



Law Enforcement: Environment and Practice (CRIJ 5332.060)

Term: Fall 2026

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursdays from 9am-11am,
and by appointment

Course Dates: Aug 24, 2026 - Dec 11, 2026

Course Times: Online

Classroom: n/a

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use:

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, AI is encouraged during the course, and appropriate acknowledgement is expected. Therefore, you can use AI programs (ChatGPT, Copilot, etc.) in this course. These programs can be powerful tools for learning and other productive pursuits, including completing assignments in less time, helping you generate new ideas, or serving as a personalized learning tool. However, your ethical responsibilities as a student remain the same. You must follow UT Tyler's Honor Code and uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. This applies to all uncited or improperly cited content, whether created by a human or in collaboration with an AI tool. If you use an AI tool to develop content for an assignment, you must cite the tool's contribution to your work and also make an acknowledgement of how you used AI (to help develop an outline, locate peer-reviewed sources, etc.).

Course Overview

An advanced examination of policing strategies and programs and their related applications in the larger criminal justice system. Emphasis will be placed on using empirical methods to examine the effectiveness of contemporary policing practices from a variety of theoretical perspectives.

Student Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- Compare and contrast the environment and practices of policing in the U.S. within a global context.
- Summarize areas for police reform to enhance policing in the United States.
- Argue through a literature-based lens the importance of democratic policing in today's society.

Required Textbooks and Readings

- **Primary Textbook:** (All books are available through the library—**No Cost, they are free to you**)
 - Special Topics in Policing: Critical Issues and Global Perspectives, Volume 1 by James F. Albrecht and Garth den Heyer (Editors). ISBN: 978-3-031-56347-8 (eBook)
 - Special Topics in Policing: Critical Issues and Global Perspectives, Volume 2 by James F. Albrecht and Garth den Heyer (Editors). ISBN: 978-3-031-67943-8 (eBook)
 - Special Topics in Policing: Critical Issues and Global Perspectives, Volume 1 by James F. Albrecht and Garth den Heyer (Editors). ISBN: 978-3-031-87817-6 (eBook)
- Total Estimated costs of required course materials: **\$0**

Recommended Resources (Optional):

- Let's keep with "FREE" so use the Purdue OWL when you need APA guidance. Again, it is **free** and easy to navigate. [Purdue OWL](#)

Course Structure

This course is an asynchronous online course which means you can participate anywhere in the world. HOWEVER, there are specific assignments that are due on specific dates. All times are based on Central Time. Please devote your attention to when assignments are due and complete them on or before their due date/time. This is in no way a self-paced course, you are expected to complete readings, engage in course activities, including the submission of various assignments each week.

Tips for Success in this Course

1. **Participate.** I invite you to engage deeply, ask questions, and talk about the course content with your classmates. You can learn a great deal from discussing ideas and perspectives with your peers and professor. Participation can also help you articulate your thoughts and develop critical thinking skills.
2. **Manage your time.** I get it—students usually juggle a lot, and I know you've got commitments beyond this class. Still, doing your best often means carving out enough dedicated time for coursework. Try scheduling specific blocks of time and ensure you have enough room to finish assignments, allowing extra space for any tech issues that might pop up.
3. **Login regularly.** I recommend that you log in to Canvas several times a week to view announcements, discussion posts and replies to your posts.

4. **Do not fall behind.** This class moves at a quick pace and each week builds on the previous class content. If you feel you are starting to fall behind, check in with the instructor as soon as possible so we can troubleshoot together. It will be hard to keep up with the course content if you fall behind in the pre-work or post-work.
5. **Use Canvas notification settings.** Pro tip! Canvas can ensure you receive timely notifications in your email or via text. Be sure to enable notifications to be sent instantly or daily. ([Canvas Notification Guide](#))
6. **Ask for help if needed.** If you are struggling with a course concept, reach out to me and your classmates for support.

Graded Course Requirements Information

Lecture Quizzes

There will be a lecture video every week that introduces the topic for the week and highlights important concepts we will be learning about. Please watch these intently as questions will “pop-up” that you will be required to answer during the video. These are due by Tuesday of the week they are assigned (except for the first week as I provide some leeway due to students sometimes enrolling late). **Please complete the lecture quizzes no later than Tuesdays by 11:59pm.**

Discussion Boards

There will be several discussions during the semester. Each discussion will require you to think and apply the material you learned in your reading. Each discussion board will require you to make a post that is 300 words or greater. You must also use evidence to support your position. This will require you to use the APA documentation style. You must also engage in a discussion. This means making several replies to other students’ posts, along with commenting on any posts to your original posting. All your postings (initial posting and each and every reply require at least one paraphrased reference from the reading in APA, 7th ed. Format). **All initial discussion postings are due by 11:59pm each Thursday and the replies completed by 11:59pm on Saturday.**

Written Assignments (short reflections)

There will be a few reflection papers throughout the semester. These assignments are designed for you to apply the knowledge you have learned or were responsible for learning. You will be graded on formatting, organization, mechanics (grammar, spelling, and punctuation), quality of your analysis, and academic diction. You will be required to become familiar with and use APA formatting for the assignments. (Refer to the assignment that is contained in the weekly folder for the specifics of each assignment). These assignments are also designed to help you improve your writing skills because effective writing is extremely important for the criminal justice student (and professional).

