

CRJ 307 POLICE, SOCIETY, AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Syllabus

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COURSE CREDIT:

Three Semester Hours

PREREQUISITES:

SOC 201 The Sociological Imagination, with a grade of C or better

COURSE MATERIALS:

Required Textbook:

Roberg, R., Novak, K., and Cordner, G. (2005). *Police and society*, (3rd ed.). Los Angeles, CA: Roxbury Publishing Company.
ISBN: 1-931719-19-5

Secondary Textbook:

Skogan, W. R. (2004). *Community policing: Can it work?* (1st ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson-Wadsworth Publishing.
ISBN: 0-534-62505-3

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the current issues and themes relating to the role of the police in the general community and the greater society. It provides an in-depth study of the philosophies, programs, problems, and definitions that have recently been linked in the literature to the concept of community policing. Also covered are related topics including the organizational structure of police departments, problems in policing, new theories of the effects of policing on crime, the effectiveness of community policing, and recent major changes in U.S. policing. Prerequisite: SOC 201 The Sociological Imagination, with a grade of C or better.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

In this course, students will examine the connections between the role of the police and society:

- by surveying issues of community policing.
- by identifying the challenges of policing in a democracy.
- by analyzing police management and the police organization.
- by describing how issues of deviance and immorality impact the law.
- by identifying some of the ways in which behavior and misconduct are manifested.
- by comparing and contrasting examples of contemporary programs dealing with accountability and ethical issues.
- by examining the importance of cultural diversity.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

All assignments should be completed after reading the text.

Requirement 1 (Approximately 56% of final grade)

Assignments:

You will read the assignments as outlined. After each reading assignment, you are required to complete the chapter review questions at the end of each chapter in the *Police and Society* textbook. Please type and double-space the answers to the chapter questions. There will be 15 homework assignments. The response to each of the questions needs to be long enough in order to give a thoughtful and thorough answer. In addition, several chapters of reading have been assigned from *Community policing: Can it work?* It is very important that you complete all of the readings as assigned. Incorporate the readings of both textbooks in your responses to the chapter review questions. Please note: Spelling, grammar, and appropriate punctuation will be a part of the grade. *Each assignment is worth 25 points for a total of 375 points.*

Requirement 2 (30% of final grade)

Proctored Exams:

You will be required to take a proctored **midterm** and **final exam**. It is the responsibility of the student to secure a location to take the test. If you live near a high school or local community college—they may be good places to take the tests. The college will mail the exams directly to the person at the location where the test will be taken. Refer to the Guidelines for Proctored Exams and submit your Exam Request Forms. The test will consist of true/false, multiple-choice, and short answer questions. **After Homework Assignment 7 has been completed, you may take the midterm exam. After Homework Assignment 15 has been completed, you may take the final exam.** *Each test is worth 100 points for a total of 200 points.*

Requirement 3 (Approximately 14% of final grade)

Ride-Along Final Paper:

Students are required to complete a ride-along with a police agency. It is the student's responsibility to contact the agency, obtain and fill out the proper paperwork and schedule a time to do a ride-along. You will have the officer(s) sign a form that your instructor will give you. The ride-along will be a minimum of eight hours. If necessary, you may do more than one ride-along so that you can complete the required hours. You are encouraged to participate for more than the required eight hours. When you have completed the ride-along, you will write a 4 to 6 page summary of the entire experience. In addition to the four to six pages of type written information, you will also include a cover page and reference page. This paper should expand on the concept of community policing and should convey what you observed on your ride-along. What did you learn? What was exciting? What surprised you? You are required to use the knowledge and concepts that you have learned in the *Police and society* and *Community policing: Can it work?* You will integrate the readings from both books in your papers. Please type your paper, double-spaced, APA format, four to six pages, include a cover a page and reference page. You will also cite from your resources throughout this project as appropriate. Please note: spelling, grammar, and appropriate punctuation will be a part of the final grade. **Plagiarism will not be tolerated.** *This paper is worth 100 points.*

Most police agencies require citizens to schedule ride-alongs at least one week in advance. These policies will vary from agency to agency. Also, most police agencies require that citizens dress in casual business attire (no blue jeans, no T-shirts, and no shorts). Please check with your local agency in order to find out their specific requirements.

In the event that you have extenuating circumstances, and cannot participate in a ride-along—your instructor will come up with an alternative assignment for you. Each student's circumstances will be evaluated by the instructor in a case-by-case basis. It is the sole discretion of the instructor to allow the student to do an alternative assignment.

Extra Credit:

You have the opportunity for one extra credit assignment. Extra credit is only an option for students who have completed all of the assignments. Extra credit may not be done in lieu of any assignment. **This is an optional assignment and is not mandatory.** Find three newspaper, magazine, or journal articles and explain how the articles relate to the concept of policing and/or community policing. Please type this paper, double-spaced, APA format, complete with a reference page and cover page. This paper should be one or two pages in length. All articles **MUST** accompany the extra credit assignment. *The extra credit assignment is worth 60 points.*

GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND SCALE:

In alignment with ASC academic policies, no D may apply to a major or minor field.

Grade Distribution:

Assignments	375 points
Proctored Midterm	100 points
Proctored Final	100 points
Final Paper	<u>100 points</u>
Total Points	675

Scale:

608-675	A
539-607	B
471-538	C
403-470	D
402 and below	F

COURSE INSTRUCTIONS

If you have any questions about the assignments or any of the information covered in this syllabus, contact your instructor. This class is designed for your success. Make a commitment to yourself and your education. You are now ready to begin working on your assignments!

After Homework 7 is completed, take the proctored midterm exam. After Homework 15 is completed, take the proctored final exam.

IMPORTANT: Keep a copy of all your assignments in the unlikely event that they get lost in the mail.

ADA Statement:

Students seeking academic accommodation should contact this instructor prior to beginning the course of study.