

# CCJS 418M: Cross-National Comparisons of Crime and Criminal Justice

## Fall 2019

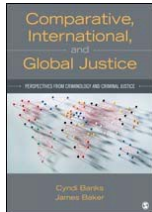
### Instructor

Dr. Laszlo Korossy  
korossy1@umbc.edu  
Office Hours: By appointment

### Class Meets

Wednesdays 9:30 am – 12:00 pm  
III-4220

### Required Text



Comparative, International, and Global Justice: Perspectives from Criminology and Criminal Justice.  
Banks, C. and Baker, J.  
SAGE Publications (2015)  
ISBN: 9781483332383

### Introduction and Learning Outcomes

Welcome to CCJS 418, Cross-National Comparisons of Crime and Criminal Justice. Over the course of the semester, we will be examining systems of justice in several key parts of the globe, seeking a deeper comparison of varying philosophies of law and justice. This will allow us to look at several systems as parts of an integrated whole:

- The justice regimes of individual states, which are all individualized but can be divided into several typologies based on systems of politics, systems of law, systems of policing, and systems of punishment;
- The justice regimes that are imposed from an external source on countries that are undergoing regime transition, often accompanied by tectonic cultural shifts in conceptions of “justice” and “common good;” and
- The global criminal justice environment, which deals with terrorism, transnational crime cartels, dictators and war criminals, through the mechanism of an earth-spanning bureaucracy.

The American criminal justice process is only one part of this worldwide machine, but plays an outsize role in its functioning – as will America’s criminal justice professionals. By being introduced to each of these elements, you will be better equipped to understand and influence the criminal justice processes that surround you.

### Grade Distribution

Grades will be calculated based on two written assignments, a presentation, and class participation. This latter grade will be based on an online component, wherein you will

post two one-paragraph reflections (one on in-class material, one on assigned readings) on the course's ELMS site, which will all be also turned in as a single document at the end of the semester.

Class Participation	25%
Short Paper	25%
Term Paper	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **Assignment Descriptions**

### *Class Participation*

This grade is meant to gauge student participation in class. Recognizing that not all students tend to speak in class and that many students who speak are not actively contributing, this grade is based on short, weekly online reflections on the class material covered in the previous week.

### *Short Paper*

The first paper, six pages long, will ask students to write an overview of a case where an American was charged with a crime in a foreign country. This will serve to highlight the differences between American and other legal systems, as well as educate students on the intricacies of sovereign states charging foreign nationals with crimes.

### *Term Paper*

The term paper, ten pages long, will be an open topic that allows students to address any topic they wish that is related to the core topics of the class. This allows students to "bring home" the course material to whatever academic or professional interests they may have. As part of this assignment, students will also be required to present their findings to the class in a short presentation, thereby allowing all students to share in their discoveries.

## **Attendance**

Two classes may be missed without excuse until grading is affected; afterward, each missed class will result in a full letter grade deduction. Attendance will be recorded at the beginning of every class. All assignments are to be turned in as hard copies, unless arrangements are made otherwise beforehand.

## **Disclaimers**

UMD policies relevant to undergraduate courses may be found at <http://ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated, and will be prosecuted.

## Class Schedule

<b>Unit A. Comparative Justice</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
<b>Week 1:</b> August 28 <sup>th</sup>	Introductions	Chapter 1
<b>Week 2:</b> September 4 <sup>th</sup>	Systems of Politics	
<b>Week 3:</b> September 11 <sup>th</sup>	Systems of Law	Chapter 3
<b>Week 4:</b> September 18 <sup>th</sup>	Comparative Judicial Processes	Chapter 5
<b>Week 5:</b> September 25 <sup>th</sup>	Comparative Policing	Chapter 2, Chapter 4
<b>Week 6:</b> October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Comparative Punishment	Chapter 6
<b>Unit B. Issues of Culture and Justice</b>		
<b>Week 7:</b> October 9 <sup>th</sup>	Movie: Judgement at Nuremberg	
<b>Week 8:</b> October 16 <sup>th</sup>	Movie: Judgement at Nuremberg	
<b>Week 9:</b> October 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Transitional Justice	Chapter 8 <b>Frist Paper Due</b>
<b>Week 10:</b> October 30 <sup>th</sup>	Cultural Relativism	Chapter 13, Chapter 14
<b>Unit C. International Justice</b>		
<b>Week 11:</b> November 6 <sup>th</sup>	International Law and the ICC	Chapter 9
<b>Week 12:</b> November 13 <sup>th</sup>	Transitional Crime	Chapter 10
<b>Week 13:</b> November 20 <sup>th</sup>	Terrorism	Chapter 12
<b>Week 14:</b> November 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	
<b>Week 15:</b> December 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Term Papers Due Presentations</b>	