

**Universities at Shady Grove
Gangs CCJS 498G- Spring 2019**

Class Begins: January 31	Class Ends: May 9	Final Exam: TBD
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Instructor Information

Instructor: Shawn Eastman	Office Hours: ½ hour after class RM 5101, Bldg. III
E-mail: shawn.eastman@gaithersburgmd.gov	Phone Number: 240-372-7231

Course Information

Course: Gangs, CCJS498G; section SG91	Credits: 3
Meeting Day(s): Thursday; Bldg. III, Room 2225	Meeting Time(s): 11 am – 1:30 pm

Course Description

CCJS498G is an elective course designed to provide students with a foundation of gang studies through examining the origin of gangs, through the exploration of regional issues and national trends, and through identifying the various categories, distinctions, and definitions of gangs to include youth/street gangs, transnational gangs, outlaw motorcycle gangs and prison gangs. Students will become familiarized with gang subculture, with myths and realities of gangs, and with the permeation of gang violence and its impact on society and on criminal justice policy. An analysis of suppression, enforcement, education, and intervention used to address gang violence will be examined.

Core Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the origins of gangs, as well as current trends of gang violence in the United States (with a focus on this region).
2. Examine formulation and recruitment ideologies, sociological implications of gang subculture, and root causes of gang permeation.
3. Exhibit knowledge of gang proliferation with a specific focus on migration and imitation.
4. Identify the major youth/street gangs, outlaw motorcycle gangs, and prison gangs, and their respective characteristics, indicia, and organizational structures.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of gangs on society, incorporation of gang policy and legislation, as well as methodologies utilized to address gangs and gang violence.

Instructional Methods

Class discussion, group activities, videos, assignments, guest speakers, exams, lecture and a book review.

Text

1. Howell and Griffiths. (2016). *Gangs in America's Communities 2nd edition* (required)
2. Queen, William. (2005). *Under and Alone: The True Story of the Undercover Agent Who Infiltrated America's Most Violent Outlaw Motorcycle* (required)

Assessment Method

Case Assignment / Exams / Project / Participation	Possible Point Value	Final Grade Scale
Exam 1	100	
Exam 2	100	A = 450+ pts.
Book Review & Research Paper	100	B = 400+ pts.
Town Hall Assignment 1-3	25 each	C = 350+ pts.
Town Hall Assignment 4	50	D = 300+ pts.
Quizzes 1-6	5 each	F = 299 and below
Participation	50	
TOTAL	500	

** Plus/minus grades are in effect; i.e. a 90-93% is an A-, a 94-96% is an A and 97% and above is an A+

Information on Emergency Closings

We do not follow College Park for closing information. Here is the site with that information:
<http://www.shadygrove.umd.edu/campus-services/public-safety/campus-alerts>

Progress Report

Students may review their progress at any time by entering the “grade-book” feature in ELMS. You will have an ongoing opportunity to evaluate your progress in this course and decide if you need to make any adjustments (additional study, tutoring, conference with the instructor etc.) to assure your success in this course. ELMS can be accessed via the following link: <https://myelms.umd.edu/login>

Codes of Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Students are required to uphold the Code of Academic Integrity and the Code of Student Conduct. Students who violate either of these codes may receive a failing grade in the class. Students should always observe the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Your academic work should be the result of your efforts, thoughts, and ideas. When writing papers or assignments, you should use an appropriate citation style consistently, indicating exactly where you are quoting, or have been inspired by, the work of others.

Cheating on any assignment or exam will result in the following disciplinary actions:

- (1) “XF” (an F amplified by academic dishonesty) will be the grade earned for the course, and (2) possible expulsion from the UMCP’s B.A. Program in Criminology & Criminal Justice at the Shady Grove Center, effective the following semester. All cases of academic misconduct will be referred to the Student Honor Council at UMCP.
- (2) Examples of conduct meriting such disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (1) cheating on an exam, either with or without assistance of another student or students,
 - (2) submitting as your own work a paper that is either wholly or partially plagiarized, such as purchasing a paper from an internet site or superficially rewriting the work of others without proper citation, or
 - (3) collaborating with fellow students on assignments or take-home exams for which you were instructed to work alone.

Sexual Misconduct Policy

The Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits a broad range of behaviors including, but not limited to sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence. The Sexual Misconduct Policy also prohibits retaliation against any individual who files a complaint or participates in an investigation under the Policy.

