

Bergen Community College
Division of Social Science, Business and Public Service
Department of Criminal Justice and Homeland Security

Course Designation, Number, and Title

Date of Most Recent Syllabus Revision: September 21, 2010
Course Typically Offered: Fall _____ Spring _____ Summer _____ Every Semester _____ Other _____
Syllabus last reviewed by: BCC General Education Committee _____ Date: _____
(Most courses need review Ad Hoc Committee on Learning Assessment _____ Date: _____
by only one of the following) Curriculum Committee: _____ Date: _____

A syllabus for this course must include as much of the following information as is applicable. It is understood that syllabi will vary considerably from department to department, program to program, and discipline to discipline, contingent upon departmental, program, and discipline policies and practices. In adopting these guidelines, there is no intention to impose a "one size fits all" syllabus or course outline format on departments, programs, and disciplines.

Basic Information About Course and Instructor

Semester and Year:
Course and Section Number: **CRJ 109**
Meeting Times and Locations:

Instructor:
Office Location: Paramus
Phone: (201) 493-4095
Departmental Secretary: Marguerite MacDonald
Office Hours: 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM
Email Address:

Course Description:

Contemporary Issues in Policing explores the history and scope of the relationship between the police and the community. Community relationships are examined from psychological and sociological perspectives. The course analyzes police issues such as media relations; citizen grievances; civilian review boards; selection, training, and education of personnel; police professionalism; discretionary use of police authority; police unionism; crime prevention; and the role of women in police agencies.

Student Learning Objectives: As a result of meeting the requirements in this course, students will be able to

1. To examine the nature of the police role in a changing democratic society.
2. To explore the modern police officer as the pivotal point between community peace and order, and the requirement of individual rights.
3. To analyze public attitudes toward the police and police attitudes toward the public and their far reaching implications.
4. To identify the opportunities for collaboration and confrontation between the police and various segments of the community.
5. To analyze the relationship between crime and prevention and community relations.
6. To explore the dynamics and problems of communication relations to various issues associated with discretion and community interaction.

7. To examine the kinds of tensions that accrue to the police function as a result of police and community interaction.
8. To analyze a broad spectrum of critical issues such as the use of deadly force, unionization, media relations, police discretion, stress and ethics.

OUTCOMES:

1. Describe the historical development of the police.
2. Define the Peelian Reform.
3. Explain the Police Role Dilemma in a democratic society.
4. Identify and contrast the different functions of the police and the styles of policing.
5. Describe the problems and issues confronting police administration, such as leadership, recruitment, selection, training and socialization.
6. Explain the various influences on police decision making and the areas in which an officer uses discretion.
7. Identify and classify the issues concerning police deviance.
8. Document the past, present and future impact on social unrest and change.
9. Itemize the hazard of police work and their effects upon the individual officers.
10. Identify and describe the variables relevant to the use of force.

Means of Assessment:

List means of assessment of student learning in pursuit of goals/objectives/outcomes (e.g., graded class discussions, objective tests and examinations, essay tests and examinations, student presentations in class (individual or group), writing assignments [papers, short essays, book reports, etc.]

Course Content:

- I. INTRODUCTION
 - A. Development of American Police
 1. Historical Overview
 2. Police Reform and Professionalism
 3. Emerging Issues
 4. The Research Era
 - B. Police Policing and the Community
 1. Police in the Laboratory of Criminal Justice
 2. Complex Nature of the Police Role
 3. Police Role Dilemma
 4. Citizen Expectations
- II. SELECTION, TRAINING AND SOCIALIZATION
 - A. Socialization and Professionalism
 - B. The Police Subculture
 - C. Unionization of the Police

