

47: 202: 425:01 MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE (Fall 2018)

**3 Credits
Summer, 2018**

**TUESDAYS
5:30-8pm
9/4/18 – 12/9/18**

I. Course Information

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Charlie A. Vargas, Esq.
Email: charlie@cvargaslaw.com
Phone: 917-572-2982 (between the hours of 2-5pm.)
Office Hours: Office hours by appointment only.

Course Overview:

This course explores ethical issues and political dilemmas within the field of criminal justice, including principles of justice, due process rights, police and ethics, ethics and research and the scope of state and lastly, a comparative approach to criminal justice in various political climates.

Prerequisite:

None applicable.

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:

The course objective is to gain an overall understanding of the policies and practices of criminal justice agencies and how they may directly or indirectly affect other criminal justice agencies, social systems, and/or key stakeholders without solely referencing personal experiences and/or long held beliefs.

Required Readings:

1. Huff, Ronald (2013). *Wrongful Convictions and Miscarriages of Justice: Causes and Remedies in North American and European Criminal Systems*.
2. William, King. Lab, Steven. Rebecca, Marian (2008). *Criminal Justice: The Essentials* University Press.
3. Burns, Sarah. (2012). *The Central Park 5* Chicago: Vintage; Reprint Edition

Course Requirements:

All students are required to bring their notebooks, ink pens, sharpened golf-size pencils and required readings to each class.

Course Structure:

The course will be taught through lectures and film.

II. Course Schedule

Date	Class Topic	Readings & Assignments Due
Class 1 <u>9/4/18</u>	<i>-Syllabus Review</i> <i>Criminal Justice: The Essentials</i>	CJ: The Essentials (Chapter 1 and 2)
Class 2 <u>9/11/18</u>	<i>Criminal Justice: The Essentials</i> <i>to be contd.</i>	Announced in prior class
Class 3	<i>Criminal Justice: The Essentials</i>	Announced in prior class

<u>9/18/18</u>	<i>to be contd.</i>	
Class 4 <u>9/25/18</u>	- <i>Criminal Justice: The Essentials</i> <i>to be contd.</i> - <i>Exam 1 Review</i>	Announced in prior class
Class 5 <u>10/2/18</u>	- Exam 1 - <i>Wrongful Convictions</i>	<i>Wrongful Convictions</i> Chapters 1 and 2
Class 6 <u>10/9/18</u>	<i>Wrongful Convictions</i> to be contd.	Announced in prior class
Class 7 <u>10/16/18</u>	<i>Wrongful Convictions</i> to be contd.	Announced in prior class
Class 8 <u>10/23/18</u>	<i>Wrongful Convictions</i> to be contd. Exam 2 Review	Announced in prior class
Class 9 <u>10/30/18</u>	- Exam 2 - <i>The Central Park 5</i>	<i>The Central Park 5</i> Chapters 1 and 2
Class 10 <u>11/6/18</u>	<i>The Central Park 5</i> to be continued)	Announced in prior class
Class 11 <u>11/13/18</u>	<i>The Central Park 5</i> to be continued)	Announced in prior class
Class 12 <u>11/20/18</u>	<i>The Central Park 5</i> to be continued)	Announced in prior class
Class 13 <u>11/27/18</u>	Final Review of all the books covered	Announced in prior class
Class 14 <u>12/4/18</u>	FINAL EXAM!	

There will be make up classes to be announced

III. Course Assessment and Grading

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

Attendance & Participation (10%) Students are expected to attend every class.

- You are only allowed one unexcused absence after which three points will be deducted from your overall grade.

Two writing and multiple choice assignments (20%)

Two Midterm Exams (25%) – in class (Multiple choice and essay questions)

Final Exam (40%)- In class exam testing your knowledge on important theories and/or arguments in the field of criminal justice.

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:

Late assignments would receive a **deduction of 10 points** off the overall grade for that class assignment absent good cause (i.e. illness with doctor's note, death in the family)

Missing assignments would receive a **zero** for the overall grade on that class assignment.

IV. Course Policies

Classroom Rules

If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to keep abreast with the class.

No constant bathroom runs unless it is due to a medical condition. In that case, please see me so I can take a note.

If you have any questions or concerns about the class, please address me personally and not during class.

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.

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.

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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/>

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