

# Policing in America (CJ 2050)

University of Cincinnati School of Criminal Justice Spring 2021

Virtual Office Hours: TBD OR [by appointment]

**Class time:** Asynchronous

Instructor: Jaime Argueta, M.S.C.

**Email:** [arguetjr@mail.uc.edu](mailto:arguetjr@mail.uc.edu)

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## Course Description

This is an introductory course devoted to the examination of the police and law enforcement in the United States. The course describes and examines the number and variety of policing agencies, their development and evolution, and the operations of police and law enforcement organizations. The course examines the range of U.S. police agencies, with an emphasis on local police. The course also introduces the student to how the discipline of criminal justice examines those roles and operations and evaluates their impact on society.

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## Course Objectives

This course is designed for undergraduates looking to expand their knowledge about Policing in America. At the end of the course, students should understand:

1. Describe the evolution of policing in the United States.
2. Compare and contrast the roles and duties of law enforcement officers/agencies at all levels of government.
3. Compare and contrast styles of policing.
4. Describe police operations and organizational structures.
5. Compare and contrast specific policing strategies such as community or problem-oriented policing.
6. Identify and discuss critical issues in policing, including ethical issues and standards.
7. Identify influences on police operations and practices, including race, gender, politics, and legal standards.
8. Identify emerging and future trends and issues in policing in the United States.

9. Demonstrate an understanding of how the roles of policing are researched and evaluated.
10. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the criminal justice profession as a social scientist in examining the success of police operations.

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## Course Communication

### Canvas

You must activate your Bearcat account. You must be able to access Canvas and your UC email account. I will post to Canvas all communications regarding class materials, due dates for assignments, changes in plans, absences, cancellations, and other important announcements. You should consider all announcements posted to Canvas as official communications for this course. For your convenience, you may download the Canvas app as well. Please see <https://uc.instructure.com/courses/1094746/pages/access-canvas> for more information.

### Virtual Office Hours and FAQ

Virtual office hours will be used in this course. I will be online to answer questions about the content of the course, any assignment, and other class related information. Outside of virtual office hours, you may book an appointment at: <https://calendly.com/arguetjr/policing-meeting>

I will follow up with a WebEx request for a meeting. All of these meetings will be recorded and can be viewed up to 48 hours after the meeting date. In addition to virtual office hours, I will be creating a Frequently Asked Question discussion board for any general questions about the course, or course content.

### Email

Only the University of Cincinnati (UC) email will be used in the course per UC policy. Please do not email me from personal email accounts. My email address is listed above, and you can also send me an email from within Canvas as well. When emailing me, **please make sure you include the course name in the subject heading.** I will do my best to respond within

48 hours (or faster in most cases). Do not wait until right before an assignment is due to contact me if you have questions.

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## Course Content

Due to the recent pandemic, this class is now an online. The material for this course is organized into learning modules. When you go to the Module section, you will find modules with overviews, learning outcomes, lecture videos, and readings.

Inside of each module, I will post pre-recorded lectures for everyone to watch. I release one module a week. There are 12 modules in total. The PowerPoint slides used in the lecture will also be provided. Please note that with the online format, you are responsible for going over the PowerPoints, reading all the material, listening to the lecture, and turning in all the assignments.

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## Readings

I draw all of the readings from one primary source. This means that you are responsible for acquiring the textbook or coming to me if there are any problems accessing/retrieving.

For any reading that does not come from the textbook, I will post it to Canvas. I do this to reduce costs to students, reduce their inconvenience in tracking them down, and to provide a comprehensive collection of the writings in this area. If there is any trouble with readability or accessing the readings, please let me know.

### Required Reading:

- Gaines, L. K., & Kappeler, V. E. (2014). Policing in America (8th Ed). Anderson.

Edition: 8th

ISBN: 9780323311489

Author: Gaines & Kappeler

Publisher: Taylor & Francis Group, LLC

Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/Policing-America-Eighth-Larry-Gaines/dp/0323311482>

## Grades & Evaluation

Your grade will be determined based on 5 quizzes, 1 mid-term, and 1 final.

### Quizzes

Quizzes will be taken online in Canvas. They are timed so please take note of that. Plan accordingly so that your quizzes are submitted by the due date and time (scheduling to appear in the document and later expanded upon throughout the course). Feedback regarding quizzes will be provided in a reasonable amount of time. However, keep in mind that things may not always be on time.

