

Instructor: Dr. Stephanie Hilwig
Course: Sociology 346 Criminal Justice
Time: TTh 9:30 – 10:45 **Room:** MCD 310
Office Hours: MWF 1:00 – 2:00
TTH 11:00 – 12:00 or by appointment
Office: MCD 382
E-mail: stephaniehilwig@adams.edu
Website: blogs.adams.edu/stephanie-hilwig

Prerequisites for Criminology Internship:

Soc 201

Soc 245

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Criminal Justice: The Essentials 4th Edition by Steven P. Lab, Marian R. Williams et al. 2013. Oxford University Press.

Wrongful Conviction: From Prevention to the Reversal of Justice by John A. Humphrey and Kaitlyn M. Clarke. 2018. Thomas Publisher

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This class will address the criminal justice system that has evolved and been put in place to address the complex and multifaceted problems of crime. In this course, we will examine agencies of justice and the procedures they use to identify and treat criminal offenders. We will examine the police, courts, and corrections as the primary components of the criminal justice system, discussing where the system works and where it does not. We will also discuss the constitution and the law and how it pertains to the operation of the criminal justice system. Finally, we will discuss the juvenile justice system and its relationship to the adult justice system.

FORMAT OF THE COURSE

1. This course will include a great deal of interesting and thought-provoking, informative, and discussion provoking reading. There will also be a good deal of writing conducted both in and out of class in response to the readings.
2. The class format will include a mixture of lectures, discussions, and films. We will also have as many guest speakers as possible to help explain the real on-the-job experience for many people working in the field of criminal justice. The more active the class, the better experience everyone will have, and consequently the more we will learn.
3. Because the class will be filled with in-class writing assignments (or quizzes), discussions, and lectures, attending class is vital to your success in this class. If

you must miss a class, it is your responsibility to get class notes and information from other students in the class. I suggest you get to know people your very first day. Get e-mails and phone numbers.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Quizzes: (35% of grade)

You will take 6 quizzes this semester covering material from the readings and lectures. I will drop your lowest quiz grade. Make up quizzes will only be allowed when I am given warning before the quiz is administered. The five quizzes that will count towards your grade will constitute 35% of your grade this semester, so please be well prepared.

Essays: (20% of grade)

A good portion of what you will do in this class is designed to encourage you to make the most out of the material from the readings, lectures, and class discussions. A secondary, but just as important goal, is to help with your writing and communication abilities; a useful skill in any occupation. To help facilitate this process, you will each be required to write two papers in response to the readings and course content, each worth 10% of your grade (20% combined).

Each essay should be about 3-4 pages in length and clearly describe the issues, the research surrounding each issue, and what possible solutions could be reasonably implemented

Essay 1 Due Tuesday, Feb 25th “Describe the role of the Bill of Rights in determining both the role of the police and the role of the accused? What constraints must police follow when making arrests and search persons or properties? What protections do defendants have in the system? How are these constitutional protections sometimes violated? Discuss stop and frisk, racial profiling, civil asset forfeiture and police use of force as potential violations of individual rights. How are minority individuals most often the victims of these violations of defendant rights?”

Essay 2 Due Tuesday, March 31st “What are the primary areas in which our Criminal Justice system fails in terms of procedure and evidence? Discuss eyewitness testimony, informants, forensic evidence, and confessions. What are the consequences to people and society?”

Case Analysis:

Periodically throughout the semester, students will work in groups to analyze case histories. Students will be presented with a case, all evidence presented at the trial, and witness information, along with a background of the crime and accused. In groups, students will analyze the case and determine the most logical verdict and explain why.

Argument Persuasion Paper: (20% of grade) due Thursday, April 30th

Each person in the class will be responsible for writing an extensive argument persuasion paper for this course. You will be required to select a topic of interest to you and formulate a

coherent argument surrounding this topic. You will need to provide background information, debunk your opposing side and succinctly support your position with evidence, statistics and research studies. This paper will need to be at least 12 pages in length. Citations and a bibliography will be required for this paper. You will be graded on its thoroughness, organization, clarity, grammar, and references. Approved topics are as follows:

Racial Profiling/Stop and Frisk policies
Death Penalty
Private Prisons
Coercive interrogation tactics and false confessions
Mandatory minimum sentencing and the War on Drugs
Police use of force
The growth of military style policing
Eyewitness testimony and its reliability
Mentally Ill in the Criminal Justice System
Charging and prosecuting juveniles as adults

Bibliography: (5% of grade) due Tuesday, Feb 11th

The argument/persuasion paper should have at least 8 resources in the Bibliography, with no more than three internet sources. If you do use any internet resources, they must be approved by the librarian as legitimate sources. You may not use any .com or .org sites. You must have your bibliography signed off by a librarian verifying the use of at least 6 academic articles.

Annotated Bibliography: (10% of grade) due Tuesday, March 10th

Submit a one paragraph summary of each source gathered from your bibliography. Sources must follow the same rules required in the Bibliography stated above. A total of 8 sources must be summarized, 6 or which are academic articles.

Rough Draft: (10% of grade) due Tuesday, April 14th

All students must complete and turn in a rough draft of the argument/persuasion paper with at least 8 pages of material.

Late Papers: Any paper that is turned in late will receive 5 points deducted for each day it is late, including Saturdays and Sundays. I will not accept late papers beyond 2 weeks late.

Extra Credit: There is one way in which you can earn extra credit.

Writing Lab: For each essay, if you utilize the writing lab you will earn an extra 5 percent increase on each assignment.

