

**George Mason University**  
**Fairfax Campus, Virginia**  
**CRIMINAL JUSTICE ETHICS - CRIM 401**  
**Fall Semester 2022**

Instructor: Steven Remick  
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Office Hours: By Appointment

Our class: CRIM 401-003 Policing in America meets on **Monday's from 1:30pm - 4:10pm at Krug Hall Room 242.**

I will be using your Mason email addresses to send out important class information/assignments, and the Blackboard will be my primary repository for information you will need for class.

**Required Text:**

Kenneth J. Peak and William H. Sousa (2021). *Policing America: Challenges and Best Practices* (10th edition). New York, NY: Pearson.  
ISBN-13: 978-0-13-581653-0

**Course Content / Learning Outcomes:**

This course is an introduction to policing in the United States. Using the term Police, I am also including Sheriff's Offices and deputies. By the end of this course, students will be introduced to:

1. The history of the police.
  2. Police operational policies & duties.
  3. The complex nature of police culture.
  4. Constitutional Policing and Fair & Impartial Policing
  5. The different types of police agencies in the United States.
  6. The relationship of the police to the community and to the criminal justice system.
- The course will also cover current issues in policing, such as police use of force, technology, and the role of police in terrorism prevention.

**Important Dates:**

Last Day to Add: All Individual Sections Forms Due	Mon. Aug 29
Labor Day: <b>University Closed</b>	Mon. Sept 5
Last Day to Drop: With 100% Tuition Refund	Tues. Sept 6
Last Day to Drop: With 50% Tuition Refund	Tue. Sept 13
Unrestricted Withdrawal Period: 100% Tuition Liability	Wed. Sept 14 - Tue. Sept 27
<b>Fall Break</b> (Classes Do Not Meet)	Mon. Oct 10
<b>Monday Classes/Labs Meet (Tuesday Classes Do Not Meet This Week)</b>	Tue. Oct 11
Mid-term Evaluation Period: 100-200 level classes - Grades Available via Patriot Web	Mon. Sept 19 - Fri. Oct 14
Selective withdrawal period Undergraduate Students Only ( <b>100% Tuition Liability</b> )	Wed. Sept 28 - Mon. Oct 24
<b>Incomplete Work</b> from Spring/Summer 2021 Due to Instructor	Friday, October 21
<b>Incomplete Grade Changes</b> from Spring/Summer 2021 Due to Registrar	Friday, October 28
Thanksgiving Recess: No Classes (University Closed Nov. 23-27)	Wed. Nov 23 - Sun. Nov 27
<b>Last Day of Class</b>	Sat. Dec 3

**Enrollment statement:**

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.)

After the last day to drop a class has passed, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons.

Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.

**Policies:**

Please be aware of Mason's policy requiring instructors to submit final course grades within 2 days of the final exam and prohibiting instructors from changing submitted grades for any reason other than a computational or recording error (see page 37 of the University Catalog).

This means that I cannot allow, nor is there any time, for you to do a last-minute paper or other extra work at the end of the semester to raise your grade. The time to do the work is when it is assigned, and the work to do is the work that is required as class assignments. Another relevant Mason policy specifies that incompletes can only be given to students who are passing a course but cannot complete scheduled coursework for causes beyond reasonable control (see page 36 of the University Catalog). Because incompletes are to be used when students cannot complete scheduled coursework, I cannot grant incompletes to allow you time to do extra work to raise your grade. Makeup exams will be allowed only when the student provides written verification of personal illness, death/serious illness, or other emergency in the family and severe or inclement weather as defined by the University policy. Makeup exams may be in a different format than the regularly scheduled exam and will be scheduled at the convenience of the instructor. Please note that according to Mason policy, "Although many students must work to meet living expenses, employment must not take priority over academic responsibilities." (See page 33 of the University Catalog.)

Please respect the privacy of any students who may disclose personal information in the class. Please also respect everyone's right to freely choose whether to disclose or not disclose personal information.

