

Law & the Police in a Multicultural Society

Criminal Justice&242: item # 5032

Professor: Shawn Curtis

Dates: 01/02/13 – 03/15/13

Room: A206

Class: daily 11:30-12:20am E-mail: shawn.curtis@bellevuecollege.edu

Office: D-200-A

Hours: W 9:30-10:30, or by appt.

Phone: 425.564.2698

Required Text: Multicultural Law Enforcement: Strategies for Peacekeeping in a Diverse Society fifth Edition. By Robert Shusta, Deena Levine, Herbert Wong, Aaron Olson, & Phillip Harris. ISBN: 978-0-13-505088-0

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND CONTENT:

The course examines the strengths and weaknesses of the police carrying out their mission in a culturally diverse society. Students develop an understanding of the influences of culture, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic class on the legal process and within society.

To accomplish these broad objectives, the course will be divided into three parts. Each part is necessary in order to adequately study crime and the theories that explain it.

1. Demonstrate knowledge of key terms (e.g., multiculturalism, racism, institutional racism, prejudice, racial groups) by correctly identifying them in readings and using them accurately in essays and discussions.
2. Demonstrate comprehension of the need for multicultural law enforcement by explaining the roles that racism and prejudice played in police-community conflicts, the creation of laws, the enforcement of laws, the legal interpretation of laws, the sentencing of offenders and community response to the police.
3. Apply comprehension of multicultural law enforcement to traditional police departments. The student will be able to explain how a police department that embraces the multicultural policing concept would respond differently from a traditional department's response to a dispute between the police and a culturally diverse community, tensions within a culturally diverse community and traditional police problems that occur in any community.
4. Apply comprehension of multicultural law enforcement by identifying the policing philosophies, strategies and techniques used by police departments and explain whether the departments have not yet addressed the needs of a diverse community.
5. Analyze the history of tension between the police and racial and ethnic groups by applying a psychological and sociological perspective. Students should be able to identify and discuss arguments concerning whether individuals create a racist legal institution or the institution creates racists officers.
6. Synthesize the information gained from case analysis and selected readings and argue whether racism within the legal process existed only at an individual basis or whether the legal process as an institution is biased and supported by the majority of the American public.
7. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the legal rationale supporting landmark criminal court decisions and determine whether they fit with common standards of equality and justice. Evaluate police-community conflicts and attempt to determine whether the police lacked an understanding of the dynamics of a socially diverse community or whether there was a predisposed suspicion of the police due to a long and bitter history.
8. Evaluate the new policing strategies employed by the contemporary police departments and argue whether these new approaches address the arguments and concerns raised by those minority groups that are affected.

ASSIGNED READINGS:

Readings for this course will be assigned from chapters in the texts. Reading assignments will be discussed extensively in class as the course develops.

Schedule: The following schedule is tentative and may be modified with notice. Students are

responsible for ANY and ALL changes that are made to this schedule, even if not present when changes are discussed.

1/2 Introduction to course and expectations (syllabus)

PART 1: Cultural Diversity & Law Enforcement (Week 1-2)

Chapter 1. Multicultural Communities: Challenges for Law Enforcement
Chapter 2. The Changing Law Enforcement Agency: A Microcosm of Society
Chapter 4. Cross-Cultural Communication for Law Enforcement

1/18 (Friday) Assignment: ISM's Paper Topic Due

1/21 (Monday) No Class Martin Luther King Jr. Day

PART II: Cultural Groups Part 1 (Week 3-6)

Monday 1/14 Quiz #1- Chapters (chapters 1,2,4)
Chapter 5. Contact with Asian/Pacific Americans
Chapter 6. Contact with African Americans
Chapter 7. Contact with Latino/Hispanic Americans

PART III: Cultural Groups Part 2 (Week 7-8)

Monday 2/11 Quiz #2- Chapters 5-7
Chapter 8. Contact with Arab Americans & Other Middle East Groups
Chapter 9. Contact with Native Americans

2/15 (Friday) Assignment: ISM's Paper Draft Due

2/18 (Monday) No Class Professional Development Day

PART IV: Hate and Bias Crimes (week 9-11)

Monday 2/25 Quiz #3- Chapters 8-9
Chapter 11. Hate/Bias Crime: Victims, Laws, Investigations, & Prosecution
Chapter 12. Hate/Bias Crime: Reporting, Monitoring, & Response Strategies

PART IV: THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM Week 12)

Monday 3/11 Quiz #4- Chapters 11 & 12
Chapter 13. Racial Profiling
Chapter 14. Community Policing & Multicultural Response Strategies for
Gangs, the Homeless, and the Mentally Ill

3/15 (Friday) ISM's Paper Final Draft Due

Finals Week: Quiz #5 (chapters 13 & 14)

Make-up Policy: There are no make-up assignments accepted unless supported by medical documentation (at the instructor's discretion) only. The instructor needs to be notified ASAP of any circumstance that may need to be addressed by the make-up policy.

GRADING:

Activities	Points Description	Total Points
Attendance		50
Assignments	ISM's Paper Draft	30
	ISM's Paper Final	100
Quizzes	5 @ 30 points each	150
	Total Points:	330

A	94-100%	A-	90-93%	B+	87-89%
B	84-86%	B-	80-83%	C+	77-79%
C	74-76%	C-	70-73%	D+	67-69%
D	60-66%	F	0-59%		

Attendance: All students are expected to attend the classroom 5 times a week, and study for an average of 1-2 hours outside of class as well. Obviously, if students do not attend the classroom regularly, the opportunity to perform well in this course is greatly diminished.

Course Requirements: All students are expected to read the required chapters of the textbook as outlined online and in the schedule section of this syllabus. Students are also expected to read the required chapters to attend the classroom regularly, finish assignments, take notes, ask questions, and participate in discussions.

Make-up Policy: *Any* make-up tests are allowed **only at the discretion of the instructor** and immediate notification from the student is imperative. Additionally, **all** make-up exams (for **any un-excused** circumstance) will adhere to the following criteria: 1) administered **only** by the instructor during office hours/or instructor's choosing 2) **cumulative** in nature; and 3) given in **whatever** format I choose.

Extra Credit: As a general rule, there is usually no extra credit available in this course. I may, however, **at any time during the quarter** provide in-class extra credit opportunities. Obviously, if you are not in class on these days, you are not eligible for these opportunities.

Veterans: I thank you for your service to our country and let me know if you need help in any way (tutoring, advising, job opportunities or any other services at the college).

Running Start Students: If this is your first class please plan on meeting with me in person for a short chat (e-mail me at <mailto:shawn.curtis@bellevuecollege.edu>) during the first two weeks of class. I want to help make this college transition successful for you.

Incomplete:

If a student fails to complete all the required work for course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("F"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an ("F")).

F Grade:

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule:

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstances beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designed by the instructor.

Withdrawal from Class:

College policy states students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal:

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme circumstances.

Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Distribution of Grades:

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades online through Blackboard Vista.

Return of Papers and Tests:

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if students supply the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) OR THE Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*

Affirmation of Inclusion

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination.

We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

Student Code

"Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the

Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services.” The Student Code, Policy 2050, in its entirety is located at:

http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp

Important Links

Bellevue College E-mail and access to MyBC

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to: <https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam> .

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Computing Services website](#).

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

The DRC office is located in B 132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc

Public Safety

The Bellevue College (BC) Public Safety Department’s well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, and 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements and critical information in the event of an emergency. Public Safety is located in K100 and on the web at: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>

