# Syllabus: Fall 2017

## Course Information

Course Name: Policing in America

Course Number: CRIM 401

Section Number: 001

## Lecture

Meeting Times: Wednesday 4:30 PM – 7:10 PM

Meeting Location: East 122

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: M. Jay Farr

Office Location: TBD

Office Hours: by appointment

Telephone Number: 571-238-6042

E-mail Address: mfarr@gmu.edu

## Course Materials

Required Readings

1. Dempsey, John S. 2013. *Introduction to Policing* (8th ed.). Boston, MA:

Cengage Learning. ISBN: 13:978-1-285-86273-6

## Course Description

This class will Introduce students to the challenges, excitement, and rewards of law enforcement today with Dempsey and Forst's AN INTRODUCTION TO POLICING, 8th Edition. The class will examine today's most current issues and topics, including homeland security, recent terrorism incidents, the controversial Secure Communities Program by DHS, Specialized Policing Responses to individuals with mental illness, advances in policing technology, and more. Readers find the latest in academic and practitioner research as well as the most current applications, statistics, court cases, and information on law enforcement careers, all introduced through memorable learning features. Students will discuss small and rural departments while maintaining critical foundational coverage students need to fully understand who police are, what they do, and how they do it. Extensive examples from police departments throughout the nation and world as well as essays from respected law enforcement veterans offer insights into crucial law enforcement issues and challenges.

## Grading Scale

A+ 97-100% (4.0) C+ 77-79% (2.33)

A 93-96% (4.0) C 73-76% (2.0)

A- 90-92% (3.67) C- 70-72% (1.67)

B+ 87-89% (3.33) D 60-69% (1.0)

B 83-86% (3.0)

B- 80-82% (2.67) F 0-59% (0)

## Course Grade Components

20% A midterm exam

20% A final exam

25% Homework/Short Essays/Chapter Assignments/MindTap

25% Term Paper20% - A five (5) page, double spaced, paper on a topic approved by the instructor. The paper should use class readings and discussion to form a defensible position on the selected topic. In addition to the assigned text, students are required to cite at least three different sources. Papers will be written using the APA formatting and style guide (<http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/writing-resources/helpful-links>).

10% Participation

## Examinations

There will be two multiple-choice and true-or-false examinations. We will have an examination after we complete each part of the course. There will be 50 questions on an examination (each question will be worth two points), and the examination will cover materials presented in lectures and the textbook. Each exam will be independent and not comprehensive.

**Exams will be completed within MindTap and taken online. There will be no classroom period during the exam. You will have 2:50 minutes to take the exam, you make take the exam any time during the assigned date, but once you start you must finish within the allotted time.**

## Campus Resources:

The Writing Center, University Libraries, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and the Office of Disability Services are available to assist students. Links to the University Catalog and the University Policies website for all other university academic and non-academic policies can be found in the links below.

* General University Information / Weather: [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu)
* Office of Disability Services: [ods.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu/student/drc)
* Writing Center: <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>
* Counseling and Psychological Services: [caps.gmu.edu](http://caps.gmu.edu)
* English Language Institute [http://infoguides.gmu.edu/eli](%20http://infoguides.gmu.edu/eli)
* University Catalog: <http://catalog.gmu.edu>
* University Policies: <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu>
* University Library: <http://library.gmu.edu/>

## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

Students will be expected to complete weekly assignments within MindTap which include a short video presentation and quiz. These are to be completed before the start of class each week. In addition, there are weekly assigned readings and select short essays that will be provided by the instructor.

## CLASS PARTICIPATION/

Class participation will be based upon your completion of the MindTap assignments as well as your attendance and participation in class.

# Optional Reading

**President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing. 2015. Final Report of the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing. Washington, DC: Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.**

[**http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce\_finalreport.pdf**](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce_finalreport.pdf)

“The mission of the task force was to examine ways of fostering strong, collaborative relationships between local law enforcement and the communities they protect and to make recommendations to the President on ways policing practices can promote effective crime reduction while building public trust.”

## Blackboard

We’ll use Mason’s online Blackboard program (version 9) for the PowerPoint slides used in class, instructions for the assignment, and any other necessary course materials. Grading will be completed by the instructor and posted inside of Blackboard

Here’s how to access Blackboard:

• Go to: courses.gmu.edu

• Log on using your email username and 8-digit password. If your email account is lnewmark@gmu.edu, then your username is lnewmark.

Student Guide to Blackboard: http://tap.gmu.edu/bbstudentguide.pdf. If you need additional assistance with the Blackboard system, email courses@gmu.edu or contact the Collaborative Learning Hub (311 Johnson Center or 703-993-3141).

I use Mac Office 2016, so if you haven’t upgraded from 2003/2007 yet, go to Microsoft’s website and download the free compatibility pack so you can access the PPTs and other files. If you’re using Office 2010, they should be compatible.

## Bad Weather and Other Emergencies

Check Mason’s homepage (www.gmu.edu) to see if classes are cancelled for bad weather or other emergency circumstances. You can also register for Mason’s emergency alert system at https://alert.gmu.edu. If I should have to cancel a class due to a personal emergency, I’ll make every attempt to email you ASAP at your Mason email address. **Be sure to stay on top of your Mason email so that you can receive urgent information when you need it.**

## Students with Disability:

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703.993.2474 begin\_of\_the\_skype\_highlightingend\_of\_the\_skype\_highlighting. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

## GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

General Education course in the social and behavioral sciences category, and addresses several learning outcomes approved by the university. Upon completing this course, students will be able to:

 Demonstrate understanding of key concepts, terminology, principles or theories within the field of criminal justice

 Demonstrate understanding of methodological approaches appropriate to criminal justice (e.g. how crime is measured)

 Explain how individuals, groups or institutions within the criminal justice system are influenced by contextual factors, such as politics, public opinion, fiscal considerations, etc.

