

Syllabus  
CJUS 230: The Police Three (3) Credit Hours  
Online

Rush, Dr. Jeffrey P.  
rush@ulm.edu

210 Stubbs  
318.342.1441

Office Hours: M, W: 0900-1000, 1100-1400, T: 0900-1100; 1230-1400 and by appointment (or just come by, I'm there unless I'm not although generally not on Thursdays or Fridays). **Note**: Meetings, official university business and other situations may necessitate a change in or cancellation of office hours.

**Texts**: Dempsey, J.S. and Forst, L. (2007) *Introduction to Policing*, (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

**Recommended**: Johnson, Jr., W. A., Rettig, R. P., Scott G. M. & Garrison, S. M. (2005). *The Criminal Justice Student Writer's Manual* (3rd Ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall. You can (and should) purchase this text from <http://www.amazon.com> or <http://www.barnesandnoble.com>

Coplin, Bill (2003). *10 Things Employers Want You To Learn In College*. Berkeley: Ten Speed Press. This is a great book that identifies the ten basic know how groups, how to improve your skill level in these areas and how to boost your know how score. I heartily recommend it, especially if you are a freshman or sophomore (although its applicable for everyone, regardless of class level). You can (and should) purchase this text from <http://www.amazon.com> or <http://www.barnesandnoble.com> or from Ten Speed press itself <http://www.tenspeed.com/catalog/tenspeed/find.php3?cat=4> .

**Course Objectives**: This course will examine the police – the good, the bad and the ugly. Your active participation in all aspects of this course will assist you in improving your know how score in

- establishing a work ethic,
- communicating verbally and in writing,
- influencing people,
- gathering information, and
- asking and answering the right questions

It is my philosophy that real learning takes place outside the classroom. The purpose of the classroom is to HELP focus on major issues, to assist in the synthesis of knowledge, to engage in constructive criticism, and to interject material not found in the reading assignments.

The burden of becoming educated lies with you. To be successful in this course, you will need to engage in active learning.

### **Grading:**

Your grade for this class will come from the following:

Discussion Forums:	30 points
Jeopardy Quiz:	10 points
MidTerm Experience:	15 points <b>29-27 February 2008</b>
Book Review:	20 points <b>due NLT 2400 23 February 2008</b>
Movie Review:	10 points <b>due NLT 2400 13 April 2008</b>
The Final:	15 points

*Undergraduate mid-term grades will be posted on-line for students to view via Arrow. Mid-term grades indicate a student's status at mid-semester only and do not indicate the final performance outcome of a student*

### Discussion Forums

You must reply to the initial question posed by me. Your response must be substantive in nature and go beyond "good post," "I agree," etc.

### The Jeopardy assignment

Ten questions that reflect current events in the areas of national, international and entertainment, maybe even sports!

### The book review

Is an *analysis* of any of the following books:

Cea, *No Lights, No Siren*

Ferrara, Charles, *Beyond the Badge*

Keegan, *On the Street Doing Life*

Maple, *The Crime Fighter*

Marcou, Dan, *The Calling, The Making of a Veteran Cop* (if you're interested in this one, let me know)

Quinn, Michael, *Walking With The Devil*

These books are readily available at Amazon.com and probably Barnes and Noble.com as well.

Your review is NOT simply a summary of the book. If you absolutely, positively have to summarize the book, you may do so in the first paragraph. The rest of your 500-750 word paper must be an analysis. The **reflective book review** will at the minimum, answer two fundamental questions What is the book trying to do and How well is it doing it? Other questions that need to be addressed include: What contribution, if any, does this book make to the study of criminal justice generally and policing specifically? What is your general assessment of the book? Is it well written? Are the author's conclusions easy to follow? Is his/her argument clear? Would you recommend the book? Why or why not?

### The Movie Review

A 250-500 word analysis of any police themed movie. If you're not sure whether your selection is police themed check with me BEFORE submitting your review.

Feel free to check out <http://townhall.com/BooksMovies/> for really good examples of both book and movie reviews.

### The Mid-Term and Final

Self-explanatory and will be up for at least three days, once they're gone, they're gone.

### **Writing**

All written assignments must be typed, double spaced throughout with standard margins (1.5" on left, 1" at the top, bottom and right) a font of 12 and include pagination. Assignments will be graded using a holistic method (more information can be found on Blackboard). **Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course.** Written assignments must follow an APA style format.

