

**Syllabus**  
**Introduction to the Criminal Justice System CRCJ 2334**  
**2168-CRCJ-2334-004-INTRO-CRJU-SYS--2016-Fall**  
**Fall 2016**

**Instructor:** Mr. Ken Myers, Lecturer      **E-mail Address:** [kenneth.myers@uta.edu](mailto:kenneth.myers@uta.edu)  
**Office:** University Hall 347      **Hours:** By appointment only  
**Telephone:** 817.272.3318      **Fax:** 817.272.0742  
**Class Hours:** Online - Vary as you need them      **Meeting Place:** Online  
**E-mail Policy:** E-mail is the official means of communication for this course. You should receive a response within 48-72 hours. Please use the following e-mail subject line format:  
**CRCJ 2334 – (Subject of your e-mail)**

**Instructor's Biography:**

---

Mr. Ken Myers is a Lecturer with the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice. He received both his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from the University of Texas - Arlington in Criminal Justice and Criminology. He has been with the university as an Adjunct Professor / Lecturer since 2007. Recently he completed the 260th Session of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Nation Academy and is also a graduate of the Bill Blackwood Institute - Leadership Command College. Ken Myers has 23 years of law enforcement experience and is currently a full-time Deputy Chief with a local Dallas / Fort Worth metroplex law enforcement agency.

<https://www.uta.edu/profiles/kenneth-myers>

**Description of Course Content:**

---

**Catalogue Description of Course Content**

An overview of the entire criminal justice system; history and development, law enforcement, prosecution and defense, courts and trial processes, and corrections.

**Instructor's Description**

This course provides an overview of the component parts of the criminal justice system. The history, structure and function of law enforcement, courts and corrections are explored. The course also explores data collection, theoretical paradigms, and issues in the field of criminal justice.

**Student Learning Outcome:**

---

To provide students with information about the history, structure, function of the criminal justice system. The course should provide strong preparation and background for students who are interested in majoring in criminology and criminal justice. Students will acquire knowledge about the history of criminal justice, the use of crime data, criminal law, crime causation and information about the structure and function of the component parts of the criminal justice system.

In addition to textbook information, written lecture notes, the class will rely upon web assignments and group discussion to help facilitate the learning process.

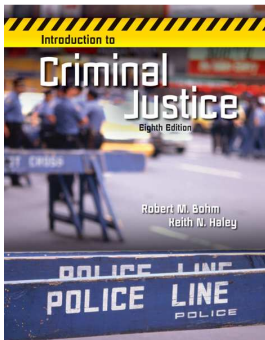
## Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

- Compare and contrast the definition of criminology and criminal justice
- Compare and contrast the crime control and the due process models
- Identify and define all eight index crimes
- Explain the differences between substantive and procedural criminal law
- Identify and explain three theoretical paradigms in criminology
- Describe three major policing styles
- Identify and define the roles of at least three members of the courtroom workgroup
- Explain the internal versus the external goals of the courtroom workgroup
- Describe the traditional versus the real reasons behind the use of plea bargaining
- Identify two conditions that resulted in the emergence of prisons in the United States
- Identify and explain two areas of concern for criminal justice practitioners today versus the future

## Required Textbooks and other materials:

---



Introduction to the Criminal Justice System

Connect Access: Bohm: Introduction to Criminal Justice, 8e

ISBN: [9780077493233](https://www.mhhe.com/bohmcj8e)

Bohm, Robert. *Introduction to Criminal Justice*. S.l.: McGraw-Hill Education, 2016.

The textbook package listed above contains "Connect" and is available for sale in our college bookstore. Be sure the book you buy contains the access code for McGraw Hill "Connect." Access to a computer with internet connection, internet explorer or other compatible browser, and access to McGraw Hill Connect application.

## Method of Instruction:

---

The course will be taught via the Internet/Blackboard. That is, the instruction of certain topics will be incorporated in the lesson material. Other lessons, however, will depend solely on the instruction provided in the text.

## **Descriptions of Major Assignments and Examinations:**

---

### **Assigned Readings**

Students are expected to read all the assigned material in order to ensure full comprehension of each of the weekly lessons. Success on examinations will be extremely difficult if students fail to read the assigned materials. Students will be able to access the weekly lesson's reading assignments by selecting the **Course Content** tab from the Blackboard navigation menu and clicking on the specific lesson folder. Reading assignments consist of designated chapter selection from the required textbooks, lecture notes, PowerPoint presentations, and any other article, which may be offered. Periodically, videos will be included in lesson folders. Students are expected to watch these videos as part of the overall lesson's learning objective.

### **Weekly Chapter Assignments**

Each week (Sunday at midnight) a new chapter will open. During the week, you will need to complete the reading, review the associated PowerPoint, and complete the on-line assignment in the online "Connect" program. Each assignment will be worth 15 points each or 38% of your grade and are due before 11:59 PM on the Saturday of that week.

### **Discussion Questions**

Discussion questions represent a way to communicate between the instructor, student, and classmates on questions identified by the instructor. For each discussion question you be required to post at least one original response and **TWO** responses to posting(s) by your classmate(s). During the semester, there will be three discussion threads. The discussions questions will account for 7% of your total grade.

#### *Original Response (Thread)*

Students will be confronted with a question(s) or some other type of media (video) and asked to provide a reaction to it. Responses must be substantive and related to the material presented in pervious lessons. Your original response should range from 150 - 300 words.

#### *Response to Classmates (Rethread)*

Again, your posting should range from 150 - 300 words. In your responses, support your opinions and assertions with what you have learned from the lessons and readings. Responses must be more than "I agree." (*You can disagree with a classmate, but do not be disrespectful.*)

Once open, certain time limits will be set for discussion question submissions. On the announced due date **BOTH** the original response and the response to a classmate will be due by 11:59 p.m. (Central Time). In an effort to allow your fellow classmates ample time to respond to your original posting, **DO NOT** wait until the last minute of the last day to post your original response. If the instructor finds this is the case, more stringent times requirements could be established for future assignments.

