

Indiana University - Purdue University at Indianapolis
School of Public and Environmental Affairs

J666 - CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY AND EVALUATION

Fall 2004

Meeting Times: W 5:45-8:25pm (ES 1116)

Professor: **Dr. Crystal Garcia**
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Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00-3:30pm
Wednesday 4:00-5:15pm
-or by appointment-

Course Description

Since the 1960's, crime and how to control it has been a popular topic among both citizens and policy makers in our country. Unfortunately, few students, criminal justice practitioners, and policy makers are taught the skills necessary to develop theoretically driven strategies or critically assess (based on empirical evidence) the crime policies we have chosen to implement. Therefore, the major purposes of this course will be to introduce students to the policy development process and to offer students the skills necessary to comprehensively critique current crime control strategies.

Student Expectations: Course Objectives:

After completing this course students should be able to:

- understand the processes involved in the development of crime policies;
- be familiar with the current nature and extent of crime in America and abroad;
- better understand the connections between knowledge and practice;
- gain a perspective on the nature and types of policies in place in the various areas of crime control;
- become familiar with the research concerning the delivery and impact of a number of crime control policies;
- be able to identify the constraints of such policies and conduct critical analyses of a wide variety of crime control policies.

Professor Expectations: Course Rules

An orderly, well structured and organized classroom environment is essential to the learning process; therefore, the instructor expects students to:

- be on time to each class;
- turn off all electronic devices (including pagers and cell phones)
- read each assignment before class and be willing to lead class discussions;
- be courteous to fellow students (even when their opinions differ widely from your own);
- turn in the take home exam on time;
- work well in designated groups and complete group presentations at the assigned times;
- be prepared for individual presentations and submit the final paper on time;
- not cheat on the exam or plagiarize papers; and
- be able to discuss and apply knowledge gained in the course to the “real world.”

Required Readings

The three books listed below are required texts:

Wilson, James Q. and Joan Petersilia (2002). *Crime: Public Policies for Crime Control*. Oakland, CA: ICS Press.

Rubin, Edward L. (1999). *Minimizing Harm: A New Crime Policy for Modern America*. Oxford: Westview Press.

Zimring, Franklin E., Gordon Hawkins, and Sam Kamin (2001). *Three Strikes and You're Out in California: Punishment and Democracy*. Oxford University Press.

Additional readings will also be given out in class. Students must be prepared for each class and be ready to discuss the assigned material. See the course outline for reading assignments. I reserve the right to change readings and assignment dates; however, if any changes are necessary, sufficient notice will be given.

Course Assignments

Class Participation total = 20% of grade

- p. Each student will be required to lead a discussion of at least one of the assigned readings. Students will sign up for the day they will lead the discussion in the first two weeks of class (10%).
- q. When students are not assigned to lead class discussion, they must submit at least three discussion questions about the assigned readings to the instructor by 12pm on the day of class. The questions, along with thoughtful responses to the questions, must be typed and placed either in the instructor's mail box or submitted via email. These questions should be asked by the student in class to facilitate group discussion (10%).

Take Home Exam = 15% of grade

- a. Students are required to complete a 3-5 page analysis of a policy designated by the instructor. The exam must address each of the questions included in the instructions. Students will have to use at least three additional sources (beyond assigned readings) to complete the take home exam. A reference page (using APA citation format) must be included. The take home exam will be given on September 15 and will be due at the beginning of class on September 22.

Group Project = 20% of grade

- a. Groups of approximately 3-4 people will give 25-30 minute presentations regarding the practical issues surrounding the implementation of either a law enforcement, sentencing or correctional policy initiative at either local/county or state level. No paper must be submitted, however, the presentation outline (and overheads if any) must be submitted. Presentation guidelines will be distributed in the first few weeks of class.

Final Project (individual presentation and final paper) total = 45%

- a. Each student must prepare an individual presentation and write a final paper critically analyzing either a current or proposed crime control policy originating at either the state or federal level. The policy critique must address all of the key issues that must be considered in the analysis of crime policy (as learned in class throughout the semester). The presentation is worth 15 % of the course grade and the final paper is worth 30% of the final grade. Students sitting in the audience during presentations must demonstrate that they are actively engaged by asking questions and debating policy issues at the end of each presentation. Presentation and paper guidelines will be distributed in class. Note: the paper and presentation can not cover a topic discussed in lecture, however, it may include a subset of a topic. For example, a student can not discuss community corrections in general, but may focus on a proposal to

sterilize all parents convicted of child abuse that are placed in community corrections programs.

Makeups & Incompletes

Makeup exams are rarely granted. It is university policy that an instructor is not under any obligation to offer makeup exams unless the student has a valid excuse. Valid excuses include documented illness, religious observation, participation in University activities at the request of the University, or other compelling circumstances beyond the student's control. **Therefore, makeup exams are only given when:** (1) there is a valid excuse, and (2) it is clearly documented!

Incompletes are rarely given in this course. An incomplete will be given only in the event that a *student is unable to finish his/her course work and has successfully completed three-fourths of the course*. Poor performance in a course is not grounds for an incomplete. Incompletes must be removed within a time period not to exceed one year after the semester in which the student was enrolled in the course. The incomplete will revert to an 'F' if the work is not completed within the allotted timeframe established by the instructor.

