
	<b>Part V – The Juvenile Justice System</b>	
Tuesday – 5/14	The Juvenile Justice Process	None
Thursday – 5/16	Evaluations; Review for final	None
<b>Thursday – 5/23</b>	<b>1:00pm - Final Exam – same room</b>	