Make-ups or time extensions will be given only to those students with dire emergencies (e.g., hospitalization). Appropriate documentation will be requested. If a student fails to post an original response or a response to a classmate by the due dates and no valid/appropriate justification for his/her absence is given, the student will receive a grade of "0" for this exercise. No exceptions will be made.

Please review Netiquette and Guidelines for Responsible Use of Electronic Communications in an Online Classroom. These documents are also accessible on the course Discussion Board.

## Examinations

Grades will be based largely on a series of three examinations. These examinations will count for 55% of your total grade. Each one will be made up of fifty multiple choice and/or true or false questions.\* The exams are not cumulative:

<b>Exam #</b>	<b>Lessons</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1-5</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>6-10</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>11-14</b>

*\* Instructor reserves the right to change the format and/or the total number of questions.*

Exams are available all week however you cannot stop the exam once you have started and you will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz once you have started. The exam must be completed by Saturday at 11:59 p.m. (Central Time) of the week indicated on the syllabus.

Makeup exams will be given only to those students with dire emergencies (e.g., hospitalization). Appropriate documentation will be requested. If a student fails to take an exam by the due date and no valid/appropriate justification for his/her absence is given, the student will receive a grade of "0" for the exam. No exceptions will be made.

## Late Assignment / Exam Policy

Students are expected to complete all graded elements by the deadlines provided. Those deadlines will be enforced. Students may NOT submit a late exam, quiz, or assignment unless they contact me with proper documentation prior to the deadline, or within 24 hours in the event of a serious emergency. Examples include documented personal or immediate-family emergencies in regards to health and well-being, documented military deployment, documented emergency services work, and documented university activities. Keep in mind that simply missing class, email, or BlackBoard announcements does not delay deadlines.

## Grading Policy

Grades for the course will be earned by achieving a percentage of the total possible points offered in the course through written assignments, examinations, oral presentations, and class participation points. Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

<b>Assignment / Examination Type</b>	<b>Points Available Per Type</b>
Examination # 1	100
Examination # 2	100
Examination # 3	100
Weekly Assignments	15 each (210 total)
Discussion Question Response #1	10
Discussion Question Response #2	10
Signature Assignment	20

Total Points Earned	Percentage of Total Points Earned	Letter Grade
495-550	90%-100%	A
440-494	80%-89.9%	B
385-439	70%-79.9%	C
330-384	60%-69.9	D
0-329	0.0%-59.9	F

**Extra Credit assignment is available for up to 3 additional points added to your final grade.**

### **Drop Policy:**

Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

### **Attendance Policy:**

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I will not take attendance. This is an online course and you are expected to complete the assignments during the prescribed times. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

### **Disability Accommodations:**

UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a **letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).*

### **Academic Integrity:**

---

Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2*, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

### **Electronic Communication:**

---

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Grades will not be provided by email or by phone.** I will discuss grade with you in person or via Blackboard Messenger. Email can be used to ask questions, make comments, notify me of an emergency / extended absence or any other communications we need to have. This is my preferred method of contact. Emails will generally be answered within 48 hours.

## **Campus Carry:**

---

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

## **Other Information:**

---

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).*

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](#), [major-based learning centers](#), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](#), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](#). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

**The IDEAS Center** (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email [IDEAS@uta.edu](mailto:IDEAS@uta.edu) or call (817) 272-6593.

**The English Writing Center (411LIBR):** The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Our hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation.

<http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>

**Librarian to Contact:** CRCJ Librarian is John Dillard ([dillard@uta.edu](mailto:dillard@uta.edu)) 817-272-7518

## Course Schedule

Week	Lesson	Topic	Reading Assignment
August 25 - August 27	Discussion 1	Introduce yourself	- -
August 28 - September 3	1	Crime and Justice in the United States	Chapter 1
September 4 - September 10	2	Crime and its Consequences	Chapter 2
September 11 - September 17	3	Explaining Crime	Chapter 3
September 18 - September 24	4	The Rule of Law	Chapter 4
September 25 - October 1	5	History and Structure of American Law Enforcement	Chapter 5
September 25 - October 1		EXAM #1	Exam opens at midnight on 9/25 and closes at 11:59 PM on 10/1
October 2 - October 8	6	Policing: Roles, Styles, and Functions	Chapter 6
October 9 - October 15	7	Policing America: Issues and Ethics	Chapter 7
October 9 - October 15	Discussion 2	The role of race and policing	- -
October 16 - October 22	8	The Administration of Justice	Chapter 8
October 23 - October 29	9	Sentencing Appeals, and the Death Penalty	Chapter 9
October 30 - November 5	10	Institutional Corrections	Chapter 10
October 30 - November 5		EXAM # 2	Exam opens at midnight on 10/30 and closes at 11:59 PM on 11/5
November 6 - November 12	11	Prison Life, Inmate Rights, Releases, and Recidivism	Chapter 11
November 13 - November 19	12	Community Corrections	Chapter 12
November 13 - November 19		Signature Assignment	Assignment
November 20 - November 26		Thanksgiving	
November 20 - December 3	13	Juvenile Justice	Chapter 13
November 27		EXTRA CREDIT DUE	
December 1 - December 7	14	The Future of Criminal Justice in the United States	Chapter 14
December 10 - December 14		FINAL EXAM	Exam opens at midnight on 12/10 and closes at 11:59 PM on 12/14

**NOTE THAT EXAMS ARE SCHEDULED THE SAME TIME AS YOUR READINGS ARE DUE!**

*\*As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. – K. Myers*