Spring 2016 Course Syllabus: CJS-307.001 – Law Enforcement

This is the course syllabus and it contains important information. Be sure to read the entire syllabus and contact me if you have difficulty understanding what is required for the successful completion of this course. This syllabus, and the accompanying course calendar, contains specific due dates for assignments. These documents should be read in their entirety and maintained for reference.

Instructor
Dr. George R. Franks, Jr., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Government
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AT&T Cellular: 936.554.8626 (See Virtual Hours)
E-mail: franksgr@sfasu.edu

Classroom Meeting Schedule and Location
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.
T.E. Ferguson Liberal Arts (Liberal Arts South), Room 377
Known exceptions are noted on the Course Calendar

Campus Office Hours
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
I am also available by appointment.

Virtual Office Hours
Available by SFA E-mail or ATT Cellular (Texting permitted)
Monday 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. & Wednesday 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.
I am also available by appointment.

The best way to contact me is by SFA regular email at the address above.

Course Protection and Intellectual Property
My personal work contained in this syllabus, the course calendar, and all handouts and assignments created by me are my intellectual property and are protected by law. You do not have authorization to duplicate any part of the work without my written permission.

Course Description
Inform future Criminal Justice practitioners about the phenomenon known as stress and specifically the stressors involved in all facets of the criminal justice profession.

Course Related E-mail Guidelines
All e-mails to me concerning class issues should include your name and course number reference (CJS-301). All e-mails made to you concerning class issues will be directed to your SFASU e-mail address. You are individually responsible for checking your assigned SFASU e-mail in-box for messages. Likewise, your e-mails should be made to me through the SFASU e-mail system. Using other e-mail systems often results in a corruption of the e-mail text. Any attachments to e-mails must be in the form of HTML, HTM, or Word Document formats. You are responsible for reading all announcements, course documents and e-mails relating to this course.
Text required for Course
The assigned textbook for this course is *Stress Management in Law Enforcement*, by Leonard Territo and James Sewell. The book is in its 3rd Edition, but you may also use the 2nd if you find it readily available. I do not enforce the concept of one book per student, so sharing is an option. You will be responsible for the assigned readings.

Program Learning Outcomes Addressed in this Course
This course meets the following CJS Program objectives:
The student will demonstrate an understanding of the three major components of the CJS, and the concepts of policing, corrections, courts, juvenile justice, probation and parole, and victimology.
The student will demonstrate an understanding of the functions of policing in the United States in terms of its historical roots, structure, and contemporary issues.
The student will demonstrate an awareness of ethical issues in criminal justice, and how to use ethical reasoning to formulate decisions and promote positive organizational and professional trust.

Course Specific Student Learning Outcomes
The student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the role of the three divisions of the system in society through discussion.
The student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the theories of criminal justice through discussion.

Desired Competency
You will demonstrate your understanding of the role of each of the three divisions of criminal justice in society and the proper application of police strategies in responding to societal needs.

Special Accommodations and Students with Disabilities
My intention is to accommodate all students with special needs when I can do so without compromising the integrity of the classroom and/or disrupting the learning process. If you feel you have need of a special accommodation, whether or not it is the result of an officially recognized and covered disability, please discuss this with me. I will endeavor to work with you to accomplish a fair resolution.

In addition, individuals with disabilities officially identified in the policies of the University may contact Disability Services and request special accommodations.

In previous courses I have recognized indications of certain learning, communication, or reading disabilities, where the student has been unaware of the opportunity to take advantage of special accommodations available to them. In such cases I will address the observation with you in private and confidentially. My recommendation to you to seek assistance is only a suggestion and not a course requirement.

I have encountered students who feel ill at ease in accepting special accommodations. The acceptance of an accommodation legitimately available to you is neither a sign of weakness nor a statement of worth. Please view these opportunities as being equivalent to my using a stepladder to change a ceiling mounted light bulb. An accommodation is a tool available to assist you in doing your best, not an excuse for a lower standard of performance.

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

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Student Responsibility
You retain the responsibility to follow the guidelines of the course syllabus; comply with university regulations; read all assigned material and postings specific to this course; comply with due dates, submission guidelines, and my directions.

You are an adult and retain the responsibility of regulating your behavior in a manner that will be conducive to learning and attaining a passing grade for the course. You are expected to comply with the following general rules of civility:

You are expected to participate in the online courseroom regularly.