**Grading Scale:**

Below is the numeric equivalent of the letter grades which will be used in this class.

A+ = 97 – 100%	C- = 70 – 74%
A = 94 – 97%	D = 60 – 70%
A- = 90 – 94%	F = 0 – 60%
B+ = 87 – 90%	
B = 84 – 87%	
B- = 80 – 84%	
C+ = 77 – 80%	
C = 74 – 77%	

**Course Grade Components:**

Class Participation, in class quizzes, in class exercises = 20%

Police Experience Project= 25%

Homework & other Assignments= 15%

Review Papers= 15%

Final Paper = 25%

**Total Grade = 100%**

**Class Graded Work:**

During this class you will be homework assignments, readings and of course chapter assignments from the text. Some of these will be posted on the Blackboard others I will assign in class and then post on the Blackboard. **All graded work/assignments that are turned in late/completed late or posted after the deadline will be given a 10% grade penalty. Anything turned in more than a week late will be given a 20% grade penalty unless excused by me in advance. Assignments turned in more than 2 weeks late may receive a failing grade unless I authorize an extension. There will be no "make-up" or extra credit work.** Quizzes, group exercises and other graded work completed in class is part of your Class Participation grade. Therefore, if you miss a class when a quiz or other graded work is given you will get a zero as a grade.

One of the assignments in this class will be to complete the "Police Experience Project" which involves one of the following: Complete a ride-a-long with a local law enforcement agency; attend criminal court in a local jurisdiction and watch police/sheriff's present their cases or interview a sworn local law enforcement officer/deputy (LEO). All the requirements for this project will be discussed in our first class.

Most local law enforcement agencies have a ride-a-long program that is available to college students, those interested in law enforcement, local citizens etc. Seeing firsthand what police work looks like is a crucial step in considering to be a law enforcement officer. The program also allows you to contact an officer or deputy and establish a connection with the people behind the badges.

Attending criminal court proceedings is another way to see the criminal justice system in action. Watching law enforcement officers testify and attorney's present or defend cases is an effective way to understand the depth of knowledge, skills, and abilities that law enforcement officers and criminal justice professionals must have to be effective at their jobs.

Interviewing an LEO provides you an opportunity to get some valuable insight from an officer's perspective and ask any questions you might have.

I will make sure we discuss all the written assignments, homework, and projects in class so that you can ask any questions before the assignment is due. The readings and assigned textbook chapters are expected to be done each week in preparation for class discussions. Falling behind in reading assignments will only lead to a challenging time participating in class, so read and be prepared.

**Summary of Scheduled Lectures/Class discussion:**

*As set forth below, the subject matter that will be covered during the semester has been grouped into chapters. To prepare for class, it is recommended that the material be read and organized in that manner. It should also be noted that it is the student's responsibility to stay abreast of assignments, changes to the schedule, etc., all of which will be announced with adequate notice during class. The following schedule shows my planned discussions listed by date along with Holiday dates. Some minor changes may be made to the schedule based on class progress and or guest speaker schedules.*

1. **August 22, 2022:** Introduction, overview of class. Homework: Read Chapters 1 and 2 in your textbook to be prepared for the next class. Review: Police Experience Project.
2. **August 29, 2022:** Chapter 1: Police History & Chapter 2: Recruitment, Training & Socialization.

**September 5, 2022: LABOR DAY HOLIDAY- NO CLASSES**

3. **September 12, 2022:** Chapter 3- Patrol Operations & Ch. 8 Accountability: Use of Force & Ethics.
4. **September 19, 2022:** Chapter 4- Community Policing; discussion on Constitutional Policing with Guest Speaker DeAnza Cook. Quiz after lecture.
5. **September 26, 2022:** Chapter 6- Personnel Issues & Ch. 7- Rule of Law. Case studies and discussion on discipline of police personnel.
6. **October 3, 2022:** Chapter 5- Criminal Investigations
7. **Monday classes meet Tuesday Oct. 11th:** Guest Speaker Agent Tara Crider on Crime Scene Investigations, Quiz after lecture.
8. **October 17, 2022:** Chapters 9 & 10- Liability/Federal & State Agencies.
9. **October 24, 2022:** Chapter 11- Municipal & County Agencies.
10. **October 31, 2022:** Chapter 12- Criminal Organizations.
11. **November 7, 2022:** Chapter 13- Special Populations.
12. **November 14, 2022:** Chapter 14- Information Technology
13. **November 21, 2022:** Semester Review; Final Paper due.
14. **November 28, 2022:** To be determined