Student Conduct

As in any course, unethical behavior (e.g., cheating on exams, submitting papers written for other courses, etc.) will be met with the most serious disciplinary actions allowed by IUPUI guidelines. Acts of cheating and/or plagiarism will be dealt with severely—resulting in a *disciplinary F* for the semester! For definitions of cheating and plagiarism, consult your *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct*.

Communication between Faculty and Students

In order to verify the identity of all parties involved, effective September 1, 2004, all email communication from current SPEA students to SPEA staff must originate from an Indiana University email account. For email communication with SPEA faculty, current SPEA students should refer to course syllabi for instructors' preferences (Oncourse, Webmail, etc.). This policy applies to current students only. Instructions for forwarding your IUPUI email to another account can be found at

<http://support.uits.iu.edu/scripts/ose.cgi?http://kb.indiana.edu/data/beoj.ose.help?osecat=email>

Important Dates to Remember!

10/16 Last day to drop class with an **automatic "W."**

11/19 Last day to drop class with a "W" or "F" (instructor signature required).

Note: poor performance in a course is not considered grounds for a late withdrawal!

Course Outline

Week 1	8/25	<u>Topic:</u> Course Introduction
Week 2	9/1	<u>Topic:</u> Public Policy Development & the Politics of Crime
		<i>Hand out</i> Hojnacki, W. <i>The Public Policy Process in the United States</i>
		<i>Hand out</i> Packer, H. <i>Two Models of the Criminal Process</i>
		<i>Hand out</i> Gest, T. <i>Making a Federal Case of It</i>
Week 3	9/8	<u>Topic:</u> Extent & Nature of Crime in America: Placing the "Problem in Context"
		<i>Crime</i> Lynch, M. <i>Crime in International Perspective</i> pp.5-41
		<i>MH</i> Zimring & Hawkins <i>Public Attitudes Toward Crime</i> pp.35-57
		<i>Handout</i> Best, J. <i>Telling the Truth About Damn Lies & Statistics</i>

Week 4	9/15	<u>Topic:</u> Crime Policy & the Politics of Justice	
		<i>Crime</i>	Wilson, J.Q. <i>Crime and Public Policy</i> pp.537-557
		<i>MH</i>	Ruben, E. <i>Introduction</i> pp.1-33
		<i>Hand out</i>	Glass, S. <i>Don't You D.A.R.E.</i>
		<i>Hand out</i>	Dolnick, J. <i>Painful Truth About the DARE Program</i>
		<i>Hand out</i>	Lyman & Milich <i>Project DARE: No Effects at 10 Year Follow-up</i>
		<i>Hand out</i>	Rosenbaum & Hansom <i>Assessing the Effects of School-Based Drug Education: a Six Year Multi-Level Analysis of Project D.A.R.E.</i>

Take Home Exam Topic Given out

Week 5	9/22	<u>Take Home Exam Due</u>	
		<u>Topic:</u> Community Policing	
		<i>Crime</i>	Sherman, L. <i>Fair and Effective Policing</i> pp.383-412
		<i>Hand out</i>	Wilson & Kelling <i>Broken Windows: The Police and Neighborhood Safety</i>
		<i>Hand out</i>	Green, J. <i>Community Policing in America: Changing Nature, Structure and Function of the Police</i>
		<i>Hand out</i>	Kelling et al. <i>Should Zero Tolerance / Broken Windows Policing be Encouraged</i>

Week 6	9/29	<u>Topic:</u> The War on Drugs	
		<i>HR</i>	Skolnick, J. <i>Drug Policy: Drug Enforcement, Violent Crime, and the Minimization of Harm</i> pp. 171-196
		<i>HR</i>	Kleiman, M. <i>Comment: The Ambiguities of Harm Reduction in Crime and Drug Policy</i> pp.197-202
		<i>Crime</i>	Boyum & Kleiman <i>Substance Abuse Policy from a Crime Control Perspective</i> , pp.331-382

Week 7	10/6	<u>Topic:</u> Three X's and You're Out	
		3X's	Zimring et al. <i>Three Strikes and You're Out in California: Punishment & Democracy</i> (Whole Book)

Week 8	10/13	<u>Topic:</u> Catch Up & Group Work	
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Week 9 10/20 Topic: Group Presentations

Week 10	10/27	<u>Topic:</u> Juvenile Justice	
		<i>Crime</i>	Greenwood, P. <i>Juvenile Crime and Juvenile Justice</i> pp.75-108
		<i>Crime</i>	Farrington, D <i>Families and Crime</i> pp.129-148
		<i>Handout</i>	Elliott, Laurel <i>Juvenile Detention in Indiana</i>

Week 11	11/3	<u>Individual Presentation & Final Paper Proposal Due</u>	
		<u>Topic:</u> Community Corrections & Intermediate Sanctions	
		<i>Crime</i>	Petersilia, J <i>Community Corrections</i> pp.483-508
		<i>MH</i>	DiIulio, J <i>Rethinking Incarceration and Intermediate Sanctions</i> pp. 150-163
		<i>MH</i>	Morris, N. <i>Comment: Intermediate Punishments</i> pp.165-170