Minimum Assignment Requirements:

1. You must use one-inch margins, Times New Roman with 12 pt font.
2. Double space.
3. Number your pages at the top right of each page.
4. Use APA format.
5. Use headings as this keeps you focused on what you will write about and it also informs the reader what he or she will read. (It is also an APA requirement)
6. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE.
7. Cite credible sources to support your argument.

8. Upload in Canvas using a Word document (.doc or .docx) or a .pdf.

Video Presentations

There will be a few video presentation assignments to demonstrate your public speaking skills. These assignments require you to create a video about your knowledge of the section of the course. The presentation must be short, no longer than 10 minutes. Practice and prepare your presentation. Make the presentation professional in appearance, meaning-be articulate and sitting at a desk---not slouching on a bed or couch---or walking through a park. You could also stand for the presentation. Each presentation will require you to think and apply the material you learned in your reading. **All of these assignments are due no later than 11:59pm on Saturday.**

Infographic

There will be a few assignments where you will create a visually engaging and informative infographic that effectively communicates the week's topic/concept using a videographic (you may use tools such as Canva, Pikochart, Adobe Illustrator, or Powerpoint)---be creative and fun with these assignments! The goal is for you to synthesize information and present it in a way that is accessible to a criminal justice professional audience. The expectation is each submission will be one page only! All of these assignment are due no later than 11:59pm on Saturday. (More specific details will be provided in the Canvas module for the week they are due.)

There will also be an infographic for your **final exam**, but this will be longer than just a one page infographic, maybe a page for each module to demonstrate your knowledge

Preliminary Paper Assignments

There will be three preliminary paper assignments you will complete. These are known as scaffolding assignments as they are intended for you to be continuously working on your paper throughout the semester. Each builds/scaffolds on the last one. There will be a topic paper assignment where you identify a policing topic of interest to you that is a current issue within the policing environment (everyone will have a unique topic. These will be identified by the end of the second week of the semester). Each assignment is detailed in the canvas module for when they are due. **These are due no later than the Saturday by 11:59pm in the week they are due.**

Generally, when writing an academic paper you will not use the same informal type language you use during your daily conversations. Informal, conversational language, will negatively impact your grade.

Semester Paper

Your literature review must be on the same topic you submitted and I approved during the week the Paper Topic assignment was due (see above). This is a topic on a contemporary issue facing policing in the American society.

Details for your paper are below:

1. The paper must be aligned with the topic you had pre-approved by me, which was submitted during week 2 of the semester.
2. You must use one inch margins, Times New Roman with 12 pt font.
3. Use APA formatting standards (title page number your pages at the top right of each page, headings, reference page, etc.).
4. Submit your paper in Canvas. **I will not accept any assignment via email.**
5. A fifteen (15) full page minimum that utilizes at least ten (10) peer-reviewed references. (Your title page and reference pages are not included in the minimum page requirement). Keep in mind the ten (10) peer-

reviewed references are a minimum. Thorough literature reviews have numerous sources that include peer-reviewed (also termed scholarly articles), government documents, and a myriad of other credible sources—so the expectation is for you to have many sources you use as your references.

DO NOT PLAGIARIZE. If you have a question about how to properly cite a source, please see me.

Generally, when writing an academic paper you will not use the same informal type language you use during your daily conversations. Informal, conversational language, will negatively impact your grade.

Final Examination

We will have a final examination, but it will be unique—you must be creative. You will develop an infographic (this one will likely be longer than just one page), but you will demonstrate the major concepts we learned this semester and make it into an advertisement to entice others to want to learn about the concepts we explored. Much more on this during the semester with specific instructions in Canvas.

Late Work and Make-Up Exams:

The general rule is that no assignments will be accepted late! However, I understand that “life happens” and something may arise that precludes your timely submission of an assignment. All I ask is you contact me before (some instances this may not be possible) the assignment is due so we can discuss your situation and determine a mutually agreeable (thus reasonable) time to have your work completed. These instances are exceptions to the rule. Again, the expectation is that no late assignments are accepted.

Attendance Policy:

This is an online course, but it is not a self-paced course. It is your responsibility to remain current. There are specific reading assignments and assessments that you are expected to complete on or before the due date/time. Of course exceptions of an emergency nature arise so please let me know if you cannot make the deadline for a particular assignment or be available for our zoom sessions.

