# Student Police Academy CJUS 4720

## Instructor Information

Instructor: Emmitt Jackson

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### Course Description, Structure, and Objectives

Students will learn from and engage in open and honest discussion with officers about how and why police perform their duties. Students will gain preparation for a potential police career by taking part in simulated police activities and participating in a mock hiring board. Topics covered include police recruiting/hiring, the life of a police officer, mental health issues, use of force, search and seizure, and de-escalation of encounters.

This course will be held face-to-face, on-campus in Chilton Hall, Room 270. Students must complete the required application, interview, and be approved by the Argyle Police Department prior to participating.

Course Objectives:

1. To provide a setting for students to understand current issues in policing.
2. To create an environment that will facilitate the honest exchange of ideas in a constructive dialogue.
3. To create a dialogue between students interested in law enforcement and Argyle police officers.
4. To prepare students for a career in law enforcement.
5. To educate students about best practices in policing.

## Required/Recommended Materials

Required Materials: This course does not have a required textbook and all materials will be provided by the instructor(s).

## How to Succeed in this Course

It is imperative that students attend class sessions. Much of this course involves experiential learning (i.e., learning by doing) and, as such, attending class is essential. Please also connect with me and your other instructors through email. During busy times, my inbox becomes rather full, so if you contact me and do not receive a response within two business days, please send a follow up email.

ADA Policy:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable 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 a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable 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 reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access) website (http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Students can connect with the [Office of Disability Access](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access) to begin the registering process (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access).

## Supporting Your Success and Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment

I value the many perspectives students bring to our university. 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 and will not be tolerated. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please contact me and let me know. We are all learning together.

## Assessing Your Work

This course is made up of a series of assignments to assist you in achieving the course learning objectives. There is a total of 550 points that can be earned in this class. The grading policy along with the assignment details are presented below:

A = 495-550

B = 440-494

C = 385-439

D = 330-384

F = 383 or less

| ***Assignment*** | ***Points Possible*** |
| --- | --- |
| ***Participation*** | *150 points* |
| ***Reflection Papers*** | *150 points* |
| ***Weekly Quizzes*** | *100 points* |
| ***Classroom Topic Report*** | *100 points* |
| ***Police Career Impressions*** | *50 points* |
|  |  |
| ***Total Points Possible*** | *550 points* |

## Course Requirements/Schedule

**Participation (150 points)**

The course is specifically designed to make the most of the time we spend together as a class. Active participation is key to this process. We will be discussing various topics relevant to modern policing. Some of these topics may be controversial in nature. All of us are expected to engage in honest, open discussion on these topics. The course requires the active, rather than passive, participation of all of us. For this experience to be the real educational opportunity that it is meant to be, we each must take responsibility for the direction and depth of the discussion. As such, students are expected to attend **every class**. Attendance/participation will be worth 150 points of your final grade. The instructor will only make accommodations for missed assignments for students under **exceptional circumstances.**

**Reflection Papers (150 points)**

Throughout the course of the semester, you will be asked to write 6 reflection papers, but your lowest score will be dropped, for a total of 5 required papers. Each reflection paper is worth 30 points, for a total of 150 points. These reflection papers will be based on the topic discussed each week and will be due as listed on the syllabus. Reflection papers should be approximately 3 pages in length.

**Weekly Quizzes (100 points)**

To ensure that course material is being understood each week, there will be a total of 10 quizzes covering previously covered subjects. Each quiz is worth 10 points, for a total of 100 points.

**Classroom Topic Report (100 points)**

At the conclusion of each class day, one student will be assigned to research a topic related to the material covered in that day’s presentation. The classroom topic report will be due at the beginning of the next day of class and must be a minimum of 3 pages in length, not including a citation page. This assignment is worth a total of 100 points.

**Police Career Impressions (50 points)**

Following the first day of class, students will be asked to write a brief response to the prompt “What do you believe a career in policing is like? What do you believe police officers do in the course of their duties and what challenges do you think they face?”. Then, at the conclusion of the course, students will be asked to respond to the same prompt. These written responses will be worth 50 points.

**Closing Ceremony**

The class will culminate in a closing ceremony. We will discuss the details of the closing ceremony later in the semester.

