# RUTGERS School of Criminal Justice

# 47: 202: 222 Constitutional Issues in Criminal Justice Sec. 01 3 of Credits Fall, 2018

Monday & Wednesday 4-5:20 PM

## **Instructor Information:**

Instructor: *Keith C. Harvest* Email: <u>*kh618@rutgers.edu*</u>/*keithharvest@icloud.com* Phone: **973-868-6688 –text preferred** Office Hours: *Upon request* 

## Course Overview:

# 47:202:222 Constitutional Issues in Criminal Justice (3 credits)

This course examines the practices and procedures of the United States of America through the application and critical analysis of the nation's Constitution. Particular attention is paid to how the Bill of Rights is interpreted by courtroom actors, and how this interpretation results in the setting of precedence. Discussion of how constitutional precedence reverberates in the criminal justice policymaking world, as well as specific analyses of important judicial opinions, trials, and congressional investigations are covered in this course.

## **Criminal Justice Learning Goals:**

Upon completion of the B.S. in Criminal Justice at Rutgers University-Newark, students should be able to:

1) Describe the development and functions of major criminal justice institutions (e.g., police, courts, corrections, and juvenile justice), the activities of actors within these institutions, and how they relate to one another as well as the broader social, political, and economic world.

2) Describe the mechanisms, correlates, theoretical underpinnings, and situational contexts of crime, criminal behavior and opportunity, and techniques for prevention and treatment.

3) Apply and analyze theories related to the policies and practices of the criminal justice system and its major institutions.

4) Demonstrate the ability to gather, explain, and apply empirical research in the field of criminal justice.

5) Obtain a comprehensive knowledge about the process of conducting criminal justice research, and develop the skills to conduct criminal justice research with appropriate methodologies.

## **Required Readings:**

Constitutional Law and the Criminal Justice System, Seventh Edition, (2015), J. Scott Harr, Karen M. Hess, Christine H. Orthmann, Jon Kingsbury. ISBN 10:1-305-96646-5 ISBN-13: 978-1-305-96646-8

# Relevant readings will be assigned throughout the semester <u>Course Requirements</u>:

The course relies heavily upon the chapters in the book. The mid-term and the final exam questions will be based primarily upon the textbook <u>and</u> class discussion. Attendance and class participation will be factored into your final grade. Student teams will be created for the purpose of conducting oral presentations.

#### Course Structure:

Interactive lectures are based upon the textbook chapter, moot court style arguments and power

point presentations. Class attendance AND participation is required. Three or more unexcused absences' will impact your final grade.

# I. <u>Course Schedule</u>

Date	Class Topic	Readings & Assignments Due
Week 1	A Historical Overview	Chapter 1
	An Overview of the U.S. Legal System	Chapter 2
Week 2	U.S. Supreme Court	Chapter 3
Week 3	Equal Protection: Balancing ndividual, State, and Federal Rights	Chapter 4
Week 4	The First Amendment: Basic Freedom	Chapter 5
Week 5	The Second Amendment: The Gun Control Controversy	Chapter 6
Week 6	The Fourth Amendment: An Overview of Constitutional Searches and Seizures	Chapter 7
Week 7	Mid-Term Examinations	
Week 8	Conducting Constitutional Seizures	Chapter 8
Week 9	Conducting Constitutional Searches	Chapter 9
Week 10	The Fifth Amendment: Obtaining Information Legally	Chapter 10
Week 11	The Sixth Amendment: Right to Counsel and a Fair Trial	Chapter 11
Week 12	The Eighth Amendment: Bail, Fines, and Punishment	Chapter 12
Week 13	The Remaining Amendments and a Return to the Constitution	Chapter 13

Week 14	Presentations Course Review	
Week 15	Final Examinations	

# II. Grading

The final grade will be assessed based upon performance on the following:

- 1. Regular and prompt attendance to all class sessions. 10%. Three unexplained absences will effect your final grade
- 2. Class participation Oral Presentation This in an interactive lecture students are required to participate. 15%
- 3. Mid-Term exam 30%
- 4. Quizes 15%
- 5. Final exam 40%
- 6. Extra credit -discretionary will be assigned if deemed necessary

# **IV. Course Policies**

## Classroom Rules

This course is based upon the freedom and ability for individuals to express a variety of opinions and theories. Everyone is required to respect that concept and refrain from engaging in hostile or personal retorts.

# Academic Integrity

As a member of the Rutgers University community you are not to engage in any academic dishonesty. You are responsible for adhering to basic academic standards of honesty and integrity as outlined in the Rutgers University Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students <u>http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity</u>

Your academic work should be the result of your own individual effort, you should not allow other students to use your work, and you are required to recognize and reference any material that is not your own. Violations of the university's policy will result in appropriate action.

# Academic Resources

## Students with Disabilities

Rutgers University is committed to providing equal educational opportunity for persons with disabilities in accordance with the Nondiscrimination Policy of the University and in compliance with § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For additional information please visit the website <u>https://ods.rutgers.edu/</u> or contact the representative for the Newark Campus.

Allen Sheffield Coordinator of ADA Services and Academic Support Robeson Campus Center, Suite 352 350 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Newark, NJ 07102 Phone: 973.353.5300 Fax: 973.353.5666 E-mail: <u>kate.torres@rutgers.edu</u> Website: <u>https://ods.rutgers.edu/</u>

Psychological and Counseling Services

If you experience psychological or other difficulties as a result of this course, or because of other issues that may interfere with your performance in the course, please contact the university's psychological and counseling service center (<u>http://www.counseling.newark.rutgers.edu</u>; 973-353-5805), which is located in Blumenthal Hall, room 101. The center offers a variety of free, confidential services to part-time and full-time students who are enrolled at Rutgers.

If you are interested in finding out more about

- Accelerated Master's Program (B.S. /M.A.)
- Criminal Justice National Honor Society (Alpha Phi Sigma)

Please refer to the School of Criminal Justice website <u>http://rscj.newark.rutgers.edu/</u>