

CCJS370 Race, Crime and Criminal Justice

Instructor: Richard Harris

Universities Shady Grove Campus

Room Number: 4215

Building Number: 3

Thursdays 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Course Objectives

This course explores the enduring significance of race and ethnicity in the study of crime and the criminal legal system in the United States. This course explores the correlation of race and the criminal justice system from the Reconstruction Era of the United States until present. During the course, laws and policies will be studied that will show how it effected the perception of race/ethnicity to be criminogenic and how it shaped the perception, demographic shifts, and employment patterns of various time periods within the United States. The course will then study how these events in history, contributed to a present-day criminal justice reform.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

In addition to teaching a common core of knowledge, students will learn how to analyze issues and dissect problems. Short videos, in class assignments, case studies, and document reviews (ex. government reports, public records, court transcripts, legal documents, etc.) will be used in addition to lectures.

REQUIREMENTS

> **Reading**

All reading assignments are posted in ELMS. Students are encouraged to download the readings a week before the class and keep them in a three-ring binder for reference.

> **Participation**

I expect students to ask questions, participate in discussions and be active listeners. The class is going to be divided into six teams. Students are expected to contribute with their teammates and to participate in the presentations. Absent students will not be permitted to make-up in-class assignments without documentation for an excused absence.

EVALUATION

- > **Group Participation 20%.** For the week(s) that each group must present to the class, the following information must be included in the presentation. Describe how the law/policy was enacted, what population of the community/region or country it affected, and what where the long-lasting effects of the policy/law.
+
- > **Quizzes 20%** There will be two unannounced quizzes during the semester.
- > **Mid-Term Examination 30%**
- > **Research Paper 30%**
 - You will be writing a structured research paper supported by peer reviewed journal articles and other sources, on a particular area of Race, Crime and Criminal Justice.
 - The paper will be a discussion on a law or policy that contributed to Race, Crime and Criminal Justice in the United States. The paper must discuss the law/policy in its entirety. Must describe how the law/policy was enacted, what population of the community/region or country it affected, and what where the long lasting affects of the policy/law.

Paper Format & Layout

- # Words: 3000
- # References: At least 8 to 15
- Use APA 7th Edition – APA Research Paper Format
- Font: Times New Roman
- Font size: 12
- Double Spaced
- **Due: No later than Thursday, December 15th**

Course Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	REQUIRED READING	ASSIGNMENT
Week 1 / September 1st	Welcome and Introductions Overview of current polices that affect Race and the criminal Justice System	Lives: Race and Segmented Representation in the Politics of Crime and Criminal Justice in the United States.	
Week 2 / September 8th	Historical Roots of Race and Racism in Crime Convict Leasing	Dark Heritage in the New South	Group 1 Group 2
Week 3 / September 15th	Historical Roots of Race and Racism in Crime Part II Dred Scott Case Jim Crow Laws	Origin of the first Jim Crow Law	Group 3 Group 6
Week 4 / September 22nd	African American race relation with U.S. Law Enforcement	What is the Difference between Slave Patrols and Modern-Day Policing? Institutional Violence in a Community of Color	Group 4 Group 5
Week 5 / September 29th	Latino race relation with U.S. Law Enforcement	Anyone Can Be an Illegal': Color-Blind Ideology and Maintaining Latino/Citizen Borders	Group Group
Week 6 / October 6th	Asian race relation with U.S. Law Enforcement	Are Asian Victims Less Likely to Report Hate Crime Victimization to the Police? Implications for Research and Policy in the Wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic	Group Group
Week 7 / October 13th	Caucasian relation with U.S. Law Enforcement	Two Nations, Revisited: The Lynching of Black and Brown Bodies, Police Brutality, and Racial Control in 'Post-Racial' Amerikkka	Group Group

Week 8 / October 20th	Midterm Examination	In class	
Week 9 / October 27th	Roundtable discussion with law enforcement officers	African Americans and Law Enforcement: Tackling a Foundational Component of Structural Reform—Union Disciplinary	Group Group
Week 10 / November 3rd	Race and Policing – Post Gentrification	Manufacturing Distress: Race, Redevelopment, and the EB-5 Program in Central Brooklyn	Group Group
Week 11 / November 10th	Race and Crime in the Media	The Politics of Racial Symbolism: Deval Patrick and His Discourse of Education	Group Group
Week 12 / November 17h	Race, Courts, Sentencing and Mass Incarceration	Mass Incarceration: Examining and Moving Beyond the New Jim Crow Institutionalizing inequality in the courts	Group Group
Week 13 / November 24 th	Thanksgiving Break		
Week 14 December 1st	Police Reform (2022) 1	Mass support for proposals to reshape policing	Group Group
Week 15 / December 8th	Police Reform (2022) 2	Executive Order on Advancing Effective,	Group Group
Week 16 / December 15th	Term Paper Due by midnight.		