## Course Policies

### Attendance and Participation

Because we only meet once a week, every class meeting is essential to your success. To be respectful of the facility staff, students must be punctual and show up prior to class time. **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 (PDF)**](https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.039_StudAttnandAuthAbsence.Pub2_.19.pdf)**. If you cannot attend a class due to an emergency, please let me know. Your safety and well-being are important to me.**

**There is absolutely no make-up for assignments turned in late unless authorized because of university related absence or through prior consultation and approval by me.** Make-up assignments because of authorized absences must be turned in **on or before the next class day.** I strongly recommend *not* waiting until the last day to complete an assignment in case this occurs.

### Syllabus Change Policy

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. It is the student’s responsibility to check announcements/email so that all changes are documented. Failure to obtain syllabus changes because of failure to check and read announcements/email does not constitute a defense against a missed Reading, test date, or other applicable changes.

### Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to [UNT Policy 06.003,](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003) Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

### Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

### 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). Students will be notified by [Eagle Alert](https://www.unt.edu/eaglealert) if there is a campus closing that will impact a class and the course calendar.

### Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

### Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT’s Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cjdl0126%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CTemp%5COneNote%5C16.0%5CNT%5C0%5CSurvivorAdvocate%40unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at [oeo@unt.edu](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cjdl0126%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CTemp%5COneNote%5C16.0%5CNT%5C0%5Coeo%40unt.edu) or at (940) 565 2759.

## Academic Support & Student Services

### Student Support Services

#### Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

* [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
* [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
* [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
* [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)

#### Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

* [UNT Records](https://registrar.unt.edu/transcripts-and-records/update-your-personal-information)
* [UNT ID Card](https://sfs.unt.edu/idcards)
* [UNT Email Address](https://sso.unt.edu/idp/profile/SAML2/Redirect/SSO;jsessionid=E4DCA43DF85E3B74B3E496CAB99D8FC6?execution=e1s1)
* [Legal Name](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)

*\*UNT euIDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.*

#### Additional Student Support Services

* [Registrar](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cjdl0126%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CTemp%5COneNote%5C16.0%5CNT%5C0%5CRegistrar) (https://registrar.unt.edu/registration)
* [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
* [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)
* [Career Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center)
* [Multicultural Center](https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center) (https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center)
* [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
* [Pride Alliance](https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance) (https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)
* [UNT Food Pantry](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry) (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry)

### Academic Support Services

* [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources) (https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources)
* [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (https://success.unt.edu/asc)
* [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (https://library.unt.edu/)
* [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)

## Course Schedule, Readings, and Assignments

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| --- | --- |
| **WEEK/DATE** | **TOPIC, READING ASSIGNMENTS, AND DUE DATES\*\*subject to change\*\*** |
| 1 - Aug 19 | **Topic: Traffic Stops/Police Encounters**  |
| 2 – Aug 26 | **Topic: Property/Evidence/Crime Scene Investigation***Quiz #1**Police Career Impressions #1 Due* |
| 3 – Sep 2 | **Topic: Patrol Operations/The Life of a Police Officer***Reflection Paper #1 Due**Quiz #2* |
| 4 – Sep 9 | **Topic: Force Options/De-Escalation***Quiz #3* |
| 5 – Sep 16 | **Topic: Recruiting/Hiring***Reflection Paper #2 Due**Quiz #4* |
| 6 – Sep 23 | **Topic: Major Crimes Investigation***Quiz #5* |
| 7 – Sep 30 | **Topic: Arrest, Search, and Seizure***Reflection Paper #3 Due**Quiz #6* |
| 8 – Oct 7 | **Topic: Covert Operations/Inter-Agency Operations** |
| 9 – Oct 14 | **Topic: Force Options Demo/Video Case Studies***Reflection Paper #4 Due**Quiz #7* |
| 10 – Oct 21 | **Topic: Mental Health Issues/Video Case Studies***Quiz #8* |
| 11 – Oct 28 | **Topic: Diversity Issues in Law Enforcement***Reflection Paper #5 Due**Quiz #9* |
| 12 – Nov 4 | **Topic: Civil Process***Quiz #10* |
| 13 – Nov 11 | **Topic: Mock Interview Boards***Reflection Paper #6 Due**Police Career Impressions #2 Due* |
| 14 – Nov 18 | **Topic: Live Scenarios – Mock Traffic Stops** |
| 15 – Dec 2 | **Topic: Live Scenarios – Mock Calls for Service**  |
| 16 – Dec 9 | **Topic: Student Police Academy Graduation** |