

# CJ 4310: Special Problems in the Criminal Justice System

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## Course Description

This class will revolve around crime control strategies. The primary focus will be on how the Criminal Justice System attempts to control criminal activity. We will also go cover how the community, environment, labor markets, and technology can be utilized to control crime.

## Course Objectives

1. You'll learn this
2. And also that
3. Perhaps some of this too.

## Required Textbook

[Mays, G. L., & Ruddell, R. \(2019\). Making sense of criminal justice: Policies and practices. Oxford University Press.](#) - No cost, PDF available.

## Assignments and Evaluation

Summary of Assignments

Grading

Course Policies

Technical Support

Course Schedule

Course Overview

This course explores various strategies used to control crime, including interventions by the criminal justice system, community-based initiatives, and broader social and economic policies.

Weekly Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	Aug 25-31	Introduction & Overview	Syllabus
2	Sep 1-7	The Criminal Justice System	Textbook: Ch. 2 & 3
3	Sep 8-14	Police I: Crime Control Agents	NA
4	Sep 15-21	Police II: Hot Spots & Problem Oriented Policing	Braga et al. (2019), Hinkle et al. (2020); Reducing Crime Podcast Ep. #66 (David Weisburd)
5	Sep 22-28	Police III: Focused Deterrence	Braga et al. (2018); Reducing Crime Podcast Ep. #18 (Thomas Abt)
6	Sep 29-Oct 5	Courts, Prosecutors, & Sentencing	Textbook: Ch. 7
7	Oct 6-12	Corrections: Prisons & Community Supervision	Textbook: Ch. 11
8	Oct 13-19	Midterm	NA
9	Oct 20-26	Community-based I: CPTED	Welsh & Farrington (2008); Garvin, Cannuscio, & Branas (2013)
10	Oct 27-Nov 2	Community-based II: Public Health Approach	Butts et al. (2015) Cure Violence
11	Nov 3-9	Technology & Surveillance	Textbook: Ch. 15; Connealy et al. (2024), Piza et al. (2024)
12	Nov 10-16	Employment and Crime	Heller (2014) Summer jobs, Apel & Horney (2017)
13	Nov 17-23	Evaluating What Works I	Sherman et al. (1998)
14	Nov 24-Dec 1	Thanksgiving...Evaluating What Works II	TBD
15	Dec 2-9	Final	NA