Course Description & Prerequisites from 2012-2013 Catalog:
The objective of this course is to present to the student major critical issues facing the criminal justice system in America. Major emphasis will be placed on the making of criminal law, police power in a democratic society, problems within the court and the correctional process in America. The course intends to develop an understanding in depth on the part of the student concerning major critical issues in the area of criminal justice. Prerequisite(s): ENG 1113 and 1213.

Course Objectives:
- Understand the complexity and extent of influence of the criminal justice system and be able to explore and examine controversial issues in criminal justice
- Be able to critically analyze issues, trends, and practices in the criminal justice system
- Understand each component’s role in the criminal justice system
- Be able to explain how policy changes in one area or component of the criminal justice system may affect other areas or components of the system

Transformational Learning Objectives: The University of Central Oklahoma is a learning-centered organization committed to transformative education through the “Central Six,” which include Discipline Knowledge; Leadership; Problem Solving (Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities); Service Learning and Civic Engagement; Global and Cultural Competencies; and Health and Wellness.

This course addresses two of the university’s transformative learning goals: discipline knowledge and leadership. This course addresses leadership through public speaking opportunities, as well as gaining confidence to discuss difficult issues and contemplate many different solutions. The ability to speak effectively to a group is an important feature of leadership. Additionally being willing to listen and be open to all points of view of critical issues are key qualities of a good leader.

Required Texts for Course:
Course Format:
This course will consist of lecture and class/group discussion. On several occasions, a video or guest speaker will be used to supplement the course material. All material covered in class could potentially be on an exam. Multiple times throughout the course there will be an in-class activity for students to complete. These activities are based on class readings and lecture. They ask students to apply what they have learned and are completed during class time. The activities are either individual or group. They are worth varying amounts. The in-class activities cannot be made up unless the student missed class for an excused absence.

Course Assignments:
Exams - There will be two exams for this course (midterm and final). Each exam is worth 100 points and will consist of matching, multiple choice, true & false, and short answer questions. A review sheet detailing exactly what material will be on each exam will be provided to students a week in advance of the scheduled exam.

Reading Reflections – Students will need to type two paragraphs (minimum of 8 sentences) about the assigned readings. Students should reflect upon the course readings and write about something that they learned, how something they read relates to current events, how something they read related to class discussion or prior readings, etc. A key part of the assignment is that students demonstrate that they read and thought about the material. These are due at the beginning of class on Thursdays. Please see the exact due dates and which readings should be covered on which date below. There are a total of 9 reflections due throughout the semester. Reflections should be in complete sentences and free of grammar and spelling mistakes. A rubric used to grade the reflections can be found online in D2L (Desire to Learn). Each reflection is worth 10 points.

Thursday, Jan. 24 – reading reflection due
[Annual Editions 1, 3, 5, and/or Felson & Boba chapter 1]
January 31 – reading reflection due
[Annual Editions 2, 32 and/or Felson & Boba chapters 2, 3]
February 14 – reading reflection due [Annual Editions 8, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22]
February 28 – reading reflection due [Annual Editions 6, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, and/or 29]
March 28 – reading reflection due [Annual Editions 4, 7, 11 and/or 14]
April 4 – reading reflection due
[Annual Editions 38, 39, 42, 44, 45, and/or Felson & Boba chapter 5]
April 11 – reading reflection due
[Annual Editions 43, Felson & Boba chapter 4, 8]
April 18 – reading reflection due
[Annual Editions 37, 40 and/or Felson & Boba chapter 9, 10]
April 25 – reading reflection due [Annual Editions 9, 31, 33, and/or 34]
**Lead Class Discussion** – Each student will select or be given one assigned reading from the Annual Editions text. A sign-up sheet will be available the first two weeks of the semester. If you do not sign up during those weeks, Prof. Maier will assign you a date and topic. It is your responsibility to know what day you are leading the discussion. The student will have to lead the class discussion of that assigned reading. It might be helpful for the student to create questions to ask the class to help spur discussion or to find a local, regional, or national news story related to the topic and discuss the assigned reading as it relates to the news. There is no written work associated with this assignment. It is simply an oral/verbal assignment. Your class discussion needs to last a minimum of 15 minutes. A rubric used to grade your class discussion is located in D2L. Please visit with Prof. Maier if you have any questions about this assignment. It is worth 25 points.

**Questions for Guest Speakers** – Several times during the semester we will have a guest speaker come to class and share his/her practical experiences and knowledge. On days we have a guest speaker (see tentative schedule), students will need to have typed one question to ask the guest speaker. While listening to the guest speaker, students should come up with one additional question and write it on the sheet of paper with the typed question. Students will turn in the two questions at the end of that class. The questions should be related to the speaker’s job, education/training, experience, course material, presentation, etc. Please come up with questions that you’d like the speaker to answer. Each question is worth 2 points for a total of 4 points per guest speaker.

**Course Project** – There is one course project worth 100 points. The course project is due in class on **April 30, 2013**. Students must choose to do one of the following projects:

**Option 1** – Interview 4 college students (or other individuals) about how free from supervision they were at age 13-17. Where were they in the afternoons? How close were adults? On weekend nights? How often did parents check to see they were home? How often did they sneak out afterward? You may add questions to this list if you want. Make sure you don’t violate privacy, use any names, or get anybody in trouble (keep in mind the ethics discussion from class). Turn in all interviews as well as a complete analysis of your findings. Please relate your findings to Felson and Boba’s arguments about juveniles, supervision, family, changes in routines over time, and crime.

**Option 2** – Find 4 different places on campus that are highly suitable for property crime to occur. Describe each one, using a photo or sketch as well as words. What makes each place vulnerable to property crime? What might be done to reduce the problem? Include a complete analysis of your findings using information from Felson and Boba.