**Optional:** Field Trip visit to Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy (Police Academy) in Ashburn.

## **University Policies**

### **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 may also be included in the links below.

General University Information / Weather: [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu)

Office of Disability Services: [ods.gmu.edu](http://ods.gmu.edu)

Writing Center: <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>

Counseling and Psychological Services: [caps.gmu.edu](http://caps.gmu.edu)

English Language Institute: [eli.gmu.edu](http://eli.gmu.edu)

University Catalog: <http://catalog.gmu.edu> University Policies: <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu>

### **Accommodation for students with disabilities**

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703.993.2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

### **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 many 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 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](http://caps.gmu.edu)), Student Health Services ([shs.gmu.edu](http://shs.gmu.edu)), the University Ombudsperson ([ombudsman.gmu.edu](http://ombudsman.gmu.edu)), and Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education and Services ([waves.gmu.edu](http://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](mailto: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.

### **Bad Weather and Other Emergencies**

Check Mason's homepage ([www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu)) to see if classes are cancelled for severe weather or other emergency circumstances. You can also register for Mason's emergency alert system at <https://alert.gmu.edu>. If I must cancel a class due to a personal emergency, I will 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.

### **University Services and Resources**

If you have (or think you may have) a learning disability or other condition that may affect your academic performance, you should: 1) make sure documentation is on file with the Office of Disability Services (703-993-2474; [ods.gmu.edu](http://ods.gmu.edu)) to determine the accommodations you need; and 2) see me to discuss your accommodation needs. By Mason policy, I cannot make any accommodations for students without certification from ODS on the existence of a disability and the specific accommodations needed.

If you feel you need to improve your writing skills, seek assistance from the University Writing Center (<http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>). Your writing needs to be sufficiently fluent to make your meaning clear.

If you are in personal distress, you can get help from Counseling and Psychological Services ([caps.gmu.edu](http://caps.gmu.edu)).

If you are not a native English speaker and may be interested in linguistic and cultural enrichment services, you can contact Mason's English Language Institute ([eli.gmu.edu](http://eli.gmu.edu)).

If you would like to improve your academic skills, you can get help from Learning Services [caps.gmu.edu/learning-services](http://caps.gmu.edu/learning-services). They offer workshops on the study cycle, effective note-taking techniques, individual learning styles, ways to prepare for exams, and effective time management. I have heard from former students that these services can be extremely helpful.

The University Catalog, <http://catalog.gmu.edu>, is the central resource for university policies affecting student, faculty, and staff conduct in university academic affairs. Other policies are available at <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/>. All members of the university community are responsible for knowing and following established policies.

### **Enrollment Responsibilities and Deadlines**

Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the schedule of classes, see [registrar.gmu.edu](http://registrar.gmu.edu). Any other type of withdrawal requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons. **If you enroll late**, it is your responsibility to complete any assignments you may have missed in class or on Blackboard. Try to establish a relationship with fellow students in class so you can get caught up on assignments you may miss **when and if you miss class**. Failure to meet deadlines on assignments will cause grades on those assignments to suffer.



### **University Honor Code**

The following is a summary of Mason's honor code; see the Undergraduate Catalog and [honorcode.gmu.edu](http://honorcode.gmu.edu) for additional information. Mason's honor code will be strictly enforced in this class and all violations will be reported to the Honor Committee.

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 information formerly unknown to the writers or which the writers did not discover themselves. Exceptions for this include 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 of plagiarism 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 did not 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 to author 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."