 Use appropriate methods to apply concepts, terminology, principles, or theories from the field of criminal justice to significant issues

## Honor Code:

|  |
| --- |
| The Honor Code of George Mason University specifically prohibits *cheating* *and*   *attempted cheating*, *plagiarism*, *lying*, and *stealing*.  Cheating and attempted cheating include “willful giving or receiving of an unauthorized, unfair, dishonest, or unscrupulous advantage in academic work over other students.” Examples include the use of unauthorized resources during an exam, copying off another student’s work (with or without their permission), allowing another student to copy your work, using an assignment or test from another student who took the class previously, accessing tests or grades electronically for the purpose of getting an unfair advantage, and any other behavior that fits the general definition above.  Plagiarism includes “presenting as one’s own the words, the work, the ideas, the arrangement of material, or the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgment. While direct quotations do need citations, so do paraphrases and summaries of opinions or factual information formerly unknown to the writers or which the writers did not discover themselves. Exceptions for this include factual information which can be obtained from a variety of sources, the writers’ own insights or findings from their own field research, and what has been termed common knowledge.” Examples include taking or buying a paper from someone else or the internet and presenting it as your own, and submitting as your own work a paper with substantial unacknowledged contributions from others. Information and graphics obtained from the internet (except for freeware clipart) must include source citations to avoid plagiarism.  Lying includes “the willful and knowledgeable telling of an untruth, as well as any form of deceit, attempted deceit, or fraud in an oral or written statement relating to academic work.” Examples include making up source materials or source citations in a paper, pretending to use an actual source that you didn’t really use, making up an excuse for missing a test or assignment due date, pretending you attended a class or an extra credit opportunity when you did not in order to write a paper or get points without justification, falsifying any written or electronic document, or presenting any other falsehoods through any method and in any context.  Stealing includes “taking or appropriating without the permission to do so, and with the intent to keep or to make use of wrongfully, property belonging to any member of the George Mason University community or any property located on the university campus. This includes misuse of university computer resources (see the Responsible Use of Computing Policy section in the “General Policies” chapter). This section is relevant only to academic work and related materials.” |

**Enrollment statement to include at least this information**

Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class.   
Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes. (Deadlines each semester are published in the Schedule of Classes available from the Registrar's Website at registrar.gmu.edu.)

## Sexual Misconduct and Interpersonal Violence

George Mason University is committed to providing a safe learning, living and working environment free from discrimination. The University’s environment is meant to be experienced as vibrant and dynamic, and one that includes ample opportunities for exploration of self, identity and independence. Sexual misconduct and incidents of interpersonal violence deeply interrupt that experience, and George Mason University is committed to a campus that is free of these types of incidents in order to promote community well-being and student success.

George Mason University encourages individuals who believe that they have been sexually harassed, assaulted or subjected to sexual misconduct to seek assistance and support.

Confidential resources are available on campus at Counseling and Psychological Services (caps.gmu.edu), Student Health Services (shs.gmu.edu), the University Ombudsperson (ombudsman.gmu.edu), and Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education and Services (waves.gmu.edu).

All other members of the University community (except those noted above) are not considered confidential resources and are required to report incidents of sexual misconduct to the University Title IX Coordinator.

For a full list of resources, support opportunities, and reporting options, contact the University Title IX Coordinator at integrity.gmu.edu and/or at 703-993-8730. Our goal is to create awareness of the range of options available to you and provide access to resources.

Course Reading Schedule

**Planned Course Schedule (any necessary changes will be announced ASAP)**

| **Dates** | Dempsey, John S. 2013. *Introduction to Policing* (8th ed.). Boston, MA:  Cengage Learning. ISBN: 13:978-1-285-86273-6 | **Special Notes** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 08/31 | Introduction and overview of course   * Syllabus Review * MindTap Review * Course Expectations | **Sept 5th** is last day to add classes and last day to drop classes without tuition loss. You’re responsible for verifying your enrollment status |
| 09/06 | * Chapter 1 Police History. * Chapter 2 Organizing Public Security in the United States * MindTap Assignments |  |
| 09/13 | * Chapter 3 Organizing the Police Department * MindTap Assignments |  |
| 09/20 | * Chapter 4 Becoming a Police Officer. * Guest Speaker * MindTap Assignments | **Sept 22nd**  is last day to drop classes |
| 09/27 | * Chapter 5 The Police Role and Police Discretion * MindTap Assignments | **Sept 29th**  is last day to drop classes (with 67% tuition loss). |
| 10/04 | * Chapter 6 Police Culture, Personality, and Police Stress * Chapter 7 Minorities in Policing * MindTap Assignments |  |
| 10/11 | * Chapter 8 Police Ethics and Police Deviance * Guest – C. Penn ACPD IA * MindTap Assignments |  |
| 10/18 | * Chapter 9 Patrol Operations. * Chapter 10 Investigations * MindTap Assignments |  |
| 10/25 | Mid Term Exam | **50 Questions Online** |
| 11/01 | * Chapter 11 Police and Their Clients * MindTap Assignments |  |
| 11/08 | * Chapter 12 Community Policing * MindTap Assignments |  |
| 11/15 | * Chapter 13 Police and the Law * MindTap Assignments | **Term Paper Due**  **No Exceptions!** |
|  | | |
| 11/22 | Thanksgiving Break |  |
| 11/29 | * Chapter 14 Computers, Technology, and Criminalistics in Policing * MindTap Assignments |  |
| 11/06 | Final Exam | **50 Questions Online** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |