

**(47:202:342:Q2) CONTEMPORARY POLICING**  
**3 Credits**  
**Fall Semester 2018**

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**Monday (2:30-3:50) and Wednesday (1-2:20)**

**I. Course Information**

**Instructor Information:**

Location: HIL-216  
Office Hours: by appointment  
Phone: 201-204-3487  
Email: [karen.desoto@rutgers.edu](mailto:karen.desoto@rutgers.edu) or [profd@earthlink.net](mailto:profd@earthlink.net)  
Dr. Karen DeSoto

**Course Overview:**

Contemporary Policing course covers critical law enforcement issues, including organized crime, alcohol, drugs, policing of civil and natural disturbances, and the diffusion and multiplicity of police agencies; crime reporting, assessment difficulties, and the public reaction; the administrative problems of staffing, supervision, employee morale and militancy, and public charges. The rationale is to introduce critical issues in police management and innovations in policing strategies. (3 credits)

**Prerequisite:** None

**B.S., Criminal Justice Program 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.

### **Course Learning Objectives:**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand critical issues in police enforcement; the major strategies in policing; and the principal research findings associated with each major strategy;
2. Explain the characteristics of different types of reporting;
3. Analyze recent trends in staffing, politics, and civil disturbances; and
4. Identify and apply basic principles of law enforcements contemporary issues, and strategies to improve management and innovations in police enforcement.

### **Required Readings:**

*President's Report on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing*, May 2015. This text will be provided to you via black board. Selected readings such as cases or academic articles, if assigned, will be made available on Blackboard under the "Assignments" section in .pdf format.

### **Course Requirements:**

Students are required to read assigned readings and participate in classroom discussions in a manner that reflects familiarity with the readings and previous class sessions. Students are required to access blackboard regularly to stay informed about any changes in lecture topics, assigned readings and other course announcements.

**Blackboard** will used for all of your assignments, check it regularly. The syllabus, assignments, grading rubrics, and reading assignments will be posted and accepted through Blackboard. Additional assignments may occur as the semester proceeds and will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard. You are responsible for everything posted on Blackboard, whether or not it is mentioned in class. Checking blackboard regularly since course assignments, due dates, and our syllabus may be subject to changes.

### **Course Structure:**

Course content will be a mixture of traditional lectures, class discussions, guest speakers, video presentations, and on-site visits. Additionally, there will be several in-class activities, exercises and assignments.

## II. Course Schedule

Date	Class Topic	Readings & Assignments Due
Week 1 9/5	<b><u>Introduction</u></b>	Review Syllabus Course Overview
Week 2 9/10, 9/12	<b><u>Foundations of Criminal Justice, Constitution, &amp; Bill of Rights</u></b>	Lecture; group discussion.
Week 3 9/17, 9/19	<b><u>Executive Summary and Pillar 1 Building Trust and Legitimacy</u></b>	Pillar 1; group discussion regarding the different levels of trial and appellate courts.
Week 4 9/24, 9/26	<b><u>Pillar 1 and 9/26 Library session</u></b> <b>READ ARTICLE #1 for next class (on Blackboard labeled as "ARTICLE #1")</b>	Pillar 1 continued; lecture; group discussion <u>Library session on 9/26</u>
Week 5 10/1, 10/3	<b>PILLAR 2 Policy and Oversight &amp; Art 1</b> READ ARTICLE #2 for next class (on Blackboard labeled as "ARTICLE #2" )	Pillar 2; lecture only. Assignment # 1 Due
Week 6 10/8, 10/10	<b><u>PILLAR 3 TECHNOLOGY &amp; SOCIAL MEDIA &amp; Article 2</u></b> READ ARTICLE #3 for next class (on Blackboard labeled as "ARTICLE #3" )	Pillar 3; lecture; group discussion.
Week 7 10/15, 10/17	<b><u>PILLAR 4 Community Policing &amp; Crime Reduction; Article 3</u></b>	Pillar 4 lecture; group discussion ASSIGNMENT #2 DUE
Week 8 10/22, 10/24	<b><u>Guest Lecture Contemporary Police Procedure Realities</u></b> <b><u>Crime Reduction video</u></b> READ ARTICLE #4 for next class (on Blackboard labeled as "ARTICLE #4" )	Lecture; video; group discussion. QUIZ #1
Week 9 10/29, 10/31	<b><u>PILLAR 5 Training &amp; Education; ARTICLE 4</u></b> READ ARTICLE #5 for next class (on Blackboard labeled as "ARTICLE #5" )	PILLAR 5; lecture; group discussion
Week 10 11/5, 11/7	<b><u>The Courts &amp; Cases; art. 5</u></b> <b>*11/5 is the last day to withdraw from course with "W"</b>	Lecture; group discussion Assignment #3 due
Week 11 11/12, 11/14	<b><u>PILLAR 6 Officer Wellness &amp; Safety; Art 5</u></b> READ ARTICLE #6 & #7 for next class (on Blackboard labeled as "ARTICLE #6 and Article #7" )	Pillar 6; lecture; group discussion
Week 12 11/19, 11/21	<b><u>Political Policies and Impact on Policing; Art #6; Art #7</u></b>	Article #6 & #7; lecture; group discussion.
Week 13 11/26, 11/28	Writing workshop	Quiz #2 & Writing Workshop Assignment #4 Due <b><u>In class assignment</u></b>

