

CRJU 2110

Policing in America

Fall 2020

Do you know the difference between a Police Officer or a Peace Officer? Did policing always exist in America? In this course you will find answers to those questions. The course will provide you with an overview of policing in the United States, including discussion of the history of policing, the role of police in society, organization of police agencies, contemporary issues and strategy innovations police use to fight crime.

Special emphasis will be directed to specific issues such as police operations, police discretion, police misconduct, and police ethics in 21st century America. In particular, the role of research in informing police practice will be discussed, with an emphasis on “what works” in policing.

Course Goal & Objectives

By the end of this course you should be able to assess an innovative strategy or strategies to address a contemporary issue in policing. You will do so by mastering the following learning objectives:

1. Identifying the origins of policing in America.
2. Discuss the historical impacts of American policing on your world today.
3. Connect the function of command structures in police organizations.
4. Explain the roles and responsibilities of police officers.
5. Analyze the critical issues in American policing today.
6. Evaluate contemporary policing tactics and innovations.

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Performance & Evaluation

This course uses a weighted grading scheme and here is an overview of assignments and their percentages of your grade:



Participation
(2 discussions, 10 pts. each)

20%



Quizzes
(5 of basic terms and concepts, 20 points each)

35%



Police Leadership Group Project
(5 parts, 100 points each)

45%

The percentages above show exactly how much each of the three categories of assignments impact your final grade. For instance, if a student does not complete either discussion assignment, they would receive a zero for the Participation grade. As that assignment accounts for 20% of the final grade, that means an 80% is the highest final course grade they could possibly receive by getting 100% on all other assignments. Similarly, the Participation and Quizzes combine for 55% of the final grade and the Police Leadership Group Project accounts for 45%. The individual work is weighted slightly more heavily as it is the most time consuming part of the course and students need to keep up with the course readings and other content to be prepared to make a meaningful contribution to their group's work on the project.

Plus/Minus Grading Policy

This program uses a plus/minus grading scale. The scale and grades are:

97 - 100 A+	83 - 86 B	60 - 69 D
93 - 96 A	80 - 82 B-	Below 60 F
90 - 92 A-	77 - 79 C+	
87 - 89 B+	70 - 76 C	



Helpful Notes from Your Professor

Here are some important notes on how you can be successful in this class:

✓ Time Management is Critical

This course involves quite a lot of reading in a relatively short time frame, and many of these readings are essential for both the discussion assignments and quizzes and for understanding how to proceed with each segment of the police leadership project. The AYSPS Mini books found throughout the modules are particularly important for the quizzes. Read them carefully and have the relevant ones handy when taking each quiz. **Remember, no late submissions will be accepted in this course.**

✓ Primary Take-away

The most important part of this course is your group police leadership project; perhaps, after a year or so, that may be the only takeaway from this class if you think about it. Thus, spend the majority of your time within these seven weeks to make the best out of it. This includes completing readings, quizzes and other materials in advance of each step of the project to have the information needed to do quality work with your group. It is also important for all group members to make meaningful contributions to each step of the project and for groups to inform the professor if a member is not meeting their agreed upon responsibilities.

Required Textbook

Free ebook [Policing in America by Larry K. Gaines and Victor E. Kappeler](#)

All other required readings are available through links in iCollege

Course Schedule & Assignments

Module & Section	What to Do	Due Date
Course Intro.		
Welcome & Course Introduction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read the course overview information 2. Syllabus & Schedule - Read through this document online and/or download the PDF and save 3. Learning Activities & Your Participation – note general expectations and supports 4. Assignments & Policies – note essential for success 5. Police Leadership Team Project Overview 6. Class Introductions - Participate in the class introductions activity 7. AYSPS Pre-survey Complete the survey 	Before Starting Course Work
Module I – History & Foundations of Policing in America		
I.2 What is Policing?	<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 1-The Police in American Society (pages 1-23) • What is the Place of Police within the Criminal Justice System? by Victor E. Kappeler • The Difference Between Law Enforcement and Policing Roufa, 2019 • AYSPS Mini – What is Policing? <p>Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Role of Policing in Society in 60 Seconds (1:12) 	-
I.3 Where did Policing Come From?	<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the U.S. Got Its Police Force by Time Magazine • Slavery and the Origins of the American Police State Interact • Law Enforcement Timeline (interactive Prezi) Gillespie, 2014 • AYSPS Mini – The History of Policing <p>Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The History of Policing (2:54) 	-
I.4 The First Organized Police Forces	<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 2-Historical Perspectives (pages 63-83) <p>Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of Policing in the U.S. - Part One (10:22) 	-

