

CCJ 4004 Comparative Criminology and Criminal Justice

College of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Florida State University

Fall Semester, 2022

Tu-Th 1:20PM - 2:35PM, Room WILLIAMS BUILDING 0123

Professor: Sylwia J. Piatkowska, Ph.D.
Office: Criminology Building, Room 315C
E-mail: spiatkowska@fsu.edu

Office hours: Tuesdays, 10:00am-1:00pm
TA: Mr. Spencer Shaw
TA's e-mail: swshaw@fsu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course will introduce you to a global, comparative approach to the study of crime and criminal justice systems, beginning with the discussion of transnational crime and issues related to its measurement and continuing with the study of the four major legal traditions (common law, civil law, socialist law, and Islamic law) and the analysis of specific components of the criminal justice system across the world, including the police, courts, and corrections. We will cover different types of transnational crime including cybercrime, corruption, drug trafficking, money laundering, maritime piracy, theft of art and cultural objects, trade in human body parts, trafficking in persons, and terrorism. Being familiar with different legal systems will enable you to understand the dimensions of the American system of justice and gain ideas for improving that system. Eventually, your critical thinking skills and the knowledge you gain in this class should be combined to help with your own evaluation of the social world and with initiation and execution of valuable research projects of your own.

By the end of this class, students should:

- 1) Be familiar with different types of transnational crime and issues related to its measurement,
- 2) Be familiar with the major legal traditions (common law, civil law, socialist law, and Islamic law) and specific components of the criminal justice system across the world.
- 3) Be equipped with skills required to conduct basic research and analyze resulting crime data from a comparative perspective
- 4) Be able to critically evaluate findings from studies that are reported by various sources.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Comparative Criminal Justice Systems, Author: Philip L. Reichel, Publisher: Pearson, Edition: 7

SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

Additional readings will be available on Canvas.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Exams

There are three in-class exams during the semester. The exams will not be cumulative. They will consist of multiple-choice questions. You are required to take the exams at the time they are scheduled. No make-up exams will be given. Each of the exams draws heavily on lectures, assigned readings, and the textbook, so it will be to your advantage to attend class regularly and read the assigned readings. Scantron will be provided.

Presentation

Each person is required to give one presentation during regular class meetings (Tuesday). This presentation will count for 15% of your grade. For your presentation, you are required to work in groups of 7-8 to provide information on crime and the criminal justice system in the country(-ies) assigned during that week. As a team, you are asked to create a PowerPoint presentation, discuss crime and the criminal justice system in the given country(-ies), and pose six discussion questions to the class at the end-of-class presentations. You may present a PPT presentation on any subject of interest to you if it is related to crime and the criminal justice system in the country(-ies) assigned for the given week. However, you must also provide some general information on crime and the criminal justice system in that country(-ies). You must also refer to both cases of "*People of the State of Michigan*." You are welcome to use videos. Extra points will be given for using games or any other type of activity that engages the students. You are asked to email your final presentation (with names included) to your teacher one day before the presentation. All PowerPoint presentations will be posted on Canvas after each class presentation. Each presentation should take about 25 minutes. Each Tuesday, two groups will give their presentations. Please make sure that you read the grading rubric presentation guidelines, and schedule posted on Canvas.

Attendance and Class Participation

Participation in this class is defined by regular attendance and engagement in discussions and activities suggested during the class. You are expected to attend classes regularly and to actively participate with questions or comments during lectures. These discussions are also important for developing the critical thinking skills that are a crucial component of this class. The in-class discussions will count for 10% of your grade.

DISTRIBUTION OF POINTS

Assignment	Percent
Exam #1	20%
Exam #2	25%
Exam #3	30%
Presentation	15%
Participation	10%

Your grades will be **weighted** at the end of the class based on the distribution of points outlined

above.

EXAMPLE:

If you get 93/100 on your Exam #1, your score (93) will be multiplied by .20: $93 * .20 = 18.60$

If you get 89/100 on your Exam #2, your score (89) will be multiplied by .25: $89 * .25 = 22.25$

If you get 90/100 on your Exam #3, your score (90) will be multiplied by .30: $90 * .30 = 27.00$

If you get 95/100 on your presentation, your score (95) will be multiplied by .15: $95 * .15 = 14.25$

If you get 90/100 on your participation, your score (90) will be multiplied by .10: $90 * .10 = 9$

The sum of these outcomes will constitute your final grade from this class.

