

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

CJ 4883 Current Police Policies

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisites: CJ 2313 Correctional Systems and Practices, CJ 2373 Police Systems and Practices, and one of the following: ENGL 1213 Composition II, or RHET 2863 Advanced Composition

Effective Catalog: 2018-2019

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Analysis of police policies with particular attention to the current major problem areas from the point of view of both the administrator and the line operations officer. Integration of established scientific knowledge with practical police experience in the various areas of police functioning.

B. Additional Information - None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Identify possible, probable, and preferable future outcomes for policy development.
2. Compare and contrast some of the current and future challenges in police organizations.
3. Interpret the blurring of jurisdictional boundaries in today's society.
4. Compare and describe differences between managers and leaders.
5. Examine how social networking can benefit or challenge law enforcement agencies.
6. Assess how police departments may become more flexible and adaptive to a rapidly changing environment.
7. Discuss future policy topics for law enforcement agencies to address.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will identify police policies related to problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will use essay format for written presentation of research projects and discuss particular aspects of various topics in a seminar setting.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will examine ethical dilemmas within police policies and develop ethical frameworks to resolve specific ethical issues.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Factors affecting contemporary police policy and operations
- B. Use of research and futures-oriented thinking in policy development
- C. Future trends of globalization, technology, changing demographics, economics, political climates and their effect on police policies
- D. Challenges of changing jurisdictional boundaries on policy
- E. Police personnel; culture, hiring and development
- F. Today's policies shape future police operations