You are to participate in courseroom discussions, and while you are free to express your personal views, you must also respect the views of others. I maintain the right to censor any discussion that is becoming disruptive to the learning process.

You retain the responsibility to make notification of special needs and/or circumstances to the University, Department Chair, and to me.

Because you are an adult, it is inappropriate to have your parents calling on your behalf requesting special consideration, complaining about workload, or about course content. I will not discuss your class business with your parents or guardians.

The course syllabus is not a menu and you do not have the option of choosing what items to complete and tasks to perform. Failure to submit required material may result in an incomplete being assigned.

You are participating in a course designed to prepare you for a career as a public servant. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly upheld higher standards for those involved in public service, particularly those professions related to criminal justice. You are expected to read carefully and to fully comply with the academic honesty policy contained in this syllabus.

Be sure to read the policy contained in the missed examinations section, and please do not ask me to deviate from the policy.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Please note that my personal policy is that I will exercise my discretion and not allow grades of WH for this course.

Assessment Methods

There are a total of 100 quality points (QP) available in this class. The course breakdown of the final grade is made in the following manner:

Midterm Examination = 30 QP
Final Comprehensive Examination = 30 QP
CJ Practitioner Stress Interview Paper = 10 QP
Attendance and Active Participation = 30 QP

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The course grade will be based as follows:
- 90 QP and above = A
- 80 QP to 89 QP = B
- 70 QP to 79 QP = C
- 60 QP to 69 QP = D
- Below 60 QP = F

Examinations
There are two examinations in this course, a midterm and final. The midterm is comprehensive of assigned chapters, lectures and handouts. The final comprehensive examination is comprehensive of all chapters, lectures and handouts presented during the course.

Missed Examinations
Generally, examinations must be completed as scheduled; however, in the event of a missed examination, I reserve the right to review the circumstances and allow alternative examinations. You should contact me as soon as you know that you will miss an examination. Where preplanning is not an option, you should contact me immediately on your return to availability.

Class Discussions
Class discussions are an integral part of learning, and information from these will be included in the final examination.

General class attendance and participation in this course will account for 30 QP of your final grade. Attendance will be taken at each scheduled class meeting, failing participate in discussions will be counted as an absence. Should you arrive in class after the door has been closed, you will be counted absent for that session. However, you should come in quietly and participate in preparation for the examination. If your cell phone activates during the class session, you will be asked to leave the classroom and counted as absent.

CJ Practitioner Stress Interview Paper
Your paper will address the components as outlined in this syllabus and should have section headings listed according to the three components. Each paper is to be formatted in a professional style, meaning no colors, excessive type, or graphics. Margins are to be 1” for the side, top and bottom. The font is to be New Times Roman and type size is to be 12-point throughout the paper. Each paper is expected to be no less than five (5) pages, and no more than eight (8), excluding the cover page. There will be no reference page, as this is a report on an interview. The paper is to be double-line spaced.

The paper will be due on the date specified in the course calendar. Late papers are automatically reduced by a factor of 25%. After five days, the reduction will be 50%.

The paper is to be composed of the following components:

- **About the Person I Chose to Interview** = What is the name and position of the person chosen? For what agency do the work? Why did this person choose this person/position? What does their position have to do with criminal justice?
- **What I Learned From the Interview** = Tell us about your interview; give a summary of the things you asked and what was told you. Remember, this is a summary. This should include how they came to enter the career; whether they had family history in the career; their first role in the career; how they prepared to enter the career; what they have done for professional development since entering the career; what are their career goals; and, what they see in the future of this career for newcomers.
- **Practitioner Stress** = What does the person have to say about personal stress related to their work in CJ? What measures do they take personally to reduce their stress from work? What measures
does their agency provide to help reduce work related stress? Can the person differentiate between work and life stress? What does the person say about the influence of one on the other? How stressed does the person feel, from the perspective of work-related? What kinds of formal training and/or education has the practitioner had in understanding and dealing with stress? Specifically, does engaging in dark humor with coworkers play a part in reducing stress? Does workplace humor contribute to the participant’s stress?

• **Connective Thought and Reflection** = What did the person tell you that clearly connected with things we have discussed or that you have read in this course? What connects with what you already thought? What surprised you? What was most interesting about the interview?

**Course Calendar**
A Course Calendar is a part of this syllabus.

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)
Course Calendar

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*The Final Examination will be given from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 a.m., Thursday, May 12th.*

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