Welcome to CJUS 3300: Police Systems. I look forward to having you in this class.

Professor Contact Information

- Eric J. Fritsch, Ph.D.
- Office: Chilton Hall, Room 265 (Department of Criminal Justice)
- Office phone: 940-565-4954
- Email contact: fritsch@unt.edu
- Office hours: By appointment

Teaching Assistant Contact Information

- Tyler Dellinger
- Email contact: tylerdellinger@my.unt.edu

Course Description

*Undergraduate Catalog Course Description:* This course focuses on the role and function of police in contemporary society, the problems arising between citizens and police from the enforcement of laws, the limitations of police in a democratic society and the methodologies used by the police to be a more effective component of the justice system.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize the role of law enforcement and challenges of policing a free society
- Identify the major eras of policing and the influence each era has had on police organization and operations
- Compare and contrast the characteristics and structure of modern police agencies
• Recognize the fundamental aspects of police work including (1) police recruitment, selection, and training, (2) police patrol, (3) crime detection and investigation, (4) police discretion and its control, and (5) the law of search, seizure, and self-incrimination

• Describe the hazards of police work including stress, use of force, misconduct, and corruption

• Identify the characteristics of modern policing strategies including community-oriented policing, problem-oriented policing, intelligence-led policing, and evidence-based policing

• Assess contemporary and future police technologies

**Required Text**


This text is required for all students enrolled in the class and is the only required text for the course. Reading assignments are noted in the Course Schedule at the end of this syllabus.

**Course Requirements**

There are a total of 480 points that students can earn in this class: 4 exams (100 points each, for a total of 400 points) and 4 discussion boards (20 points each, for a total of 80 points). The grading scale and descriptions of the assessment measures are described below.

**Grading Scale**

432 – 480 points = A  
384 – 431 points = B  
336 – 383 points = C  
288 – 335 points = D  
Below 288 points = F

*I do not offer extra credit in this course.*

**PLEASE NOTE:** *I DO NOT DEVIATE FROM THE ABOVE GRADING SCALE EVEN IF YOU ARE ONLY ONE POINT AWAY FROM THE NEXT LETTER GRADE.*
Exams (400 points total)

There will be 4 exams for this class. The exams are designed to assess the knowledge that each of you has individually learned regarding the course materials. Therefore, I expect your exam responses to reflect your own individual and independent knowledge and work, without assistance from any other person. The exams themselves should not be copied or duplicated by you or anyone else for any purpose whatsoever. The university rules concerning academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. Each multiple choice question is worth 2 points. Thus, each exam is worth 100 points. Exam questions are taken from the course textbook, course notes, and lecture/course topics discussed during course sessions.

Students who do not complete an exam when issued will receive a zero for the exam. There will generally be no make-up exams. Students with absences that are authorized pursuant to university policy 06.039 Student Attendance and Authorized Absences, should contact me and provide documentation prior to any exam in order for such absence to receive any consideration.

Exam grades will be available during the next class period after the exam. Exam grades will also be posted in the Canvas gradebook.

Discussion Boards (80 points total)

Four of the chapters have an accompanying discussion board as reflected in the Course Schedule at the end of the syllabus.

These discussion boards are included in Canvas under Modules and should be submitted there.

Grading rubrics are utilized for the discussion boards so students can identify how their discussion posts will be graded.

Your discussions will be graded on depth of explanation, utilization of outside sources (if applicable), specific efforts to back up your arguments with logical points and sources, grammar and spelling, and adhering to the assignment requirements. In order to receive full credit you must post an original response and respond to at least 1 other students’ post. Note that you will NOT be able to see any other students’ posts until you have first posted a thread yourself.

Each discussion submission should be thorough and well-written and at least three paragraphs in length. The discussion boards will ask you to provide your own posting and respond to the posting of at least 1 other student. Responses to other students should be at least one paragraph long. There will be a total of 4 discussion board assignments. Each will be worth a maximum of 20 points – up to 15 points for your
posting and up to 5 points for your response to another student’s posting. The discussions boards will close at the time indicated on the Course Schedule at the end of this syllabus.

Because students have an extended period of time to complete discussion boards, late discussion boards will generally not be accepted. A zero will be awarded for any work that is not turned in during the scheduled time period. Students with absences that are authorized pursuant to university policy 06.039 Student Attendance and Authorized Absences and that impact the timeliness of their work (for example, by covering the entire time period during which a discussion board could be done), should contact me and provide documentation prior to the due date in order for such absence to receive any consideration.

Individual technical or technological difficulties in completing a discussion in a timely manner (e.g., computer crashes or viruses or interrupted internet connections) do not constitute a basis to request the submission of a late discussion. To avoid such issues, I encourage you to not wait until the final available hours or minutes to complete assigned coursework and/or complete discussions in a UNT computer lab. It is also recommended that you submit assigned work through a supported web browser on a computer or laptop rather than an iPad or other electronic device and that you avoid using wireless internet connections.

Discussion post grades will be available within 7 business days after the applicable discussion post period closes.

General Class Policies

Communication:

For email communication, use my unt.edu email address: fritsch@unt.edu. You should use your UNT email account for all email communications with me. My phone number is 940-565-4954. If you leave a voicemail, please clearly identify yourself and leave a return phone number where I can reach you. I will return emails and voicemails within 48 hours during Monday-Friday. If you do not receive a response from me during that period, assume that I did not receive your communication and contact me again. You are, of course, also welcome to communicate with me in person in Chilton Hall 265 by appointment.

If you are having technical or technological issues regarding the discussion boards on Canvas, your first communication should be with the help desk at helpdesk@unt.edu or 940-565-2324. The technicians there have the expertise to help you resolve your issues.