Module & Section	What to Do	Due Date
1.5 The Development of Policing & 3 Main Eras in the US	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 2-Historical Perspectives (pages 83-108) Eras in American Policing History of Policing by Policing.com Complete <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 1 - History & Foundations of Policing in America Discuss <ul style="list-style-type: none"> History of Policing discussion 	Quiz 1: Sept. 6 Discussion 1: Post Sept. 6 Respond Sept. 13
Module 2 – Contemporary Policing		
2.2 What is Contemporary Policing?	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AYSPS Mini – Contemporary Policing Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 1-The Police in American Society (pages 23-59) Listen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal in Justice podcast #58: What Does 21st Century Policing Really Mean? Meet Your Group Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geeting Connected-Leadership Project Prop discussion 	Group Project: Post and reply in Meet Your Group discussion board Sept. 13
2.3 Myths about Policing	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myths/Facts About Police Work CambridgeMA.Gov Debunking 5 myths about cops by Mike the Cop Discuss <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myth Busters discussion 	Discussion 2: 2 Posts Sept. 20 2 Responds Sept. 27
2.4 Social Control & the Community	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police views, public views PEW Research Center Community Policing, Coproduction, and Social Control: Restoring Police Legitimacy by Amie M. Schuck Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I love being a police officer, but we need reform Melvin Russell (13:07) Theory & Deviance: Crash Course Sociology #19 (9:45) 	-

Module & Section	What to Do	Due Date
2.5 Contemporary Law Enforcement Agencies	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AYSPS Mini – Contemporary Law Enforcement Agencies Do <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 2 - Contemporary Policing 	Quiz 2: Sept. 20
Module 3 – Police Organizations		
3.2 Make up of Police Departments Today	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AYSPS Mini – Police Organizations Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 3-Police Human Resources (pages 111-140) The New Racial Makeup of U.S. Police Departments by Victoria Bekiempis 	-
3.3 Quasi-military Style	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the Growing Militarization of Our Police Doom Community Policing? by cops.usdoj.gov Militarization of Police by Jeremiah Mosteller, Criminal Justice Reform Policy Liaison Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 5 Police Operations (pages 247-251) 	-
3.4 Police Organizations as Bureaucracies	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 4: Organization and Management (pages 165-178) Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bureaucracy and Public Policy American Government (7:29) 	-
3.5 Theories about Changing Police Organizations	Read & Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We asked 155 police departments about their racial bias training. Here's what they told us. CBS News Do <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Leadership Project Part I: Organization, Recruitment and Management 	Group Project Part I: Oct. 4
Module 4 – Police Officers		
4.2 Career Perspective	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AYSPS Mini – Police Officers Interact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Officers 	-
4.3 Becoming an Officer	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 3-Police Human Resources (pages 140-159) Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of mindset in policing Chip Huth TEDxTacoma (10:30) 	-

Module & Section	What to Do	Due Date
4.4 Pros & Cons of Requiring a College Education	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telep (2011) The Impact of Higher Education on Police Officer Attitudes toward Abuse of Authority (posted on iCollege) 	-
4.5 What Makes a Good Cop?	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characteristics of an Ideal Police Officer by Larry E. Capps, M.S 10 traits of 'remarkable on duty' cops Listen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal in Justice podcast #84: Can You Build a Better Cop? Do <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Leadership Project Part 2 Department Policies on Use of Force 	Group Project Part 2: Oct. 18
4.6 Police Subculture	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changing Police Subculture by Mark Malmin Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Police Subculture (2:27) The Blue Curtain of Secrecy (3:28) The Thin Blue Line (18:19) Complete <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 3 – Police Organizations and Police Officers 	Quiz 3: Oct. 18
Module 5 – Critical Issues in Policing		
5.2 Critical Issue - Police Use of Force & Police Brutality	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AYSPS Mini – Critical Issues in Policing Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 7 Police Use of Force (pages 313-346) Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social media plays major role in national debate on police violence (4:01) 	-
5.3 Critical Issue - Racial Profiling	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 5 Police Operations – (pages 229-232) Can Cops Unlearn Their Unconscious Biases? 	-
5.4 Critical Issue - Corruption & Misconduct	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Corruption & Misconduct Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 9- Ethics and Deviance (pages 393-435) 	-
5.5 Police Discretion	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 6- Police Discretion (pages 261-279 and the summary and review questions on pages 305-306) 	-