The folder, "Writing," located in course materials has a number of articles that will help you in your writing; you should take the time to check them out.

Whenever in doubt as to writing mechanics, take a look at the journals *Justice Quarterly* or *American Journal of Criminal Justice* and follow that style. Use a recent issue, one published within the past year.

All papers will be submitted and checked by Turnitin. Any paper with 30% or more of the work plagiarized will receive a failing grade. If you don't know how to write without plagiarism or do not know what plagiarism is, then ask for help.

In writing for this class, remember the words of Winston Churchill, "Say what you have to say as clearly as you can and in as few words as possible" (Hayward, 1997: 106). This was Churchill's commandment and should be yours as well.

You should also keep these words from Robert Ringer in mind as you write for this class: "Simplicity is crucial. I learned this gem from William Strunk's timeless little classic *The Elements of Style*. This book has been around for decades, and everything in it holds true today, especially the little jewel that follows:

'Vigorous writing is concise. A sentence should contain no unnecessary words, a paragraph no unnecessary sentences, for the same reason that a drawing should have no unnecessary lines and a machine no unnecessary parts. This requires not that the writer make all his sentences short, or that he avoid all detail and treat his subjects only in outline, but that every word tell.'

Simplicity is a crucial aspect of quality writing. I often remind would-be writers that the power of the understatement is enormous. I'm always amazed by how many extraneous words and sentences people leave in their finished literary offerings - from books to e-mails. Extraneous words and sentences can actually detract from a writer's main point."

### **Submissions**

You are expected to have a working knowledge and capability with your computer before entering this class.

Please remember to save all files in the Office 2003 format in either .doc or .rtf so that I can open them up. Files can be saved to the old format by choosing the "Save As" menu choice after clicking on the Microsoft Office button (the one in the upper left corner with the multicolored-squares logo on it) and selecting "Office 97/2003

Document" format. Click on the "Save" button to complete the operation. If I can't open it, I can't grade it, and if I can't grade it...well, you know.

Please submit all papers and materials through the appropriate location on Moodle. If the section does not appear, it probably means you are late with your assignment. **NOTE 2: any assignment submitted anywhere other than it's section – without instructor approval – will not be graded.**

All submissions must have your name in the header of the document and in the file name as well. Please add the appropriate extension to the file name before submitting. The attachments **must** be in one of the following formats: .doc or .rtf and submitted in the following manner: [last name][course number][assignment].[extension - .doc, .rtf, .txt] For example: Yourlastname230bookrev.doc

#### Late Policy

All papers are due by the beginning of class. Papers submitted by 1200 the next day will receive a five percent reduction

A ten percent deduction will be taken for each day late thereafter. After four days, the assignment WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED! Each day starts at 1201.

***All papers will be submitted to turnitin.com and any paper with a 30% or higher comparison rate will receive a grade of F and will not be allowed a do over.***

**REMEMBER:** Computers are strange animals, and things don't always work out the way they are supposed to, so be redundant. *Individual problems will be dealt with individually and at the discretion of the instructor.* Remember also, that a failure to plan on your part *does not* constitute an emergency on my part. **Computer and printer problems are not accepted as vital excuses** as there are computer labs all across campus.

You have plenty of time for each assignment; therefore **NO ASSIGNMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED LATE.** Individual problems will be dealt with individually.

#### **Important dates:**

4-6 February	Mardis Gras Holidays
11-15 March	ACJS
22-28 March	Spring Holidays
2 May	Last day of classes

**Reminders:** The **Academy of Criminal Justice Science's** annual meeting is 11-15 March 2008 in Cincinnati, OH. If you are interested in attending, please talk with your parents, significant other or whoever must grant permission and/or help fund the trip and let me know. Links to their site are also under external links on Moodle.

The **Southern Criminal Justice Association** will be meeting in Nawlins in September 2008. If you'd like to participate in that meeting, again please talk with your

parents, significant other or whoever must grant permission and/or help fund the trip and let me know. Links to this site are also on Moodle.

**Notice:** This syllabus does not constitute a contract. It is possible that I will make changes to fit changing circumstances. If there are modifications, students are responsible for updated information.