



**Department of Sociology and Social Work**  
**INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
**SOC209**  
**3 Units**

**Spring 2017**

<b>Meeting days:</b> Tuesdays	<b>Instructor title and name:</b> Chief (ret.) Timothy L. Dabney, MS
<b>Meeting times:</b> 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	<b>Phone:</b> 805-757-8215
<b>Meeting location:</b> Rohr 109	<b>E-mail:</b> tdabney@pointloma.edu
<b>Additional info:</b>	<b>Office location and hours:</b> Rohr 102 - Tuesdays 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 P.M. & Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
<b>Final Exam:</b> Tuesday, May 2, 2017 7:00 p.m.	<b>Additional info:</b> Students are encouraged to contact me via email or cell phone if experiencing difficulties with the course material or related assignments.

**PLNU Mission**

**To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**Department Mission**

As followers of Christ, our mission is to nurture servant scholars who critically evaluate social and cultural patterns, and constructively engage as agents of hope.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Societies throughout history have devised systems addressing criminal, delinquent and deviant behavior. This course will briefly examine various facets of historical criminal justice systems and the formulation of law within simple and complex societies. The bulk of this course will focus on the present-day components of the American criminal justice system. Broadly, these components consist of law enforcement, court, and correctional institutions. Students will evaluate the balance between social values and ethical beliefs in the context of the practical application of law enforcement procedures, judicial actions and rehabilitation efforts. Recognizing that all human invention is imperfect, this course will encourage students to examine how a Christian witness within the criminal justice system can effect positive change and serve as a testimony to God's grace in light of the fallen nature of mankind.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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- You will possess a general knowledge of the establishment of both historical and current legal statutes.
- You will understand how social mores and values should be reflected in the development of legal statutes and evaluate the level of congruency existing between current law and social values.
- You will have a general understanding of how different federal, state and municipal law enforcement agencies and specialized units within those agencies function.
- You will have a general understanding of how American courts (Federal and state) and correctional institutions function within the United States.
- You will have the ability to evaluate current events within the criminal justice system from an operational perspective with an awareness of media/societal bias.
- You will have an understanding of various career options within the criminal justice system and the criteria for entry level employment.
- You will have an understanding of the challenge to live as a Christian witness within a criminal justice related career

## COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

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In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3 unit class delivered over 16 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

## REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

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Frank Schmalleger, Criminal Justice Today: An Introductory Text for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Pearson: 13<sup>th</sup> ed. 2015). ISBN: 9780133460049

## COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

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DATE	CLASS CONTENT OR ASSIGNMENT	Reading
January 10	MONDAY SCHEDULE – NO CLASS	
January 17	Introduction – History of Criminal Justice – Criminal Statistics	Chapters 1 & 2
January 24	Criminology Overview	Chapter 3
January 31	Criminal Law Overview	Chapter 4
January 31	<b>FIELD ASSIGNMENT PROPOSAL DUE</b>	
February 7	Police History & Structure	Chapter 5
February 14	Policing Purposes and Legalties	Chapter 6 & 7
February 21	Policing Challenges and Ethics	Chapters 7 & 8
February 28	Court Systems	Chapter 9
February 28, 2017	<b>MID-TERM EXAMINATION</b>	
March 14	Pretrial and Criminal Trial Procedures	Chapter 10
March 21	Criminal Trial and Sentencing Procedures	Chapter 11
March 28, 2016	<b>BOOK REPORT DUE</b>	
March 28	Probation and Parole	Chapter 12
April 4	Jails and Prisons	Chapter 13 & 14
April 4	<b>INTERVIEW REPORT DUE</b>	
April 11	Juvenile Justice	Chapter 15
April 18	Drugs, Gangs and Terrorism	Chapter 16 & 17
April 25	<b>FIELD ASSIGNMENT DUE</b>	

April 25	<b>ORAL PRESENTATIONS</b>	
May 2, 2017	<b>FINAL EXAMINATION</b>	

### **Book Reports**

It is expected that each student will complete one book report from a list of recommended reading that will be presented in class. Book reports are due prior to the class session on **March 28, 2017**.

Students seeking extra credit may elect to submit a second book report to improve their overall score. In any case, optional book reports will be accounted for no more than five percent (3%) of the student's grade in any assignment area. Book reports are to be a minimum of five pages and no more than ten pages in length.

### **Field Assignment (Course Project)**

Each student will participate in a field assignment/course project in order to gain a greater understanding of their chosen facet of the criminal justice system. Options for the field assignment or course project will be discussed in class. I will propose several options for your field assignment. However, students desiring to explore facets of the criminal justice system not suggested can submit a field assignment of their own for approval. All **proposals** for field assignments/course projects are due prior to **January 31, 2017**.

**Interview report** for the Field Assignment is due **April 4, 2017**. Completed field assignments will consist of a written report between eight (8) and fifteen (15) pages in length accompanied by an oral presentation during class time. The deadline for the final written portion of field assignments/course projects is Thursday, **April 25, 2017**. Field assignments/course projects will not be accepted after this date unless previously approved.

- Book reports and field assignment reports will be evaluated for content, writing and mechanics. Content is defined as the strength of the information and analysis that you incorporate in your papers. Writing is how well you convey your ideas and/or information. Mechanics are defined as presentation or formatting, citations, bibliography or other articles of academic writing.
- All written assignments will be double spaced with a font size of 12. Margins will be set at 1" on all edges of the page. Cover pages do not qualify as a portion of the page count.
- Oral presentations (depending upon class size) will range from eight to fifteen minutes in length. PowerPoint and other electronic presentation aids are encouraged, however presentation time cannot be replaced by video recordings and/or movie clips.