Grading Structure

Assignment	Percentage %
Lecture Quizzes	10%
Discussion Boards	15%
Written Assignments (short reflections)	10%
Infographics	10%
Video Presentations	10%
Preliminary Paper Assignments: Topic (plus the Start Here module activities—quiz and padlet)	2%
Preliminary Paper Assignment: List of Sources in APA format (7 th ed.)	3%
Preliminary Paper Assignment: Draft	10%
Semester Paper	15%
Final Examination	15%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

- A - (90% or higher)
- B - (80 - 89%)
- C - (70 - 79%)
- D - (60 - 69%)
- F - (Below 60%)

University Policies & Student Resources:

University policies and student resources are available on the University website and in Canvas under “Syllabus”. (You may copy or print the following information to include in your syllabus or use the links provided below.)

- [University Policy](#)
- [Student Resources](#)

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates

Note: This is a tentative schedule, and subject to change as necessary – monitor the course 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.

Important to remember: All initial discussion postings are due on Thursdays by 11:59pm with replies/responses due on Saturdays by 11:59pm.

Module 1

The Basics

Week 1
(Aug 24-29)

Policing and Use of Force

Complete the items in the Getting Started Module and Become Familiar with the layout for the course along with Reading Part I in Volume 1 in our book series

Reading: Syllabus and Getting Started Module

Chapters associated with Part I in Volume 1

Assignment: Complete the padlet posting and the comprehension quiz

(located in the Getting Started Module) by 11:59pm on Aug 24.

Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Aug 25.

Discussion Board (DB #1): initial posting due no later than 11:59pm on Thursday, Aug 27 and replies no later than 11:59pm on Aug 29.

Week 2
(Aug 30-Sep 5)

Police Ethics and Corruption

Reading: Chapters associated with Part II in Volume 1

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Sep 1.

Paper Topic is due! Upload by 11:59pm on Sep 5.

DB#2: initial posting due not later than 11:59pm on

Thursday, Sep 3 and replies no later than 11:59pm on Saturday, Sep 5.

Week 3
(Sep 6-12)

Police and Traffic Safety

Reading: Chapters associated with Part III in Volume 1

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Sep 8.

Reflection #1 due not later than 11:59pm on Sep 12.

UT Tyler is closed on Monday September 7 for the Labor Day Holiday

Census Day is September 8th

Week 4
(Sep 13-19)

Police and Community Outreach and Collaboration

Reading: Chapters associated with Part IV in Volume 1

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Sep 15.

Video Presentation #1: posting due no later than 11:59pm on Saturday, Sep 19.

Week 5
(Sep 20-26)

Improving Police Service Delivery

Reading: Chapters associated with Part V in Volume 1

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Sep 22.

List of possible References/Reference Page due no later than 11:59pm on Sep 26.

Module 2

The Age of Terror

Week 6
(Sep 27-Oct 3)

Contemporary Terrorism and Homeland Security Threats

Reading: Chapters associated with Part I in Volume 2

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Sep 29.
Infographic #1 due no later than 11:59pm on Saturday, Oct 3.

Week 7
(Oct 4-10)

Crisis Planning and Management

Reading: Chapters associated with Part II in Volume 2

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Oct 6.
Video Presentation #2: posting due no later than 11:59pm on Saturday, Oct 10.

Week 8
(Oct 11-17)

Counter-Terrorism Strategies

Reading: Chapters associated with Part III in Volume 2

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Oct 13.
Reflection #2 due not later than 11:59pm on Oct 17.

Week 9
(Oct 18-24)

Demonstration and Riot Control

Reading: Chapters associated with Part IV in Volume 2

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Oct 20.
Initial paper/draft is due not later than 11:59pm on Oct 24.

Week 10
(Oct 25-31)

Cumulative and Post-Traumatic Stress

Reading: Chapters associated with Part V in Volume 2

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Oct 27.
DB#3: initial posting due no later than 11:59pm on Thursday, Oct 29
and replies no later than 11:59pm on Saturday, Oct 31.

October 30: last day to withdraw from one or more classes with "W"

Module 3

Leadership

Week 11
(Nov 1-7)

Contemporary Challenges in Policing

Reading: Chapters associated with Part I in Volume 3

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Nov 3.
Video Presentation #3: posting due no later than 11:59pm on Saturday, Nov 7.

Week 12
(Nov 8-14)

Improving Leadership in Police Executive Positions

Reading: Chapters associated with Part II in Volume 3

Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Nov 10.
Infographic #2 due no later than 11:59pm on Saturday, Nov 14.

Week 13 (Nov 15-21)	Leadership Training for Police Patrol Personnel Reading: Chapters associated with Part III in Volume 3 Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Nov 17. Semester paper is due no later than 11:59pm on Nov 21.
Nov 23-27	UT Tyler is Closed for the Thanksgiving holiday
Week 14 (Nov 29-Dec 5)	Enhancing Police-Community Collaboration and Public Trust Reading: Chapters associated with Part IV in Volume 3 Assignment: Complete the lecture quiz by 11:59pm on Dec 1. Look ahead and get started on the final exam.
Week 15 (Dec 7-11)	Finals Week Assignment: <u>Final exam artifact is due no later than 11:59pm on Dec 9 (Wed)</u>

Note: This is a tentative schedule, and subject to change as necessary – monitor the course 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.