Fall 2018  
SYLLABUS  
3 Credit hours

**Instructor**:  **Office Hours:**

Michael Sherzer Tuesday 9:00 – 3:00

Mott 407--B Friday 9:00 – 3:00

269.749.7537 Other times by appointment.

[msherzer@olivetcollege.edu](mailto:msherzer@olivetcollege.edu)

Emailing me is probably the best way to get in touch with me.

Class meets Monday and Thursday 9:20- 10:40 in Mott 403

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**Required Reading:**

Criminal Investigation. (8th Ed). James Gilbert. Prentice Hall ISBN: 13:978-0-13-500560-6

**Description:**

*Prerequisite: C or higher in CJ 280 or CJ 290*

This course offers students in the law enforcement track practical experience in writing tickets, police reports and warrants.

**Burrage Library link**: <http://olicat.olivetcollege.edi/cgibbin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/OPAC/BSEARCH>

Academic Support Services, Student Resource Center, and Technical Support Services:

Academic support services are available to students in Mott 209. You may reach the center by phone at 269-749-6637. The center is open Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Technical support (ITS) is available by phone at 269-749-7666 or by visiting the lower level of the Burrage Library. ITS is open during the fall and spring semester Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

During summer semester the business hours are:  Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

**Objectives and Learning Outcomes:**

**Program Outcomes:**

Through projects, debates, scenarios, and /or papers, students will identify issues in society, analyze synthesize and evaluate information to reach conclusion in criminal justice organizations and occupations. This course support this program outcome.

After completing this course, students will demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

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| --- | --- |
| 1 The student will be introduced to investigative techniques for a variety of criminal behavior. | Reading, paper assignments, classroom discussion, test. |
| 2. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the criminal investigative process, and its application to the criminal justice system. | Reading assignments  Classroom discussion  Test, class project |
| 1. The student will be exposed to, and able to demonstrate appropriate interview and interrogating techniques. | Reading assignments  Classroom discussion  Test, class demonstration |
| 1. The student will be familiar with the ethical and legal components of a criminal investigation. | Reading assignments  Classroom discussion  Test |

**Criminal Justice Learning Outcomes:**

Students will be able to identify ethical dilemmas and apply ethical principles to criminal investigation through scenario’s classroom discussion and test.

Students will demonstrate the ability actively communicate and de-escalate conflict situations through class work and scenario’s.

Students will demonstrate the ability to identify complex problems in society through class discussion research papers, class project.

**Blackboard:**

Many of your assignments will be submitted through blackboard. Each assignment will have a due date posted in the assignment. If you are unfamiliar with blackboard or are having problems, check with IT first. If they cannot assist you, please let me know. **If blackboard is not working, you must either email me the assignment, or submit a paper copy of the assignment on the due date for credit.**  **If you present a paper copy, you are expected to keep an electronic copy for future reference.**

**Process:**

1. This is a lecture oriented class, with strong class discussion and participation.
2. Chapter reviews will be assigned throughout the semester to ensure a baseline for class discussion.
3. Power points will be presented in class and are available on blackboard.
4. You will be challenged in class, through scenario’s, on how to best apply the concepts presented in the lecture material.

**Late Work Policy:**  
To earn full credit for assignments you must submit the work on the date and time indicated on the syllabus. I will not accept late work. All assignment are posted and many allow you to work ahead. I suggest you take advantage of the opportunity to work ahead when possible.