Grading: A 90 % and above

B	80 – 89 %
C	70 – 79 %
D	60 – 69 %
F	59 % and below

CELL PHONE POLICY:

Phones, notepads and computers will not be allowed in class. All students must silence them and put them out of sight for the duration of class. You may not leave them on your desk. Cellphones and other media are not only a distraction to you, but they distract my ability to teach and they also distract other students in class who can see your screen.

LEAVING DURING CLASS:

I understand that sometimes students must sometimes leave class, but I ask that if you do, please either let me know ahead of time, or come and apologize and explain why afterwards. Please go to the bathroom between your classes and check your cellphone after class.

Persons with Disabilities:

Adams State University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Adams State University is committed to achieving equal educational opportunities, providing students with documented disabilities access to all university programs, services and activities. In order for this course to be equally accessible to all students, different accommodations or adjustments may need to be implemented. The Office of Accessibility Services (OAS) is located in Richardson Hall 3-100, or available at OAS@adams.edu, and 719-587-7746. They are your primary resource on campus to discuss the qualifying disability, help you develop an accessibility plan, and achieve success in your courses this semester. They may provide you with letters of accommodation, which can be delivered in two ways. You may give them to me in person, or have the Office of Accessibility Services email them. Please make an appointment with their office as early as possible this semester so that we can discuss how potential accommodations can be provided and carried out for this course. If you have already received letters of accommodation for this course from OAS, please provide me with that information privately so that we can review your accommodations together and discuss how best to help you achieve equal access in this course this semester.

Academic Freedom and Responsibility: for courses that do not involve students in research:

Academic freedom is a cornerstone of the University. Within the scope and content of the course as defined by the instructor, it includes the freedom to discuss relevant matters in the classroom. Along with this freedom comes responsibility. Students are encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained and independent search for truth. Students are free to take reasoned exception to the views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.*

Academic Misconduct

Students should abide by all student ethical conduct, especially those rules pertaining to cheating and plagiarism. Plagiarism, cheating, or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be

tolerated in this course. Any student engaging in academic dishonesty in this course can expect a failing grade for the course and formal charges to be brought before the Department Chair.

Student Sexual Misconduct Policy

Our school is committed to fostering a safe, productive learning environment. Title IX and our school policy prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, which regards sexual misconduct — including harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. We understand that sexual violence can undermine students' academic success and we encourage students who have experienced some form of sexual misconduct to talk to someone about their experience, so they can get the support they need.

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I also have a mandatory reporting responsibility related to my role as a responsible employee as designated under Title IX. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct or information about a crime that may have occurred on Adams State University Campus or that may be impacting an ASU student.

Confidential support can be found at the Adams State University Counseling Center located in Richardson Hall 3100 and may be contacted at 719-587-7746. Students may also fill out an anonymous "concern form" at <https://www.adams.edu/students/ccf/>. Crisis support can be found in the San Luis Valley community 24/7 at San Luis Valley Comprehensive Mental Health Center: 719-589-3671 or Tu Casa: 719-589-2465. Tu Casa offers services for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

Alleged violations can be reported to the Adams State University Title IX Office, Director Ana Guevara, at 719-587-8213 or at anaguevara@adams.edu. The ASU Title IX Office is located in the Student Union Building (SUB) room 327. Reports to law enforcement can be made to Adams State University Police Department at #1 Petteys Hall or contacted at 719-587-7901, 911, or 24 hour dispatch at 24 hour dispatch: 719-589-5807 (State Patrol).

COURSE OUTLINE: (Schedule is Tentative and likely to change)

Topic	Readings
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<i>Introduction</i>	
Week 1 – Jan 14th Sequence of Events	<i>Criminal Justice</i> Chp 1
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Week 2 – Jan 21st Criminal Law	<i>Criminal Justice</i> Chp 2
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<i>Police and Investigation</i> Week 3 – Jan 28th The Police Role	<i>Criminal Justice</i> Chp 3 <i>Pgs 51 – 71</i>
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Week 4 – Feb 4th Police Ethics Racial Profiling	<i>Criminal Justice</i> Chp 3 <i>Pages 71 – 80</i>
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<i>Gathering Evidence</i> Week 5 – Feb 11th Mistakes in the System	<i>Wrongful Conviction</i> Chp 1
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<i>Topic and Bibliography due Tuesday, Feb 11th</i>	
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Week 6 – Feb 18th Defense and Prosecution	<i>Wrongful Conviction</i> Chp 4 & 5
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<i>Essay 1 Due Tuesday Feb 25th</i>	
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Week 7 – Feb 25th Week 8 – March 3rd Eyewitness Testimony Interrogation and False Confessions	<i>Wrongful Conviction</i> Chp 2
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Week 9 – March 10th Forensic Evidence	<i>Wrongful Conviction</i> Chp 3
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<i>Annotated Bibliography due Tuesday March 10th</i>	
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Courtroom

Week 10 – March 24th

Court Issues and Sentencing

Criminal Justice Chp 4

Essay 2 Due Tuesday, March 31st

Week 11 – March 31st

The Jury

Wrongful Conviction Chp 6

Week 12 – April 7th

Prisons

Appeals

Criminal Justice Chp 5

Wrongful Conviction Chp 7 & 8

Week 13 – April 14th

The Death Penalty

Rough Draft for Argument/Persuasion paper due Tuesday April 14th

Week 14 – April 21st

Juvenile Justice System

Mock Trial

Criminal Justice Chp 7

Week 15 – April 28th

Juveniles as Adults

Research paper Due Thursday April 30th

FINAL EXAM