Module & Section	What to Do	Due Date
5.6 Community Relations & Legitimacy	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 11- Police in the Community (pages 477-484) Race, Trust and Police Legitimacy Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why Police-Community Relationships Are Important by Justice.gov Mending broken trust: Police and the communities they serve Charles Ramsey TEDx Philadelphia (21:55) = 	-
5.7 Accountability	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 6- Police Discretion (pages 297-305) Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policing the Police (54:47) by PBS Do <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 4 - Critical Issues in Policing Police Leadership Project Part 3 Critical Policing Issue 	Quiz 4: Nov. 1 Group Project Part 3: Nov. 1
Module 6 –Tactics and Innovations in Policing		
6.2 Police Patrol Strategies	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AYSPS Mini – Tactics and Innovations in Policing Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 5-Police Operations (pages 199-229) 	-
6.3 Police Investigations	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 5-Police Operations (pages 235-242) 	-
6.4 Innovations - Community-Oriented Policing	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 11-Police in the Community (pages 496-516) 	-
6.5 Innovations - Hot Spots Policing	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weisburd and Lum (2005)-The Diffusion of Computerized Crime Mapping in Policing (posted on iCollege) 	-
6.6 Innovations - Problem-Oriented Policing	Read <p>Hinkle, Weisburd, Telep and Petersen (2020)- Problem-Oriented Policing Effective for Reducing Crime and Disorder: An Updated Systematic Review and Meta Analysis. (posted on iCollege)</p>	-

Module & Section	What to Do	Due Date
6.7 Broken Windows Policing and Compstat	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broken Windows (Wilson & Kelling, 1982)—on iCollege Gaines and Kappeler Chapter 4-Organization and Management (pages 187-191) 	-
6.8 The Research Revolution	Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The data revolution: privacy, politics and predictive policing The Economist (24:14) 	-
6.9 Policing in the Digital Age	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Technology - Britannica Online Encyclopedia, 2019 (in iCollege) The future of policing - The policing innovations shaping the future of law enforcement Listen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How Data Analysis Is Driving Policing (7:00) Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How predictive policing software works (2:04) Do <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 5 - Tactics & Innovations Police Leadership Project Part 4 Best Tactics & Innovative Strategies 	Quiz 5: Nov.15 Group Project Part 4: Nov. 15
6.10 Proactive Strategies	Present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Leadership Project Part 5 - Present Solutions to the Community 	Group Project Part 5: Dec. 6

Support Statements

Inclusivity Statement

We understand that students in our program come from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives. AYSPS is committed to providing a learning environment that respects diversity. To build this community we ask all members to:

- Share their unique experiences, values and beliefs
- Be open to the views of others
- Honor the uniqueness of their colleagues
- Appreciate the opportunity that we have to learn from each other in this community
- Value each other's opinions and communicate in a respectful manner
- Keep confidential discussions that the community has of a personal (or professional) nature

Students with Disabilities

Students who wish to request accommodation for a disability may do so by registering with the GSU

Access & Accommodations Center (AACE). Students may only be accommodated upon issuance of a signed Accommodation Plan by AACE. Students are responsible for providing a copy of that plan to instructors of all classes in which an accommodation is sought.

To register for accommodations please follow this link <https://access.gsu.edu/how-to-connect/how-to-register/>

For more information, contact AACE located at Student Center East, Suite 205, 55 Gilmer Street, Atlanta, GA 30303. Phone: 404-413-1560 Email: access@gsu.edu

Remote Academic Coaching

The Office of Disability Services also offers free remote academic coaching. To learn more about these services go to disability.gsu.edu/services or watch a [Coaching Video](#).

Veterans & Serving Military

Georgia State honors its military and veteran men and women returning to pursue their education. Students who are veterans, serving in the military, and their dependents are encouraged to avail themselves of a full range of college services and activities through the Military Outreach Center (MOC).

For assistance or guidance while attending GSU on campus or online, contact the Atlanta Campus Military Student Advocate, Randy Barrone at 404-413-2331. Also, please be sure and let me know ASAP if or when there is any possibility of you being activated and deployed. Thank You For Your Service!

For more information contact the GSU Military Outreach Center
Phone: (404) 413-2331, Email: rbarrone@gsu.edu, Website: military.gsu.edu
Address: Dahlberg Hall, 30 Courtland Street, Suite 217, Atlanta, GA 30303

Online Course Evaluations – Student Surveys

Your constructive assessment of this course plays an indispensable role in shaping improvements of all courses within this program and your educational experiences at Georgia State. Please take time to fill out the online course evaluations. We appreciate honest and open feedback.