Week 14 12/3, 12/5	<b><u>Task Force Conclusions &amp; Recommendations</u></b>	Lecture; Group Discussion; in class assignment
Week 15 12/10, 12/12	<b><u>Presentations</u></b>	<b><u>Presentations</u></b>
Week 16 <b>FINAL EXAM WEEK</b>	FINAL EXAM WEEK 12/14 to 12/21 <b>Final Exam on 12/17</b>	FINAL EXAM WEEK 12/14 to 12/21 <b>Final Exam on 12/17</b>

### III. Grading

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

- |                          |        |          |
|--------------------------|--------|----------|
| 1. Attendance            | (10%)  | CLO 1-4  |
| 2. Assignments & quizzes | (50%). | CLO 1-3  |
| 3. Presentation          | (10%)  | CLO 1, 2 |
| 4. Final Paper           | (30%). | CLO 2-4  |

**QUIZZES and ASSIGNMENTS (50 %):** Assignments and Quizzes are worth 50% of your final grade. All assignments can be found on blackboard and have different point totals depending on the difficulty of the assignment.

**FINAL PAPER (30%):** The final will be graded on a 100-point scale. See Blackboard for the grading Rubric. This assignment is worth 30% of the final grade.

**Paper Presentation (10 %):** Student Presentations will be worth 10% of your Final Grade.

**ATTENDANCE (10%):** A percentage of your grade is based on class participation and attendance. Attendance is mandatory and crucial to your success in this course. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to identify missed content and turn in missed assignments. Missing more than 3 classes will impact your grade.

The following grading scale will be used for this course:

A	90–100%
B+	85-89%
B	80-84%
C+	75-79%
C	70-74%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

#### **Late or Missing Assignment Policy:**

Attendance for this course is mandatory. Attendance will be taken at the start of every class. Students are permitted two unexcused absences. Starting with a student's third unexcused absence, points will be deducted from their final grade. Late assignments will not be accepted without permission and a valid medical or bereavement excuse.

## **IV. Course Policies**

### **Classroom Rules**

All members of this class are required to conduct themselves in an appropriate and professional manner. Laptops are permitted only if disengaged from the internet and other electronic devices should be stored away unless you specifically seek the instructor's permission. In this class, we may have discussions that challenge our taken for granted assumptions about crime and justice. Students should be prepared to engage honestly and openly about this material and perhaps even examine their own beliefs about the issues. While I am hopeful that the course materials will spark interesting discussion, personal insults or other types of demeaning, disrespectful, or threatening comments toward other class members about their experiences, backgrounds, or statements will **NOT** be tolerated. **NO RECORDING, VIDEOTAPING, OR PICTURE TAKING WITHOUT PERMISSION.**

### **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 <http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity>

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 <https://ods.rutgers.edu/> or contact the representative for the Newark Campus.

Kate Torres  
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: [kate.torres@rutgers.edu](mailto:kate.torres@rutgers.edu)  
Website: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

### 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 (<http://www.counseling.newark.rutgers.edu>; 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 <http://rscj.newark.rutgers.edu/>