The Office of Civil Rights & Sexual Misconduct (OCRSM) responds to all complaints of sexual misconduct. To file a complaint go to OCRSM and under Reporting, complete the online sexual misconduct complaint form. For more information please contact OCRSM by phone at 301-405-1142, or email at titleixcoordinator@umd.edu

Non Discrimination Policy

The Non-Discrimination Policy prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of protected classes. Protected classes include: race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, and any other legally protected class. The Non-Discrimination Policy also prohibits retaliation against any individual who files a complaint or participates in an investigation under the Policy.

The Office of Civil Rights & Sexual Misconduct (OCRSM) responds to all complaints of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation based on a protected class. To file a complaint go to OCRSM and under Reporting, complete the online complaint form. For more information please contact OCRSM by phone at 301-405-1142, or email civilrights@umd.edu.

Accessibility Policy

The University of Maryland is committed to creating and maintaining a welcoming and inclusive educational, working, and living environment for people of all abilities. The University of Maryland is also committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the University, or be subjected to discrimination. The University of Maryland provides reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals. Reasonable accommodations shall be made in a timely manner and on an individualized and flexible basis.

Discrimination against individuals on the grounds of disability is prohibited. The University also strictly prohibits retaliation against persons arising in connection with the assertion of rights under this Policy.

Accessibility & Disability Service (ADS) facilitates reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals. For assistance in obtaining an accommodation, contact Accessibility and Disability Service at 301.314.7682, or adsfrontdesk@umd.edu. More information is available from the Counseling Center.

After receiving an Accommodations Letter from ADS, as a student you are expected to meet with each course instructor, in person, to provide them with a copy of the Accommodations Letter and to obtain their signature on the Acknowledgement of Student Request form. You and your instructors will discuss a plan for how the accommodations will be implemented throughout the semester for the course. Specific details regarding the implementation of certain ADS approved accommodations agreed upon between you as the student and the individual course instructor must be documented on an Acknowledgment of Student Request Addendum, signed by the instructor, and submitted to ADS. You as the student are responsible for submitting the signed original forms to ADS and retaining a copy of the signed Acknowledgment of Student Request for your records.

Should a student need accommodation in the classroom or for assignments/exams due to a verified, documented learning or physical disability, please inform me of your situation immediately, so that proper UMCP documentation and accommodation procedures are followed. More information about student rights, policies and procedures and other general information can be found at the website:

<https://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>

Participation Policy (Attendance, Absences, or Missed Assignments): 50 points

Attending and participating in every class, arriving to class on time, participating in class, and remaining in class until it is completed are all taken into consideration when factoring your participation grade. Assignments must be turned in by the assigned due date. Utilizing electronic devices, other than for legitimate class purposes, will not be tolerated and will also be factored into your participation grade. Class participation, to include discussions, group and individual class work, and respectful interaction between the instructor and students are emphasized in this course. Each student is expected to be prepared for, and participate in, the group project. This will also be factored into your participation grade.

Missing a class to participate in a religious observance or to seek medical care constitutes an excused absence. Please inform me in advance, if possible, if you will need to miss a class for such reasons. It remains your responsibility to check with fellow students for class notes.

Per University of Maryland policy for a student's medically necessitated absence from class, students shall now make a reasonable attempt to inform the instructor of his or her illness prior to the class; and, upon returning to class, present their instructor with a self-signed note attesting to the date of their illness. Each note must also contain an acknowledgment by the student that the information provided is true and correct.

If a student misses an exam, he or she must produce a documented, valid reason for doing so as soon as possible. I reserve the right to assess a penalty deduction in grading make-up work when the absence is unexcused. The make-up session for a missed exam will be held at a time of my choosing, and the format of the make-up exam may be altered at my discretion.

What to do if you must seek to be excused from class: contact me by email or phone (text is preferred) at the contact number on this syllabus as soon as you know you will be unable to attend class. This should occur prior to class, if known. Excusal will be granted, at my discretion, and make up work and late assignments accepted in these emergency cases as contracted and documented in email between the student and instructor. In case of excused absence, students are responsible for requesting missed material from another student or the instructor. If you miss class or an assignment due date, collect documentation to support your absence. Students with written, valid excused absences are entitled to a make-up work (assignments, exams etc.) at a time mutually convenient for the instructor and student.

