



Valdosta State  
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A Regional University of the University System of Georgia



## Syllabus Criminal Justice 2100 Survey of Law Enforcement

**Required Text:** The Police in America by Samuel Walker and Charles M Katz, Fifth Edition (2005); ISBN: 0-07-2944781

**Course Description:** This is a comprehensive presentation of the foundations of policing in the United States. The course provides a balanced and up to date overview of

- who the police are
- what they do
- the problems they face
- the many reforms and innovations that have taken place in policing

**Course Objectives:** During this course students will:

- 1) Analyze the foundation of law enforcement to include the history and contemporary police industry
- 2) Examine the effectiveness and efficiency of police organization
- 3) Identify past and current strategies and trends of police
- 4) Cover policing as a career.

**Instructor:** Rich Gamble (912) 322-8700 (cell)  
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**Grades:** It is intended that this course is one of learning in an environment that fosters success and hopefully “fun”. You will work in this class, but your efforts will be fully rewarded. ***Every assignment is due as scheduled.*** When absent, the assignment should be emailed. The final grade will be based upon the following criteria.

- Total 100 points (percent)
  - Seven weekly take home exams; one per chapter (multiple choice and true/false)
    - This should serve as a preparation guide to foster classroom participation
    - Average to equal 65% of total grade
  - Two 500 word typed essays (rubric provided)
    - Essays must be presented orally to the class and grade will reflect both assignments
    - Average to equal 25% of total grade

- Final Exam (In class)
  - Questions taken from weekly exams not to exceed 100 questions
  - Average to equal 15% of total grade

A career in criminal justice requires competent verbal and written abilities. Therefore every opportunity will be afforded to enhance those skills. The essay and classroom participation will focus on written and verbal communication skills.

VSU policy requires that any grade review must be initiated, in writing, within 30 days of the end of the grading period in which the grade was reported.

**Attendance:** Please be punctual and remain the entire class. Any student's absence requires proof of emergency, sickness, TAD orders, etc. VSU policy allows that two or more absentees without justification result in a "Withdraw/Failing" grade for the course.

Your third absentee regardless of reason will lower your overall final grade by 1 grade pt. Each subsequent absentee will do the same. You may withdraw from the class at anytime.

Course Outline:

- Week 1 Chapter 1-2 (take home exams)
- Week 2 Chapters 3-4 (take home exams)
- Week 3 Chapters 5-6 (take home exams)
- Week 4 Chapters 7-8 (take home exams)
- Week 5 Chapter 9-10 (take home exams) Interview Essay Due
- Week 6 Chapters 11-12 (take home exams) Election Debates Due
- Week 7 Chapters 13-15 (In-class oral presentations on Interview Essay)
- Week 8 (In-class oral presentations on Election Debates) Final Exams

**ADA Statement:** Valdosta State University complies fully with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you believe that you are covered under this act, and if you have need for special arrangements to allow you to meet the requirements of this course, please contact the personnel at the VSU Center at Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay. These individuals will put you in contact with VSU's Special Services Office. Also, please discuss this with the instructor at the time of the first class.