### Mid-Term & Final

The mid-term and final will be given as a test. The tests will not be cumulative, but based on each sections preceding it. The mid-term will cover the first half, and the final will cover the second half. These tests will be timed and contain different sets. These tests will be open for one week. Make sure to plan accordingly, notify if there are any issues or problems with the possible dates, and prepare in advance.

**Mid-Term**      **Dates: March 1st – March 5th**

**Final**            **Dates: April 22nd –April 27th**

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**Evaluation**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Assigned Points</i>
Quizzes (x5)	50
Mid-Term	25
Final	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

	<i>Grading Scale</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
A	93–100	Excellent
B+	86–88	Very Good
B	83–85	
B -	79–82	Satisfactory
C +	76–78	
C	69–75	Poor
F	Below 69	Failure

# Course Policies

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## Accountability

If you miss an exam or an assignment, you must: (1) notify me within 24 hours AND (2) provide me with an acceptable excuse. Common forms of acceptable documentation include doctor's notes, and funeral programs, but as each student's circumstance are different I'm open to discussion. Please note that exams must be taken the day they are scheduled. If this date does not work with you, please email me at least one week in advance to discuss alternative scheduling arrangements.

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## Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty and misconduct, as defined by the University of Cincinnati, will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, falsifying work (e.g., fabricating/altering research data), cheating (e.g., copying others' work), and plagiarism (e.g., submitting another's published work without properly crediting the author; submitting student's work used in a previous course). Students are expected to abide by the UC Code of Conduct. Any academic dishonesty or misconduct (regardless of the intent of the actor) will be reported and dealt with pursuant to UC policy. It is the professor's policy to assign a failing grade in the class to students violating the UC Code of Conduct. I expect and demand original work. That means you must acknowledge the sources of ideas that are not your own. Plagiarism and other forms of intellectual theft will result in an F for the entire course and report the infraction to the Undergraduate Director. Please see the following links for more details:

[http://www.uc.edu/conduct/Academic\\_Integrity.html](http://www.uc.edu/conduct/Academic_Integrity.html)

[http://www.uc.edu/conduct/Code\\_of\\_Conduct.html](http://www.uc.edu/conduct/Code_of_Conduct.html)

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## Accommodations Policy

If you have a disability that may influence your performance in this course, please meet with the Accessibility Services Office to arrange accommodations. Information on disability services can be found at <http://www.uc.edu/aess/disability.html>

## Course Withdrawal

Please check with your advisor before withdrawing from any course. If you are receiving financial aid, there could be repercussions from withdrawing. Also, note that in very rare circumstances, a grade of "Incomplete" will be assigned. For your convenience, a list of important dates is provided on Canvas. These dates are provided for convenience. You should check with your advisor to ensure that you have the most current information regarding registration issues.

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## Netiquette

The University has a strong commitment to free speech principles, open access to knowledge, and respect for a diversity of opinions. It is important, therefore, to be polite and respectful to others in an online environment. Netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly and professionally online. Something about cyberspace makes it easy to forget that you are interacting with other people. Here are some basics to communicating online:

- Be sensitive to the fact that there will be different cultural and linguistic backgrounds as well as different political and religious beliefs.
- Use good taste when composing your responses in discussion forums. Profanity should be avoided as part of being sensitive to your classmates. Also, consider that slang or sarcasm can be misunderstood and/or misinterpreted.
- Do not use all capital letters when composing your responses. This is considered "shouting" on the Internet and is regarded as impolite or aggressive. It can also be stressful on the eye when trying to read your message.
- Be respectful of others' views and opinions. Avoid "flaming" (publicly attacking or insulting) them. This can cause hurt feelings and decrease the chances of getting all different types of points of view.
- Be careful when using acronyms. If you use an acronym, it is best to spell out its meaning first, then put the acronym in parentheses afterward. For example, "Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)." After that, you can use the acronym freely throughout your message.
- Use good grammar and spelling and avoid using text messaging shortcuts.

- Most importantly, please remain professional in all communications with your classmates and me. College can be stressful, but remember I am preparing you to be a professional in a stressful field. I expect professionalism.
- Be sure to think before pressing the send/submit button!

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## Course Changes

Every effort will be made to abide closely by the syllabus schedule. However, changes may occur to better suit the course objectives. Notifications of any changes to the course will be provided in person, via email, and/or Canvas.