**Assessment:**

**GRADING SCALE:**

A total of 700 points may be earned during the semester. At the end of the semester, grades will be assigned according to this scale:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 100-93% | 700-651 | A |
| 92.99-90% | 650-630 | A- |
| 89.99-87% | 629-609 | B+ |
| 86.99-83% | 608-581 | B |
| 82.99-80% | 580-560 | B- |
| 79.99-77% | 559-539 | C+ |
| 76.99-73% | 538-511 | C |
| 72.99-70% | 510-490 | C- |
| 69.99-67% | 489-469 | D+ |
| 66.99-63% | 468-441 | D |
| 62.99-60% | 440-420 | D- |
| 59.99-0% | 419-000 | F |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Chapter Questions  10 questions @ 20 points each. 200 Points | 36% | In an effort to encourage full reading and understanding of the material, students are required to submit a response to a question posted on blackboard related to the chapter assigned. This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support. Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response. Please include your personal opinions. You are free to agree or disagree with the author. This will allow the instructor to assume you have a basic understanding of the concepts presented, thus lecture will be more dialogue based and will include information from outside the chapters. The papers are due at the beginning of the class period as outlined in the syllabus. Papers will be will be submitted on blackboard on the date and time indicated. This is not a group project. The paper will be your original work. |
| Test  300 points | 38% | There will be 3 (100-point) tests during the semester. The test will cover assigned readings, handouts, lectures, and other classroom activities related to the assigned chapter. The test will not cover information in past or future chapters. The test questions will be multiple choice, true & false, matching, fill in the blanks, and/or short essay.  Please note that I reserve the right to administer quizzes or exams if deemed necessary.  These are usually deemed necessary only when and if students have not read the required materials.  Point value as assigned per quiz/exam. |
| Papers  50 points each. | 13% | You will be assigned two papers during the semester.  Interview and Interrogation paper due Sept 18  Investigating cyber-crimes due Oct. 23  The papers will be 5 pages in length with 4 sources. You will follow APA style. If you deviate from the criteria above, I will deduct points. Topics will be discussed in class. A rubric will also be provided to help in the structure of the paper. |
| Final Homicide Project  100 Points | 13% | The class will be presented with a homicide case. As a group, you will discuss the case, ask questions of me, and determine what happened. Each student will submit a case folder. This will be discussed further in class.  **As this is an individual project based on information only available in class, any absences will result in a loss of individual points.** |
| Extra Credit |  | You can earn extra credit through attendance and participation. You will be awarded 1 extra credit point for each day you attend class. To be eligible for the attendance extra credit, you need to attend 24 of the 28 scheduled classes. Excused absences are not counted against you. Sickness is not considered an excused absence, but considered as part of the four you can miss. Arriving late for class will be counted as ½ day missed. In other words for every two times you arrive late, it will count as one absence. |

**Classroom and Other Policies and Expectations:**

1. This is a 3-credit course over fifteen weeks. You are expected to engage in a minimum of **128 hours** of course-related learning activities, averaging approximately 8.5 hours per week. Expect to spend approximately (2.5) hours per week engaging in class time (discussions, lectures, etc.) and an additional six (6) **hours per week** reading each chapter, researching topics, completing assignments, and writing papers.
2. Attendance and class participation are very important and highly encouraged. You are required to take all tests on the appointed date. **Excused make-ups may be allowed in cases of emergency and prior notice and arrangement. Unexcused make-ups, if and when allowed, will be penalized by the loss of one full grade per day.**
3. You are expected to come to class on time, and if you have to leave early, let me know ahead of time. This facilitates good communication and understanding and is a sign of maturity and responsibility.
4. **Cell phones will not be used in class and do not belong within eyesight of the student.**
5. Notification of illness, unofficial dropping of class, lengthy absences because of work schedules or other reasons are helpful and appreciated.
6. Please don’t hesitate to ask me questions about your assignments or to discuss your concerns.
7. We will follow the Olivet college policy on weather. If class is cancelled by the instructor it will be posted on blackboard the day of class. Use your best judgment to determine if the weather is too severe to attend class.

**Academic Integrity Policy:**

We adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy of Olivet College.  Please see your student handbook for particulars.   Plagiarism occurs in many ways, some examples (and this is not an exclusive list) of plagiarized work are as follows:  submission of a paper you submitted in another class (without permission from both instructors), failure to cite concepts, quotes or paraphrases within text, failure to add a bibliography, using someone else's ideas without attribution, cutting and pasting from the web without attribution.  These are just a few examples.  If you have a question, ASK ME.

ANY STUDENT WHO VIOLATES ANY OF THE RULES STIPULATED IN THIS SECTION TITLED "ACADEMIC INTEGRITY" WILL RECEIVE AN "F" FOR THE COURSE AND COULD BE EXPELLED FROM THE COLLEGE.

DON'T CHEAT. Remember the words of Zazu in The Lion King, "Cheaters never prosper".  (Well, actually, he said "Cheetahs" but you get the gist.)

**Mutual Responsibilities:**

Under the Olivet College Compact we have some mutual responsibilities particularly pertinent to this class which include, but aren't necessarily limited to the following:

**I am responsible for my own learning and personal development; and I am responsible for contributing to the learning of others.**

All of us need to be sure that we recognize the importance of simply being here.  We are all here to learn.  That means that we all must come to class prepared to use our minds and our voices.  This means reading everything you're supposed to read, listening to one another and reflecting on what we've read, heard and written.  It means coming to class on time and being responsible about attendance.   If you aren't here, we don't hear you, and we don't learn from you.

**I am responsible for behaving and communicating with honesty and integrity; and I am responsible for treating all people with respect.**

We need to talk to one another honestly and respectfully.  You should feel free to express your opinion.  I will listen (and I usually learn) just as you should.  Think about what you say and accept responsibility for the results (and learn from them!)  Be honest, don't cheat.  Don't be late, it interferes with other's learning.  Please tell me if you have a problem with the class, me or another student.  I can't change or mediate problems if I don't know they exist.