Attendance:

Research has shown that students who attend class are more likely to be successful. You should attend every class unless you have a university excused absence such as active military service, a religious holy
day, or an official university function as stated in the Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy available at [https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039)

*Classroom Behavior:*

I value the many perspectives students bring to this course. Please work with me to create a classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. All discussions should be respectful and civil. Although disagreements and debates are encouraged, personal attacks are unacceptable. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please let me know. We are all learning together.

Student behavior that interferes with my ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and I may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classrooms and discussion groups. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/conduct](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/conduct)

*Syllabus Change:*

I reserve the right and have the discretion to change this syllabus. While every effort will be made to follow this syllabus as closely as possible, it is sometimes the case that it must be modified. In the case that it needs to be adjusted, I will announce such adjustments to the class. I will make every effort to ensure that any changes to the syllabus benefit the class as a whole. It is the student’s responsibility to check course emails so that any and all changes are documented. Failure to obtain syllabus changes because of failure to check and read course emails does not constitute a basis for a missed applicable change.

*Posting of Grades:*

Students can access their grades via the *Grades* tab on the course page in Canvas.

*Academic Dishonesty:*

The university rules (UNT Policy 06.003 available at [https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003)) concerning cheating and plagiarism will be strictly enforced. *Your work on exams and discussion boards should be your own individual and independent work. These are not group projects. You should not consult other persons when completing exams or discussion boards.*
Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties:

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a discussion board assignment, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation.

SPOT (Student Perceptions of Teaching):

You will have the opportunity to complete the SPOT survey at the end of the semester and share your thoughts about the course. I value the feedback that I receive from the SPOT survey and strongly encourage you to participate by completing the survey in this class and all of your classes.

ADA Statement:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet (i.e., electronically, phone, or in person) with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information, see the Office of Disability Access website at https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Intellectual Property Statement:

The material posted online and utilized for this course is my personal intellectual property or that of the university. You may not use this material for anything other than class purposes.

Emergency Notification & Procedures:

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Readings, Discussions, Exams</th>
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| **Week 1** | Monday August 29, 2022 • Course Introduction  
• Read and Review *Course Information* Module in Canvas |
| **Week 2** | Monday September 5, 2022 • *Chapter 1: An Introduction to the Police in America* in textbook |
| **Week 3** | Monday September 12, 2022 • *Chapter 2: The History of the Police in America* in textbook    |
| **Week 4** | Monday September 19, 2022 • *Chapter 3: The Characteristics and Structure of Police Organizations* in textbook  
• **Exam 1 – Thursday September 22 (Chapters 1-3)** |
<p>| <strong>Week 5</strong> | Monday September 26, 2022 • <em>Chapter 4: The Role of the Police</em> in textbook                 |
|            | • <strong>Complete Discussion 1 in Canvas by Friday, September 30 at 5:00PM</strong> (opens at 8AM on Monday September 26th) |
| <strong>Week 6</strong> | Monday October 3, 2022 • <em>Chapter 5: Police Recruitment, Selection, and Training</em> in textbook |
| <strong>Week 7</strong> | Monday October 10, 2022 • <em>Chapter 6: Police Patrol</em> in textbook                           |
|            | • <strong>Complete Discussion 2 in Canvas by Friday, October 14 at 5:00PM</strong> (opens at 8AM on Monday October 10th) |
| <strong>Week 8</strong> | Monday October 17, 2022 • <em>Chapter 7: Crime Detection and Investigation</em> in textbook       |
|            | • <strong>Exam 2 – Thursday October 20 (Chapters 4-7)</strong>                                           |
| <strong>Week 9</strong> | Monday October 24, 2022 • <em>Chapter 8: Police Discretion and Its Control</em> in Textbook      |
|            | • <strong>Complete Discussion 3 in Canvas by Friday, October 28 at 5:00PM</strong> (opens at 8AM on Monday October 24th) |</p>
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<th><strong>Week 10</strong></th>
<th>Monday October 31, 2022</th>
<th>• <em>Chapter 9: The Law of Search, Seizure, and Self-Incrimination</em> in textbook</th>
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<td><strong>Week 11</strong></td>
<td>Monday November 7, 2022</td>
<td>• <em>Chapter 10: Health and Safety Issues in Police Work</em> in textbook</td>
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<td>• <strong>Exam 3 – Thursday November 10 (Chapters 8-10)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Week 12</strong></td>
<td>Monday November 14, 2022</td>
<td>• <em>Chapter 11: Police Use of Force</em> in textbook</td>
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<td>• <strong>Complete Discussion 4 in Canvas by Friday, November 18 at 5:00PM</strong> (opens at 8AM on Monday November 14th)</td>
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<td><strong>Week 13</strong></td>
<td>Monday November 21, 2022</td>
<td>• <em>Chapter 12: Police Misconduct and Corruption</em> in Textbook</td>
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<td>• <strong>NO CLASS – THURSDAY NOVEMBER 24 – THANKSGIVING BREAK</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Week 14</strong></td>
<td>Monday November 28, 2022</td>
<td>• <em>Chapter 13: Community and Problem-Oriented Policing</em> in textbook</td>
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<td>• <em>Chapter 14: Evidence-Based and Intelligence-Led Policing</em> in textbook</td>
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<td><strong>Week 15</strong></td>
<td>Monday December 5, 2022</td>
<td>• Tuesday December 6– Finish Chapter 14</td>
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<td>• Thursday December 8 – Review for final exam</td>
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<td><strong>Week 16</strong></td>
<td>Monday December 12, 2022</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam – Thursday December 15 from 8:00AM-10:00AM (Chapters 11-14) in our Sage 230 classroom</strong></td>
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