CCJS 418: Cross-National Comparisons of Crime and Criminal Justice  
Fall 2017  

Mon. 3:30-6:00

Instructor  
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Office Hours: By appointment

Introduction  
Welcome to CCJS 418, The Politics of 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 these systems as parts of an integrated whole: the global criminal justice environment, which deals with terrorism, transnational crime cartels, dictators and war criminals, and 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.

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.

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.

Required Text  
Grading Breakdown
Class Participation     25%
Short Paper             25%
Term Paper             50%

Syllabus

Week 1
B&B Ch. 1 - Introduction

Week 2
LABOR DAY

Week 3
Systems of Politics

Week 4
B&B Ch. 3 - Systems of Law

Week 5
B&B Ch. 5 - Comparative Judicial Processes

Week 6
B&B Ch. 2, 4 - Comparative Policing

Week 7
B&B Ch. 6 - Comparative Punishment

Week 8-9
MOVIE: Judgment at Nuremberg

Week 10
B&B Ch. 8 - Transitional Justice

Week 11
B&B Ch. 9 - International Law and the ICC

Week 12
B&B Ch. 10 - Transnational Crime

Week 13
B&B Ch. 12 - Terrorism

Week 14
B&B Ch. 13, 14 - Cultural Relativism

Week 15-16
PRESENTATIONS