**I am responsible for contributing to the quality of the physical environment**.

Let's take care of things.  Being in a nice place makes being there nicer!

I would like to thank Dr. Maria Davis for her initiative in using the Olivet College Compact in her syllabi, and her graciousness in sharing the idea.  In joining this community we have committed ourselves to the principles of the Compact and the obligations entrusted to us to foster a culture of responsibility at Olivet College.   The preceding is a paraphrase of the conclusion to the Compact, endorsed by the entire community in the spring of 1997

**Proposed Schedule of Assignments:**

This schedule is subject to adjustment for the benefit of the class. You will be informed of any changes when and if they occur.

**Aug. 20 Introduction,**

**Chapter 1:** Historical Origins of Criminal Investigation. Pages 1-28

**Aug 23 Chapter 2:** Introduction of Basic Concepts. Pages 32-44

**Chapter 2 Question due:** The book discusses investigative ethics. **Complete a 2 page paper on the necessity and value of investigative ethics.** This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support. Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response. Please include your personal opinions. You are free to agree or disagree with the author.

**Aug 27 Chapter 3:** The Investigative method. Pages 48-56

**Chapter 3 question due: After reading this chapter discuss the possibilities of a guilty person being convicted if all the steps are done properly.** This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support. Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response. Please include your personal opinions. You are free to agree or disagree with the author.

**Aug 30 Chapter 4:** Note-Taking and Reports. Pages 67-71

**Chapter 4 question due: Discuss the value of police reporting and note taking﻿.**  This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support. Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response. Please include your personal opinions. You are free to agree or disagree with the author.

**Sept 06 Chapter 5:** The Crime Scene Focus. Pages 79-97

**Chapter 5 question due. Discuss the challenges of crime scene investigation﻿.**  This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support.  Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response.  Please include your personal opinions.  You are free to agree or disagree with the author.

**Sept 10 Chapter 5** continued

**Sept 13 Test Chapter 1-5**

**Sept 17 Chapter 6:** Interviewing. Pages 101-130

**Chapter 6 question due**

**Interview and Interrogation paper due**

**Sept 20 Chapter 6 continued**

**Sept. 24 Chapter 7:** Traditional Sources of Information. Pages 132-153

**Chapter 7 question due: Discuss the challenges of human source information.**This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support.  Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response.  Please include your personal opinions.  You are free to agree or disagree with the author.

**Sept. 27 Chapter 9:** Burglary. Pages 180-213

**Chapter 10**: Robbery. Pages 215-242

**Chapter 9-10-question due (This is two assignments)**

**Discuss the differences between a burglary and a robbery, and the investigative challenges of each.**This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support.  Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response.  Please include your personal opinions.  You are free to agree or disagree with the author.

**Oct. 01 Chapter 12:** Rape and Sexual offenses. Pages 291-316

**Chapter 12 question due: Discuss the challenges an investigator will have when assigned a Sexual offense.**This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support.  Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response.  Please include your personal opinions.  You are free to agree or disagree with the author.

**Oct. 04 Chapter 14:** Narcotics and Drug Investigations. Pages 354-402

**Chapter 14 question due: Discuss the challenges of a drug investigation, and provide your personal opinion reference the "war on drugs".**This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support.  Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response.  Please include your personal opinions.  You are free to agree or disagree with the author.

**Oct. 08 Chapter 14 continued**

**Oct. 11 Test Chapters 6-10 &12**

**Oct. 15 Chapters 15:** Youth Gang Investigations. Pages 404-453

**Chapter 15 question due: What is an effective method of addressing gangs and gang violence in American cities?**This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support.  Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response.  Please include your personal opinions.  You are free to agree or disagree with the author.

**Oct. 18 Chapter 17:** Suspect identification. Pages 455-479

**Chapter 17 question due**

**Oct. 22 Chapter 17 continued**

**Cyber crime paper due**

**Oct. 25 Chapter 18:** The Investigator in Court. Pages 480-488

**Chapter 18 question due: What should an officer be aware of when preparing for court testimony?**This response will be a two page response referencing the chapter material for support.  Feel free to use outside sources as well in your response.  Please include your personal opinions.  You are free to agree or disagree with the author.

**Oct. 29 Chapter 18**

**Nov. 01 Chapter 19:** The Future of Criminal Investigations: pages 489-509

**Nov. 05 CATCH UP**

**Nov. 08 Test Chapters 15, 17, 18, 19**

**Nov. 12 Chapter 11:** Homicide and Aggravated Assaults. Pages 243-289

**Chapter 11 question due**

**Nov. 15 Search Warrants**

**Nov. 19 Case Review**

**Nov. 26 Case Review**

**Nov. 29 Case Review**

**Dec. 03 Final Exam 1:15 – 3:15**