

**CRIM 401, Section-DL1: Policing in America, CRN 14307**  
Spring 2024 (1/16 to 5/8/2024): Asynchronous on-line learning  
George Mason University, Prince William Science & Technology Campus

---

**Instructors:** Stephen F. Bamford, Adjunct Professor  
Assistant Chief of Police (Retired)  
Judge William E. Jarvis, Adjunct Professor  
Prince William County, General District Court

**Office:** Prince William Campus, Colgan Hall 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, #414

**Office hours:** Flexible and easy by appointment, just e-mail, call or text and we will arrange a day and time to talk by phone, Collaborate Ultra or in-person.

**Email:** [sbamford@gmu.edu](mailto:sbamford@gmu.edu)

---

### **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>

**Accommodations 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.

**Honor Code Policy:**

All students are expected to be familiar with the University's Honor Code, which may be found in the University Catalog. Ignorance of the policy is not a valid excuse, and all violations will be reported.

The Honor Code is as follows:

*"To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University Community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set for this Honor Code: Student Members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work."*

**Extent of the Honor Code:**

The Honor Code at George Mason University shall be specifically concerned with cheating or attempted cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing in an academic setting.

Cheating includes using unauthorized material and/or unauthorized assistance in academic work. Plagiarism includes self-plagiarism, inadequate citation, false citation, and failure to adhere to citation forms set by the professor.

Stealing includes but is not limited to the following:

- Removing an exam from the classroom
- Taking pictures of or copying the exam and/or academic work
- Taking someone's work without their knowledge

Lying includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Making up sources, data, information, etc.
- Giving a false excuse for missing a test or a class
- Telling a professor or a teaching assistant false information
- Falsifying official correspondence

Students are expected to abide by the requirements of the University regarding academic integrity, to include lying, cheating, or stealing. (See "Honor System and Code" in the George Mason University Catalog) Students who present false information will be treated in accordance with the University's Policies.

**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 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](https://caps.gmu.edu)), Student Health Services ([shs.gmu.edu](https://shs.gmu.edu)), the University Ombudsperson ([ombudsman.gmu.edu](https://ombudsman.gmu.edu)), and Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education and Services ([waves.gmu.edu](https://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's Title IX Coordinator.

For a full list of resources, support opportunities, and reporting options, contact the University Title IX Coordinator at: [integrity.gmu.edu](https://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.

**Add/Drop Period:**

Last Day to Drop (Full-Semester Course) Full Refund	January 30, 2024
Last Day to Drop (Full-Semester Course) Partial Refund	February 6, 2024

## Course Description and Objectives:

The course is designed to examine and explore the institutions, processes, and people responsible for providing police services (Law enforcement) in America. We will begin with a historical perspective surrounding the origins of policing through the development of today's American system of policing. The course will identify and discuss the major milestones associated with policing, to include the social, political, legal and technological influences and advances in policing. Furthermore, we will identify and explore many of the challenges associated with policing and the lessons we have learned and those we have yet to identify and overcome. This learning experience will be accomplished through a thoughtful and careful presentation of information, through the text "Policing America," lectures, on-line discussion boards and exercises designed to facilitate discussions and on-line presentation of relevant and current topics in policing America.

This course is an on-line asynchronous course that is broken out into 14 modules which correspond roughly with the weeks in the regular spring semester academic calendar at GMU. This course contains a significant lecture (recorded on-line) component. Some of the lectures may be as long as 120 minutes, and in some cases the lecture may be divided into multiple sections for flow of material and natural breaks in the subject matter. This may also ease the burdens of time management viewing these recorded lectures. The lectures are designed to provide the student with content and context regarding topics in policing. Many of these topics need both explanation and anecdotal examples with context for the student/listener to gain the full breadth and understanding of the material. Much of the material is heavily nuanced which requires further detailed explanation which often adds to the length and complexity of the lectures. As some in American Policing have come to realize, "nothing is ever what it initially seems to be" and there are very few "black and white" issues in policing, most of which are various shades of grey.

Throughout the course, we will engage in various "debates" to fully explore the merits from all sides of policies or issues confronting the extreme challenges with policing American communities. These challenges include but are not limited to police legitimacy, racial profiling, and use of force, arrest, police and prosecutorial misconduct, community policing, hiring and retention of personnel, patrol, the use of technology and investigative strategies, as well as more contemporary matters such as privacy issues (*data*), immigration reform/enforcement, social media and gun control. ***Some of the issues discussed often evoke strong emotions with socially adverse ideology, creation of public policy, and the implementation of offensive strategies and practices. But, in order to educate ourselves, we must have insightful debate of such "ugly topics." This is a reminder to all students to be respectful to others, their opinions, and be open to other perspectives during these discussions.***

## Examinations and Quizzes:

### EXAMS

Midterm examination = 25 points  
Final examination = 25 points

Examinations will normally consist of both "objective" questions and material, such as multiple choice, true/false; there may also be some short answer and essay type questions depending on the material covered and the insightful nature of the topics left open for interpretation. Makeup exams will be allowed only when the student provides written verification of personal illness, death/serious illness, or other emergency in the family. Makeup exams may be in a different format than the regularly scheduled exam and will be scheduled at the convenience of the instructor.