**Weekly Quizzes:** Weekly quizzes may include but are not limited to reading material, vocabulary, classroom discussion topics and lecture presentations.

### **Mid-Term and Final Examinations**

The mid-term examination for SOC 209 is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2017.

The final examination for SOC 209 is scheduled for Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Failing to attend the mid-term will result in a 20% grade reduction. Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day** (Tuesday, May 2, 2017). No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

Quizzes and examinations may be formatted in true-false, multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and/or essay questions. Every quiz or examination will be comprehensive, including the material covered to date.

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

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Distribution by percentage:	Grade scale:												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Weekly Quizzes 20%</li><li>• Book Report 10%</li><li>• Field Assignment 20%</li><li>• Mid-term Exam 20%</li><li>• Final Exam 30%</li></ul>	<table><tr><td>A=93-100</td><td>C=73-76</td></tr><tr><td>A-=92-90</td><td>C-=70-72</td></tr><tr><td>B+=87-89</td><td>D+=67-69</td></tr><tr><td>B=83-86</td><td>D=63-66</td></tr><tr><td>B-=80-82</td><td>D-=60-62</td></tr><tr><td>C+=77-79</td><td>F=0-59</td></tr></table>	A=93-100	C=73-76	A-=92-90	C-=70-72	B+=87-89	D+=67-69	B=83-86	D=63-66	B-=80-82	D-=60-62	C+=77-79	F=0-59
A=93-100	C=73-76												
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B+=87-89	D+=67-69												
B=83-86	D=63-66												
B-=80-82	D-=60-62												
C+=77-79	F=0-59												

## PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

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Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

07/28/2016

## INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

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All assignments are to be submitted/turned in at the beginning of the class session when they are due. Late assignments will be graded with an automatic reduction of 5% for each day that the assignment is late. Exceptions may only be considered in cases of serious illness or crisis and with contemporaneous approval by the instructor.

## PUBLIC DISCOURSE

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SOC 209 is designed to be a cooperative exchange of ideas while examining the American criminal justice system. Classroom discussions as well as open feedback to written work and presentations will occur on a regular basis. All communication in class is considered to be “public discourse” without expectation of privacy. Remaining enrolled in SOC 209 will be construed as tacit acknowledgement that your work will be viewed by others associated with this course.

## CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

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Students are expected to conduct themselves as adults (albeit fun-loving), actively engaged in an adult learning environment. Prohibited activities include sleeping during class (unless of course the teacher is sleeping as well), talking, texting, gaming, internet browsing, reading non-course related materials. All pagers, cellphones, and other electronic communication devices will be turned off at the beginning of class. Tablets and computers are allowed in class for note-taking purposes only, unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Arriving late and leaving early are strongly discouraged and disruptive to the class.

Respect each other’s opinions. Be considerate while your peers are speaking and actively engage them only when they have completed their point. Discourteous comments and side conversations will not be tolerated and will be addressed openly and directly by the instructor. If a student’s behavior become disruptive to the productivity of the course they will be asked to leave the classroom and not receive credit for attendance.

## PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

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If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU’s Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by E-mail at [DRC@pointloma.edu](mailto:DRC@pointloma.edu). See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

## **PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY**

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Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

## **PLNU FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY**

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Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

## **INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE STATEMENT**

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The Department of Sociology and Social Work is committed to the equality of women and men and people of all ethnic and societal diversity. Recognizing the power of language and recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, certain ethnic groups, or social classes, the Department urges students, faculty and staff to avoid sexist, ethnic, or social class speech which is demeaning or offensive in public discourse, classroom discussions and in written products. A standard of inclusive language is outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA and Chicago and is the regular practice of university caliber academic work.

Information from the MLA Handbook: "Because good scholarship requires objectivity, careful writers or research papers avoid language that implies unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about such personal qualities as age, economic class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, political or religious beliefs, race, or sex." (MLA Handbook, Sections 1.10 and 1.11 – on pp. 60-63 in the 6<sup>th</sup> ed.)

Information from the Chicago Manual of Style: "Biased Language – language that is either sexist or suggestive of other conscious or subconscious prejudices that are not central to the meaning of the work — distracts and may even offend readers and in their eyes makes the work less credible." (Chicago Manual of Style, Section 5.203, p. 233 of the 15<sup>th</sup> ed.)

Link to the APA Manual: <http://www.apastyle.org/>

Link to Inclusive Language Handbook: A Practical Guide to Using Inclusive Language by Don Thorsen & Vickie Becker, Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy:  
[http://www.whwomenclergy.org/booklets/inclusive\\_language.php](http://www.whwomenclergy.org/booklets/inclusive_language.php)

## **PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY**

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Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

7/28/2016



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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ACCEPTANCE OF SYLLABUS**

My signature below acknowledges that I am enrolled in and have received the course syllabus for Sociology 209 "Introduction to Criminal Justice" offered by Point Loma Nazarene University during the Spring Semester of the 2017 academic year.

My signature also indicates that I am responsible to understand and adhere to the content of this syllabus. Should there be any portion of the course requirements as outlined in the syllabus that I do not understand, it is my responsibility to seek assistance from the course instructor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
PLNU Student ID Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Date