# Western Kentucky University Department of Sociology Introduction to Law Enforcement CRIM232 – CRN 39970 Summer 18 Online

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**Office:** Grise Hall 119

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

#### **Required Text:**

Gaines, L. & Kappeler, V.E. (2015). Policing in America. Routledge: New York.

## **Catalog Course Description:**

An introduction to policing — including the history of law enforcement, the police and the criminal justice system, principles of law enforcement, and professional issues in law enforcement.

## **Course Goals and Objectives:**

This course provides an introduction to law enforcement in the United States. The course includes discussions of the history of law enforcement in the U.S., the role of police in society, the selection, training, and socialization of police officers, police management and organization, police culture, police deviance and corruptions, minorities in policing, community policing, use of force, dangers and hazards of police work, and the police within contemporary society.

#### **Disclaimer:**

The content we discuss in this course is intended for an adult audience. Due to the nature of the course topic, there will be topics we discuss during the semester that some individuals may find sensitive or offensive. If you would like to talk about any of the issues discussed please contact me via e-mail to set up a meeting.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will be able to apply criminal justice theories to explain policies and practices of police departments
- Students will be able to describe the historical background of American policing for the purpose of interpreting modern decision-making in policing
- Students will be able to describe the organizational structure of police departments and the pathways to various specializations in policing
- Students will be able to describe the culture within police departments and identify how the culture impacts police-citizen interactions, police decision making, and police legitimacy

- Students will be able to identify important laws and court cases that guide procedures and practices of policing
- Students will be able to recognize important social issues related to policing
- Students will recognize psychological, physical, and emotional stress related to policing.

## **ADA Compliance:**

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu . Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

## **Title IX Compliance:**

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070)

at <a href="https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf">https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf</a> and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040)

at <a href="https://wku.edu/policies/hr">https://wku.edu/policies/hr</a> policies/2040 discrimination harassment policy.pdf</a>. Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

#### **WKU Center for Literacy Assistance:**

The WKU Center for Literacy is located in Gary A. Ransdell Hall 2066. At the Center for Literacy, students can receive assistance in developing strategies to help reading/studying to learn and writing for evidence and argument. The Center for Literacy offers both individual and small group sessions throughout the semester. More information about the WKU Center for Literacy can be found on the website: <a href="http://www.wku.edu/literacycenter/">http://www.wku.edu/literacycenter/</a>

#### **IMPORTANT LINKS:**

**Literacy Center:** http://www.wku.edu/literacycenter/

**Academic Integrity:** <a href="https://www.wku.edu/handbook/academic-dishonesty.php/">https://www.wku.edu/handbook/academic-dishonesty.php/</a>

Student Code of Conduct: <a href="https://www.wku.edu/studentconduct/student-code-of-conduct.php/">https://www.wku.edu/studentconduct/student-code-of-conduct.php/</a>

**Student Handbook:** <a href="https://www.wku.edu/handbook/index.php">https://www.wku.edu/handbook/index.php</a> **Student Resource Panel:** <a href="https://www.wku.edu/online/srp/">https://www.wku.edu/online/srp/</a>

Student Complaint Procedures: <a href="https://www.wku.edu/handbook/academic-complaint.php">https://www.wku.edu/handbook/academic-complaint.php</a>
Student Ombudsman Officer: <a href="https://www.wku.edu/handbook/student-complaint.php">https://www.wku.edu/handbook/student-complaint.php</a>
Student Ombudsman Officer: <a href="https://www.wku.edu/academicaffairs/em/student-ombuds.php">https://www.wku.edu/academicaffairs/em/student-ombuds.php</a>

Student Legal Services: https://www.wku.edu/wkusls/

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** 

#### **ABSOLUTELY NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED!!!**

#### **Weekly Assignments:**

You are responsible for reading the textbook for each of the assigned chapters. In addition to the readings, there are weekly homework assignments that will access your understanding of the course material. These assignments are completed online and must be accessed with Lockdown Browser. Each assignment is worth 20 points.

This link provides instructions for downloading the Lockdown Browser software from WKU: <a href="https://itweb.wku.edu/training\_atech/index.php?fuseaction=view.yt&id=636">https://itweb.wku.edu/training\_atech/index.php?fuseaction=view.yt&id=636</a>.

## **Article Reviews:**

You will be required to complete two short article reviews. The article reviews should be typed (in paragraph from) review of the key ideas from the article. I will post the readings on Blackboard.

#### **Examinations:**

There will be one exam worth 100 points.

Assignment	Point Value
Homework	260
Final Exam	100
Total	360

# **Course Topics Outline:**

5/14/18	Module 1: History, Background, and Selection	What's Due
Chapter 1	The Police in American Society	
Chapter 2	Historical Perspectives	
Chapter 3	Police Human Resources	CA1, CA2, CA3
5/21/18	Module 2: Operations, Management, Discretion	
Chapter 4	Organization and Management	
Chapter 5	Police Operations	
Chapter 6	Police Discretion	CA4, CA5, CA6
5/28/18	Issues in Policing	
Chapter 7	Police Use of Force	
Chapter 8	Police Culture and Behavior	
Chapter 9	Ethics and Deviance	
Chapter 10	Civil Liability	CA7, CA8, CA9, CA10
6/4/18	Police in Contemporary Society	
Chapter 11	Police in the Community	
Chapter 12	Policing the Drug Problem	
Chapter 13	Terrorism and Homeland Security	CA11, CA12, CA13
Final Exam	Final will be on 6/8/18	