- D. Selection and Training
- E. Psychological Screening
- III. MINORITIES IN POLICING
 - A. Recruitment and Selection
 - B. Affirmative Action
 - C. Female Officers : Current Issues
 - D. Minority Officers: Current Issues
- IV. ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION
 - A. Police Bureaucracy
 - B. Police Operations
 - C. Police Organizations
 - D. Principles of Good Policing
 - E. The Aids Epidemic and the Police
 - F. Police Pursuits
 - G. Organizational Change
- V. SOCIOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS
 - A. Changing Nature of Population
 - B. Race/Ethnic Relations
 - C. Civil Disobedience
 - D. Group Behavior
- VI. UNREST FROM SOCIAL CHANGE: Present, Past and Future Impact
 - A. Social Change and Community
 - B. Historical Perspectives
 - C. Continuing Struggle for Equality: Impact on Police
- VII. POLICING IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY
 - A. Significance of Attitudes in Police Work
 - B. Police and the Community: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives
 - C. Police Community Relations
 - D. Problems of Police Image in a Changing Community
- VIII. POLICE DEVIANCE
 - A. Opportunity Structure for Deviance
 - B. Socialization and Peer Group Support
 - C. Typologies of Deviance
 - D. Citizen Complaint Procedures
 - E. Internal Review of Police Conduct
 - F. Civil Review Board
 - G. The Ombudsman
- IX. HAZARDS OF POLICE WORK
 - A. Sources of Stress
 - B. Consequences of Stress
 - C. Coping with Stress
 - D. Solutions and Programs
- X. USE OF FORCE
 - A. Police Discretion
 - B. Citizen Perception
 - C. Understanding the Police Role
 - D. Controlling the Use of Force
 - E. The Split Second Syndrome

- XI. COMMUNITY BASED POLICING
- A. Community Relations
 - B. Reactive vs. Proactive Policing
 - C. Citizen Involvement
 - D. Problem Oriented Police
 - E. Community Policing

Course Texts and/or Other Study Materials:

Critical Issues in Policing, Dunham & Alpert.

Suggested Texts:

The Police and the Community, Radelit & Carter.
Critical Issues in Law Enforcement, Moore.
Policing Urban America, Alpert & Dunham.
The Police and Society, Johnson, Misnes & Brown.

Research, Writing, and/or Examination Requirement(s)

List/describe/comment on course research/writing/presentation/examination requirements.

State departmental policies on research, writing, presentation,
and/or examination assignments [optional].

Include policy statements on student group work (if relevant).

Grading Policy:

1. Comprehensive problem and/or case study examinations.
2. Comprehensive objective and/or essay examinations.
3. Simulation projects and practicum.

Attendance Policy:

BCC Attendance Policy:

All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes.

BIBLIOGRAPHY READINGS:

<u>Police Discretion,</u>	Davis
<u>Police Power,</u>	Chevigny
<u>Policing America,</u>	Plate and Cooper
<u>Minorities and the Police,</u>	Bayley and Mendelsohn
<u>The Future of Policing,</u>	Cohn
<u>The American Police,</u>	Mor
<u>Order Under Law,</u>	Culbertson and Weisheit
<u>The Changing Police Role,</u>	Roberg
<u>The Law Enforcement: A Human Relations Approach,</u>	Coffey
<u>Human Relations in Policing,</u>	Eldefonso, Coffey & Hartinger,
<u>Police Community Relations,</u>	Mayhall
<u>Police in a Time of Change,</u>	Broderick
<u>Understanding Police and Police Work,</u>	Yarney
<u>Police Leadership in America,</u>	Geller
<u>The Thin Blue Line,</u>	Skolnick and Bailey
<u>Police Practice in the 90's,</u>	IACP
<u>Prelude to Riot,</u>	Jacobs
<u>Police Corruption,</u>	Sherman
<u>Stress and Police Personnel,</u>	Territo and Vetter

BIBLIOGRAPHY FILMS:

The Black Cop	#764
Disturbance Calls	#1223
Improving Police and Community Relations	#777
Man in the Middle	#974
The New Police	#1265
No Cop's a Hero	1370
Patrolman You Have a Problem	1359
Play It Cool	357
Police: The Human Dimension: Authority	1392
Ethics	1392
Minorities	1392
Stress	1392
Shoot – Don't Shoot	1252
Someone Else's Crisis	1354