

**CRCJ 8040: Police & Society**  
**Fall 2017**  
**Tuesday 5:30 – 8:10PM**  
**CPACS 122**

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**Course Description**

This course is designed to explore the role of the police in American society. Attention is given to the origins of policing, the nature of police organizations and police work, and patterns of relations between the police and the public. The values of a democratic society as they affect the law enforcement role are discussed.

**Required Readings**

All of the required readings are available on Canvas. I expect you to read critically and come prepared to discuss how the material relates to contemporary policing and society. You are encouraged to bring in additional material as you see fit (e.g., news articles, video clips, other articles/books you are familiar with).

**Writing Assignments**

You are required to write three reaction papers throughout the semester. These should be 2 – 3 pages (double-spaced), and each is worth 5% of your grade. You may write a reaction paper for any of the readings marked with an asterisk (see “Course Schedule” below), but you may only write one reaction paper for any given week.

**Research Proposal and Presentation**

Each student will select a topic on which to write a research proposal and make an oral presentation to the class based upon its content. The written proposal should be 10 – 15 pages (double-spaced) and the oral presentation should be 10 – 15 minutes (or 20 including Q&A). The written proposal is due no later than **November 21<sup>st</sup>**, and oral presentations will take place during our last two classes. We will discuss this assignment in more detail later in the semester. Topics must be approved by me, and should be submitted in writing (approx. one page) no later than **October 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

**Grading**

Attendance & participation	40%
Writing assignments	15%
Research proposal	25%
Research presentation	20%

90 – 100	= A
80 – 89	= B
70 – 79	= C
60 – 69	= D
0 – 59	= F

### **Academic Integrity**

Students should familiarize themselves with the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities and the policy on academic integrity (<https://www.unomaha.edu/student-life/student-conduct-and-community-standards/policies/academic-integrity.php>). Any form of academic dishonesty is unacceptable. Instances of academic dishonesty will, at a minimum, result in a failing grade for that assignment, and a record of academic dishonesty will be placed in the student's academic file that is maintained by the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Instances of academic dishonesty may also be subject to disciplinary action by the University.

### **Students with Special Needs**

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students who are registered with Disability Services and make their requests sufficiently in advance. For more information, contact Disability Services (EAB 117, Phone: 554-2872) or go to the website: [www.unomaha.edu/disability](http://www.unomaha.edu/disability).

### **Course Schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading(s)</b>
Week 1 8/22	Introduction and overview	Syllabus Schwartz (2008)
Week 2 8/29	The history and function of police	Uchida (1997) Bittner (1980) President's Task Force on 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Policing (2015)
Week 3 9/5	Management and organization	Cordner (1978) Crank & Langworthy (1992) Trinkner et al. (2016)*
Week 4 9/12	Selection, training, and socialization	Van Maanen (1978) Waddington (1999) Chappell (2008)* Ingram et al. (2013)*
Week 5 9/19	Bias, misconduct, and accountability	Rojek et al. (2012a)* Smith & Alpert (2007) Walker et al. (2001) Walker (2017)
Week 6 9/26	Community and problem-oriented policing	Wilson & Kelling (1982) Goldstein (1979) Reisig (2010)
Week 7 10/3	What works? <i>(topics due)</i>	Kelling et al. (1974)* Sherman (1986) Lum et al. (2011) Telep (2017)*
Week 8 10/10	Body-worn cameras	Jennings et al. (2014)* Ready & Young (2015)* Ariel et al. (2015)* Ariel et al. (2016)*
Week 9 10/17	<b>Fall Break – No class</b>	—

Week 10 10/24	Use of force I	Terrill & Reisig (2003)* Terrill & Paoline (2012)* Rojek et al. (2012b)*
Week 11 10/31	Use of force II	Klinger et al. (2015)* James et al. (2016)* Fridell (2016)
Week 12 11/7	Policing post-Ferguson	Mac Donald (2015) Oliver (2017)* Nix et al. (2017a)* Shjarback et al. (2017)*
Week 13 11/14	<b>ASC Conference – No class</b>	—
Week 14 11/21	Procedural justice <b>(research proposals due)</b>	Tyler (2004) Nagin & Telep (2017) Nix et al. (2017b)*
Week 15 11/28	Student presentations I	—
Week 16 12/5	Student presentations II	—

\* You may write a reaction paper for this article.

**Please note** that I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus as necessary in order to meet learning objectives, compensate for missed classes, or for similar reasons.