Do not provide false information; providing false information to University officials is prohibited under Part 9(h) of the Code of Student Conduct (V-1.00(B) University of Maryland Code of Student Conduct) and may result in disciplinary action.

As this class relies heavily on interaction, participation is worth 50 points.

Exams: Each Exam is Worth 100 points

There will be two exams, a midterm and a final, each worth **100 points**. The format will be announced prior to each exam but will generally consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay. Exam dates are posted on the course calendar. Unless prior permission is given, all students are required to take the examination on the day it is administered. If prior permission is not obtained, students will receive a zero ("0") for that examination. The instructor is not bound to provide the same examination/format for make-up examinations.

Quizzes

There will be six multiple-choice quizzes throughout the course of the semester. The schedule of the quizzes is listed below. Each quiz will only address information already covered in class. You can miss one quiz, however, if you take them all the sixth will be categorized as bonus points. **25 points with up to 5 potential bonus points.**

Under and Alone Book Review & Research Paper (5-7 pages): 125 points

1. Read the book Under and Alone by William Queen.
2. Briefly provide a summary of the book.
3. Utilizing at least two outside sources, provide the major characteristics of the Mongols (you might consider discussing the Mongols history, indicia, allies/rivals, areas of prevalence, leadership/membership, crime activities etc.).
4. Discuss the overall effectiveness of the investigation and explain the major legal hurdles that were highlighted in the book. In other words, what were the investigations challenges, successes, and shortcomings? Utilizing at least two outside sources, briefly compare this investigation to another of its type.
5. Lastly, provide your reactions to the investigation and the book in general.
6. Three reputable sources that are independent of the book are required. Utilize APA style format.

Town Hall Exercise (4 assignments): 125 points

Students will complete four assignments throughout the course of the semester and will participate in a “Town Hall” meeting in class. The assignments relate to an increase in gang activity that a fictional County is experiencing. For the fourth and finale assignment, each student will be assigned a role of someone who has a stake in addressing the problem (public safety, legal, government, education, parents etc.) Each student must conduct various tasks, in the form of assignments, which relate to this gang problem. The instructions relating to this exercise will be distributed separately. The first three assignments are worth 25 points each and the final assignment is worth 50 points. The in-class exercise is not graded per-se, but it does require some preparation and will count towards your participation grade. Utilize APA style format for all assignments.

Class	Date	Subject	Content
1	1/31	Course Overview & Chapters 2, 3, 4 & 6	Introduction to Gangs, Myths and Realities of Youth Gangs, Defining Gangs and Gang Members, Early Gang Theories and Modern-Day Applications, Girls and Gangs
2	2/7	Chapters 2, 3, 4 & 6	Introduction to Gangs, Myths and Realities of Youth Gangs, Defining Gangs and Gang Members, Early Gang Theories and Modern-Day Applications, Girls and Gangs
3	2/14	Chapter 1, THA 1 Due, Quiz 1	History of Gangs
4	2/21	Instructor Presentation, Chapter 7, Quiz 2	Regional Perspective
5	2/28	Instructor Presentation, Quiz 3	Indicia & Identification
6	3/7	Chapters 5 & 8, THA 2 Due	Gang Involvement as Developmental Trajectory, Homicide & Violence
7	3/14	Midterm Exam (Bldg. I- 206 11a-1:30p)	Topics Covered from 1/25 to 3/8
8	3/21	Spring Break	
9	3/28	Chapter 7 & 9, THA 3 Due	National Gang Problem Trends: 1996 to 2009, What Works: Gang Prevention

10	4/4	Instructor Presentation	Hispanic Gangs
11	4/11	Instructor Presentation, Chapter 2, Quiz 4	African-American Gangs & Folk/People Nation
12	4/18	Town Hall (Bldg. III 4211), THA 4 Due	Town Hall Meeting
13	4/25	Instructor Presentation, <u>Under and Alone</u> Paper Due, Quiz 5	Prison Gangs
14	5/2	Instructor Presentation, Quiz 6	Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs
15	5/9	Instructor Presentation, Chapters 9 & 10	Gang Policy & Legislation
16	TBD	TBD (Building I- 206)	Topics Covered from 3/28 to 5/9