Note: This is a tentative schedule, and subject to change as necessary – monitor the course ELMS page for current deadlines. In the unlikely event of a prolonged university closing, or an extended absence from the university, adjustments to the course schedule, deadlines, and assignments will be made based on the duration of the closing and the specific dates missed.

Grading

Final Grade Cutoffs									
+	97.00%	+	87.00%	+	77.00%	+	67.00%		
A	94.00%	B	84.00%	C	74.00%	D	64.00%	F	<60.0%
-	90.00%	-	80.00%	-	70.00%	-	60.00%		

Course Policies

> **Communicating with the Instructor**

Outside of class, the best way to reach the instructor is by email, at rharri15@umd.edu. In an emergency, the student may contact the program and ask that a message be delivered to the instructor. In the event of inclement weather or cancellation of class for another reason, a notice will be placed on the class website before traveling to the campus.

> **Grade Disputes**

All grades will be posted on ELMS. If you have any concerns or issues regarding a grade and would like to discuss it with me or have it reviewed, please contact me within 48 hours of receiving the grade. I will not discuss grade disputes after this time.

Life happens and sometimes for various reasons material can be challenging. Should you feel overwhelmed or frustrated and are worried that your grades are suffering, please see me. It is better to tackle the problem at the earliest possible moment and find a solution that will most benefit you.

> **Academic Dishonesty**

The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. Academic Dishonesty of any form will absolutely NOT be tolerated.

The student-administered Honor Code and Honor Pledge prohibits students from cheating on exams, plagiarizing papers, submitting the same paper for credit in two courses without authorization, buying papers, submitting fraudulent documents and forging signatures. On every examination, paper or other academic exercise not specifically exempted by the instructor, students must write by hand and sign the following pledge: *I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this examination (or assignment).*

It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit <http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html>

> **Absences**

For every medically necessary absence from class (lecture, recitation, or lab), a reasonable effort should be made to notify the instructor in advance of the class. When returning to class, students must bring a note identifying the date of and reason for the absence and acknowledging that the information in the note is accurate.

If a student is absent more than 2 time(s), the instructor may require documentation signed by a health care professional.

If a student is absent on days when tests are scheduled or papers are due [or other such events as specified in the syllabus] he or she is required to notify the instructor in advance, and upon returning to class, bring documentation of the illness, signed by a health care professional.

Absences due to Religious Observances Students are expected to notify me within the first two weeks of class if they intend to be absent for a class or announced examination due to a religious observance. Reasonable opportunities to make-up any work missed will be provided.

> **Attendance and Make-Up Policy**

Opportunities to make-up missed in-class work will only be given in cases of excused absences and official documentation is required. Exams and assignments are considered to be Major Scheduled Graded Events and therefore the new University medical excuse policy which allows one student signed honor statement attesting to illness does not apply to them. Excused absences are: illness with a doctor's note, death in the immediate family, required school activities and required court appearance. If the doctor will not write you a note, you will need to get a copy of your medical record from them to verify your illness. By law, you are entitled to get a copy of this and it is your responsibility to do so. I must be notified in person or by phone or by e-mail PRIOR to missing an in-class assignment for me to consider giving you a makeup. If you know you will not be in class for in-class work or a date an assignment is due for an excused reason, it is your responsibility to turn in the work PRIOR to the due date.

> **Cancellations of Class**

In the event of inclement weather or cancellation of class for another reason, a notice will be placed on the class website at least four hours before class. Students are advised to check the website before traveling to the campus.

> **Inclement Weather**

Official closures and delays are announced on the campus website at <http://www.shadygrove.umd.edu> and snow phone line (301-738-6000) as well as local radio and TV stations. **USG follows its own closure schedule, not that of College Park.** Should class be cancelled due to inclement weather, the instructor will communicate via email any changes to the course schedule and deadlines.

> **Statement Regarding Students With Disabilities**

The University provides accommodations for students with disabilities. The campus's Disability Support Service Office (DSS) works with students and faculty to address a variety of issues ranging from test anxiety to physical and psychological disabilities. If a student has a disability, DSS should be consulted (4-7682 or dissup@umd.edu). Note that to receive accommodations, students must first have their disabilities documented by DSS. The office then prepares an Accommodation Letter for course instructors regarding needed accommodations. Students are responsible for presenting this letter to their instructors by the end of the drop/add period.

> **Learning Assistance Service**

The University provides assistance to students who are having difficulty with writing, analysis of readings, or other issues. An appointment can be scheduled for assistance here: <http://www.counseling.umd.edu/LAS/>

> **Course Evaluations**

Your feedback about this course is very important to me. One important campus-wide evaluation is the online evaluation at the end of the semester. Students can go directly to the website (www.courseevalum.umd.edu) to complete their evaluations.