### QUIZZES

There are four quizzes throughout the semester related to the course material and one syllabus quiz. The quiz groupings are as follows:

Quiz 1: Syllabus Quiz = 5 points  
Quiz 2: Chapters 1 – 3 = 6 points  
Quiz 3: Chapters 4 – 6 = 6 points

#### Quiz 4: Chapters 7 – 9 = 6 points

Quiz values, directions, and due dates are located in each of the Quiz Icon Tiles located in the corresponding weekly modules where the quizzes are located. Quizzes are generally 12 questions in an objective format (multiple choice and True/False). Each quiz has a value = to 6 points total.

#### **EXIT SURVEYS**

The exit surveys are not mandatory; however, we would like your feedback regarding the material, lectures, and related learning activities. The surveys will be marked as completed or not completed.

### **Overall Grading:**

The following is the numerical conversion to the corresponding letter grade scale that we will be using for CRIM 401-DL1. There is a total of 214 points + 3 bonus points possible to obtain for this course. The bonus points will apply after viewing the “Stolen Innocence” video in Module 5.

A	200+ – 186 pts.	C+	159.9 – 152 pts.
A-	185.9 – 180 pts.	C	151.9 – 144 pts.
B+	179.9 – 172 pts.	C-	143.9 – 140 pts.
B	171.9 – 166 pts.	D	139.9 – 120 pts.
B-	165.9 – 160 pts.	F	119.9 – 100 pts., and below

### **Text:**

**Required:** Peak, Kenneth J & Sousa, William H., Access card for REVEL & Policing America: Challenges and Best Practices, 9th Edition, (2018), Pearson Education Inc., New York, NY  
**Student may also choose to purchase an e-book copy of the text.**

**Paperback Text ISBN 13: 978-0-13-452695-9**

### **Spring 2024, Class Schedule:**

The topics to be covered during the semester have been grouped by chapters. While preparing 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. **Detailed descriptions and instructions for the lectures, readings, discussion boards, videos, quizzes, and exams are located in the Icon Tiles in each of the modules.**

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>Week 1</b> | <b>Introduction to Course Syllabus.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Welcome video and course tour video</li><li>▪ Syllabus Quiz = (5 points)</li><li>▪ Discussion Board 1: Perception v. Reality Video Reflection Post = (5 points)</li></ul>         |
| <b>Week 2</b> | <b>Chapter One (1): History: From English origins to the U.S.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts = (5 points)</li><li>▪ Discussion Board 2: Personal Introduction Post = (3 to 7 points w/ bonus points)</li></ul> |
| <b>Week 3</b> | <b>Chapter Two (2): Preparing for the Street: Recruitment, Hiring, and Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts = (5 points)</li></ul>  |

- Discussion Board 3: Recruitment & Hiring Compare and Contrast Post = (7 points)
- Week 4 Chapter Three (3): On Patrol Methods and Menaces**
- Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts = (5 points)
  - Discussion Board 4: Police Patrol and effectiveness Post = (5 points)
- Week 5 Chapter Four (4): Community Policing: Guardians or soldiers?**
- Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts = (5 points)
  - Discussion Board 5: Community Policing and Citizen Engagement Post = (7 points)
  - Quiz, Chapter 1 – 3 = (6 points)
- Week 6 Chapter Five (5): Criminal Investigations – Science of sleuthing**
- Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts = (7 points)
  - Discussion Board 6 = (5 points)
  - Watch Sandra Cantu Video Assignment = (3 Bonus points)
- Week 7 Chapter Six (6): Personnel Issues and Labor Relations**
- Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts = (5 points)
  - Discussion Board 7 = (5 points)
  - Quiz, Chapter 4 – 6 = (6 points)
- Week 8 SPRING BREAK...March 4 through March 10, 2024**
- Week 9 Chapter Seven (7) Part I: Rule of Law: Expounding the Constitution, 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment; Judge Will Jarvis, Prince William County General District Court**
- Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts w/ readings = (10 points)
  - Read 3 Case Briefs:
    - *Herring v. United States, Terry v. Ohio, and Illinois v. Gates*
- MID-TERM EXAMINATION (Chapters 1 through 6) – Sunday, March 24, beginning at 6:00 am and closing at 11:59 pm.** Midterm Exam = (25 points)
- Week 10 Chapter Seven (7) Par II: Rule of Law: Expounding the Constitution, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Amendments; Judge Will Jarvis, Prince William County General District Court**
- Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts w/readings = (10 points)
  - Read 2 Case Briefs:
    - *Miranda v. Arizona and Montejo v. Louisiana*
- Week 11 Chapter Eight (8): Accountability: Ethics, Discretion and Misconduct**  
*Guest Lecturer; Judge Will Jarvis, Prince William County General District Court*
- Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts = (5 points)
  - Discussion Board 8 = (5 points)
- Week 12 Chapter Nine (9): Civil Liability & Public Trust**  
*Guest Lecturer; Judge Will Jarvis, Prince William County General District Court*
- Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts = (5 points)
  - Discussion Board 9 = (5 points)
- Week 13 Chapter Thirteen (13): Policing Special Populations**
- Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts = (5 points)
  - Discussion Board 10 = (5 points)
  - Quiz, Chapter 7 – 9 = (6 points)
- Week 14 Chapter Fourteen (14): Information Technology: & Final Exam Review**
- Recorded Lecture and Question Prompts = (5 points)

- Discussion Board = (5 points)

**Week 15      Reading Week...NO CLASS**

**Week 16      FINAL EXAMINATION (Chapters 7, 8, 9, 13, and 14), Wednesday May 1,  
online beginning at 6:00 am, and closing at 11:59 pm.  
Final Exam = (25 points)**