$18.60 + 22.25 + 27.00 + 14.25 + 9 = 91.10$ (91.10 is your final grade from the class)

Letter grades will be determined in the following way:

A	94-100%	C	73-76%
A-	90-93%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%
C+	77-79%	F	0-59%

UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE POLICY

You must attend class each week, complete and return all assignments. There will not be any opportunities for extra credit. Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness. Cell phones are not allowed.

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and...[to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at <http://fda.fsu.edu/academic-resources/academic-integrity-and-grievances/academic-honor-policy>)

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Your academic success is a top priority for Florida State University. University resources to help you succeed include tutoring centers, computer labs, counseling and health services, and services for designated groups, such as veterans and students with disabilities. The following information is not exhaustive, so please check with your advisor or the Dean of Students office to learn more.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Florida State University (FSU) values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. Our goal is to create learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming. FSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities in a manner that is consistent with academic standards of the course while empowering the student to meet integral requirements of the course. To receive academic accommodations, a student: (1) must register with and provide documentation to the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS); (2) must provide a letter from OAS to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type; and, (3) should communicate with the instructor, as needed, to discuss recommended accommodations. A request for a meeting may be initiated by the student or the instructor. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from the Office of Accessibility Services has been provided. This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request. For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the

Office of Accessibility Services

874 Traditions Way

108 Student Services Building

Florida State University

Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167

(850) 644-9566 (voice)

(850) 644-8504 (TDD)

oas@fsu.edu

<https://dsst.fsu.edu/oas>

CONFIDENTIAL CAMPUS RESOURCES

Various centers and programs are available to assist students with navigating stressors that might impact academic success. These include the following:

Victim Advocate Program

University Center A, Rm. 4100

(850) 644-7161

Available 24/7/365

Office Hours: M-F 8-5

<https://dsst.fsu.edu/vap>

Counseling and Psychological Services

Askew Student Life Center, 2nd floor

942 Learning Way

(850) 644-8255

<https://counseling.fsu.edu/>

University Health Services

Health and Wellness Center

(850) 644-6230

<https://uhs.fsu.edu/>

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Date	Topic and Assessment	Reading due
Week 08/23-08/25	An International Perspective	Syllabus; Reichel Ch. 1
Week 08/30-09/01	Domestic, Transnational, and International Crime and Justice	Reichel Ch. 2
Week 09/06-09/08	Domestic, Transnational, and International Crime and Justice (cont.)	Reitz. 2018. "American Exceptionalism in Crime and Punishment"
Week 09/13-09/15	Domestic, Transnational, and International Crime and Justice (cont.)	Reitz. 2018. (cont.)
Week 09/20-09/22	Exam Review (09/20) Exam #1 (09/22)	
Week 09/27-09/29	An American Perspective on Criminal Law	Reichel Ch.3
Week 10/04-10/06	Legal Traditions	Reichel Ch.4
Week 10/11-10/13	Substantive Law and Procedural Law in the Four Legal Traditions	Reichel Ch.5 Honor Killings Video
Week 10/18-10/20	An International Perspective on Policing	Reichel Ch.6 Zimring. 2020. "Police Killings as a Problem of Governance" Policing Video
Week 10/25-10/27	Exam Review (10/25) Exam #2 (10/27)	
Week 11/01-11/03	An International Perspective on Courts	Reichel Ch.7
Week 11/08-11/10	An International Perspective on Corrections	Reichel Ch.8 Lappi-Seppala. 2018. "American Exceptionalism in Comparative Perspective"
Week 11/15-11/17	An International Perspective on Juvenile Justice	Reichel Ch.9
11/22	Capital Punishment	Story of Capital Punishment Video
11/24	Thanksgiving Day Holiday. No classes.	
Week 11/29-12/01	Japan: Examples of Effectiveness and Borrowing (11/29); Exam Review (12/01)	Reichel Ch.10
12/08 (Thursday) 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Final Exam (12/08)	