CJC 690 (800) - Independent Study

CRN: 38964, 3 Credits

Online/Hybrid, Asynchronous

Contact Information

Professor: Dr. Indigo Koslicki

Email: wkoslicki@bsu.edu

Office: North Quad M284

Office Phone: (765) 285-5125

Office Hours: As arranged

Course Goals and Description

This course serves as an independent study. The course focus will be instructor driven; however, it must, in meaningful ways, address a relevant topical area and provide students with meaningful research related experiences. Topics may vary directly based on the research of regular faculty and what assisting duties might be available to students.

Prerequisites

Admitted MPA-CJC student or CJC Graduate Certificate student, or by permission of department chairperson.

Course Objectives

This course is specially intended to address at least one of the following program outcomes based on the approach taken and instructor expertise;

1. Describe or explain how context (e.g., social, political, cultural, theoretical frameworks, and study designs) influences the usefulness and interpretation of CJC information.
2. Describe or explain the responsibilities of CJC students to conduct themselves in ways that reflect professional attitudes, values, and beliefs as they interact with peers, CJ professionals/educators, family members, and members of the community.

3. Conduct research (qualitative and quantitative), interpret findings, and reveal implications of research findings as they related to crime and criminal justice.
4. Integrate CJC information with social, political, economic, etc. data to develop knowledge of and insights into crime and justice-related issues.
5. Evaluate competing hypotheses related to crime and crime control by using multiple and diverse sources of information such as the UCR; NIBRS; NCVS; annual censuses of jails, prisons and detention centers; DUF; Gallop; and students collecting their own data.
6. Describe or explain the strengths and weaknesses of arguments and actions related to such things as criminal justice policy, theoretical development and application, and court decisions

Course Learning Outcomes

Assignments in this course will be used to evaluate the following CJC Department learning outcome (SLO):

- Analyze data to reveal existing patterns of information related to the criminal justice system/criminology

Course Content

The course content will be driven by the theme selected by the instructor. For this independent study, it will relate to drug policy. All readings address the major themes of this course.

Course Modality

This course is asynchronous and online/hybrid. This means that work can be done at any point in the week and while not on campus, with virtual and in-person meetings as needed and arranged between student and professor.

Required Text

There are no required texts for this course, but four highly recommended texts, made available through the course Reading List. All are available at the Ball State Library.

Hinton, E. (2016). *From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime: The Making of Mass Incarceration in America.* Harvard University Press.

Lassiter, M. D. (2023). *The Suburban Crisis: White America and the War on Drugs*. Princeton University Press.

Hansen, H., Netherland, J., and Herzbert, D. (2023). *Whiteout: How Racial Capitalism Changed the Color of Opioids in America.* University of California Press.

Reinarman, C., and Levine, H. G. (1997). *Crack in America: Demon Drugs and Social Justice*. University of California Press.

Course Work

The required work in this course will take the form of a research project, with sections and drafts scaffolded as discussed/arranged based on meetings between the student and professor.

Grading Scheme

Grading will be based on a contract between the student and professor (contract grading scheme). This will be discussed and established on the first meeting.

Instructor Interaction

If you have specific questions about the course or content, please email me for the quickest reply. I check my email throughout the day, though **emails sent after 5 PM or on weekends will more than likely be answered the next business day.** Be sure to use only your @bsu.edu email or Canvas to contact me. Be sure to also read through this syllabus (and the FAQs in the Course Resources Module) before emailing to ensure that your question hasn't been answered here or in the FAQs first. **I will not answer emails that are sent from a non-BSU account, can be answered by the syllabus/LMS, or are rude/hostile.**

Please verify that your Canvas settings are such that emails sent through Canvas will also appear in your Outlook inbox. It is your responsibility to check your Outlook email account and Canvas inbox and announcements regularly to keep up to date.

University Statement

We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome, through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse.

Academic Ethics and Plagiarism Policy

You are responsible for upholding the academic integrity of this course. Students are responsible for reviewing the BSU Student Academic Ethics Policy. Those who cheat, fabricate assignments, or plagiarize will receive no credit for this course and be referred to the appropriate BSU authorities, and are subject to university action. Infractions include the activities contained in the official BSU policies and the academic misconduct and plagiarism lists below.

Failure to cite sources appropriately is plagiarism, a serious academic offense. Plagiarized work will not be accepted. The departmental-preferred consequence for plagiarism/cheating is for the student to receive an F in the course. Additionally, the student will be forwarded to the Office of Student Conduct for possible further action. Students should review the Code of Students Rights and Responsibilities, Section 4.2.1.

What is Academic Misconduct?

- Copying another student's work, with or without rephrasing
- Asking/looking at another student's exam OR allowing another student to look at your exam
- Asking a student who has already taken the exam the contents of the exam
- Completing in-class work for a missing student and turning it in along with yours
- Downloading or uploading materials to/from a paid study resource webpages or free trial

What is Plagiarism?

- Having someone else write the paper/assignment for you
- Buying or downloading the paper/assignment from the internet or another person
- Using any sources without citing properly
- Writing a passage verbatim without using quotes/author citations and page number
- Giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation or citation
- Copying/pasting passages from ANY source (including the books/articles from this class) and changing a few words
- Turning in a paper/assignment you wrote for another class
- Using a paper/assignment someone else wrote for this class
- Using artificial intelligence ("AI") to generate any portion of an assignment

More on Generative AI

All work conducted and/or submitted in this course must be your own, completed in accordance with Ball State University's Student Academic Ethics Policy. You may not make use of ChatGPT or any other generative AI applications at any time to develop materials submitted in this course. If you use applications that have built-in AI features (e.g., Grammarly, Canva, OneNote, Evernote, Google docs), you may use brief text predictions/suggestions but not any organizing, summarizing, outlining, or draft creation tools.

Students with Disabilities

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact me as soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services Office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any

accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu.

Title IX

Ball State University is committed to providing a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual harassment - including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking - please know that you are not alone. The University offers support services and resources. For more information or to report an incident, please visit the Title IX website or contact the Title IX Coordinator at 765-285-1545 or at titleix@bsu.edu.

As your professor, I am a mandatory reporter under the Title IX policy and am required to report any information I receive about possible sexual harassment. This includes information shared in class discussions, assignments, or private conversations.

What happens after I report? The Title IX Coordinator will email the person who experienced sexual harassment (the complainant) and invite them to a scheduled meeting. If the complainant ***chooses*** to meet with the Title IX Coordinator:

- The Title IX Coordinator will offer supportive measures (e.g., counseling, extensions on deadlines, course-related adjustments, changes to work or class schedules, and/or referrals to campus offices), review the policy, and discuss options to move forward.
- If a complaint is filed by the complainant or the University, an investigation will begin following University policy.

Mental Health and Wellness

If you find yourself overwhelmed about any life stress, please know that you are not alone and should never have to deal with these things alone. The Ball State University Counseling Center offers free and confidential services to all students. The Counseling Center is located in Lucina Hall, Room 320. To schedule an appointment, you can contact us at 765-285-1736. Ball State also offers a 24/7 Crisis Line, which can be reached at 765-285-HOPE (4673). The Crisis Line is a mental health resource for those who are struggling with any mental health concerns, including thoughts of self-harm and/or suicide.

If you need help right away, please text TALK or HOME to 741741 to speak to a free 24/7 crisis counselor for any crisis or struggle.

Campus Safety

You can sign up for campus safety alerts and access campus safety resources online here. In case of an emergency on campus, call 911 or contact the Ball State University Police at 765-285-1111.