**Option 3** – Visit a supermarket or other large store. Examine the design features that would serve to discourage or invite shoplifting. Please diagram any interesting features. Consider the sight lines. Note the presence or absence of employees. Examine any design features that would discourage a crime from happening. Include a complete analysis of your findings using information from Felson and Boba. A more detailed assignment sheet for all of these options is available online in D2L. You will want to review the more detailed assignment before completing this project. The rubric used to grade the projects is also available online in D2L.
**Course Grading:** 500 points total

Exams (2 x 100) = 200 points (40%)  
Lead Class Discussion = 25 points (5%)  
Course Project = 100 points (20%)  

Reading Reflections (9 x 10) = 90 points (18%)  
Questions for Guests (4 x 5) = 20 points (4%)  
In-Class Activities = 65 points (13%)  

A = 448-500 points (90-100%)  
B = 398-447 points (80-89%)  
C = 348-397 points (70-79%)  
D = 298-347 points (60-69%)  
F = 0-297 points (59% and below)  

Extra credit may be offered at the discretion of the professor.

**Tentative Schedule:**

T Jan. 15 – Introduction to Course and Criminal Justice System (Annual Editions #1)

R Jan. 17 – Importance of Ethics in Criminal Justice and Proper Citations in Writing

T Jan. 22 – 9 Fallacies about crime (Felson & Boba, Ch. 1)

R Jan. 24 – War on Drugs (Annual Editions #3 and 5)  
*Reading Reflection Due*

T Jan. 29 – Crime Explanations (Felson & Boba, Chs 2 & 3, Annual Editions #32)

R Jan. 31 – Gun Issues (Annual Editions #2)  
*Reading Reflection Due*

T Feb. 5 – Guest Speaker ACLU Oklahoma Executive Director Ryan Kiesel  
*Guest Speaker Questions*

R Feb. 7 – Crime: Myth vs. Reality (Annual Editions #8)

T Feb. 12 – Policing (Annual Editions #15, 16, 19, & 22)

R Feb. 14 – Policing continued (Annual Editions #13, 20, & 21)  
*Reading Reflection Due*

T Feb. 19 - Guest Speaker, MWC Police Chief Brandon Clabes  
*Guest Speaker Questions*

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1 This schedule is subject to change as the need arises. Students will be notified in advance of any changes to allow enough time for proper preparation.
R Feb. 21 – Forensics (Annual Editions #26 and 27)

T Feb. 26 – Evidence & Wrongful Convictions (Annual Editions # 6, 24, & 28)

R Feb. 28 – Courts & Plea Bargaining (Annual Editions #23 and 29)
*Reading Reflection Due

T March 5 – Guest Speaker, Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Noma Gurich
*Guest Speaker Questions

R March 7 – Review for Midterm Exam

T March 12 – Midterm Exam

R March 14 – Crime Victimization (Felson & Boba chapters 5 & 8, Annual Editions #11)

March 18-22 – No Classes, Spring Break

T March 26 – Sex Crimes (Annual Editions # 4 and 14)

R March 28 – CJ Issues & the Community (Felson & Boba chapter 4, Annual Editions #7)
*Reading Reflection Due

T April 2 – Crimes & Punishment (Annual Editions #38, 42 & 44)

R April 4 – Offenders in the Community (Annual Editions #39 & 45)
*Reading Reflection Due

T April 9 – Solitary Confinement and Supermax Facilities (Annual Editions #43)

R April 11 – Guest Speaker, DOC Director Justin Jones
*Reading Reflection Due and Guest Speaker Questions

T April 16 – Private Prisons, Corporal & Capital Punishment (Annual Editions #37 and 40)

R April 18 – Crime Prevention (Felson & Boba chapters 9 & 10)
*Reading Reflection Due

T April 23 – Crimes Unseen: Domestic Violence & White Collar Crime (Felson & Boba chapter 7, Annual Editions #9)

R April 25 – Juveniles (Felson & Boba chapter 6, Annual Editions #31, 33, and 34)
*Reading Reflection Due

T April 30 – Guest Speaker, Juvenile Probation Officer Karly Meadows
*Course Project Due & Guest Speaker Questions
R May 2 – Review for Final Exam

**Final Exam: Thursday, May 9, 11:00am-12:50pm**

**Online Course Management System = D2L (Desire to Learn)**
As you might be aware, UCO recently switched course management software systems. We will be using D2L during this semester. If you are unfamiliar with D2L or need assistance, please use the resources below for help.
Students access D2L through the "My Courses" tab inside UCONNECT (uconnect.uco.edu). Below are the resources available for students:
- Learn@UCO Student Website: [http://www.uco.edu/technology/student/d2l](http://www.uco.edu/technology/student/d2l)
- Full D2L Student Help Guide available in Learn@UCO
- Walk-up, phone, or email assistance is available through the UCO Service Desk.
  - Walk-up: Library, 1st Floor
  - Phone: 974-2255
  - Email: support@uco.edu

**Policies & Expectations:**

**Attendance:** As this is an upper level and graduate course it is assumed that students will attend class regularly. Any student who misses more than 30% of the legal class periods is subject to the grade of “F” regardless of assignment and test scores. In-class activities can only be made up if the absence is excused.

**Make-Ups:** Exams will be taken at scheduled times unless arrangements are made with the professor. Students who miss exams due to an excused absence (e.g. death in the family or documented illnesses) will be allowed to take a make-up exam. If at all possible the student should contact the professor within 24 hours of the original exam date. If possible, please notify the professor before the scheduled exam. The professor reserves the right to make all make-up exams 100% essay exams. The professor also reserves the right to issue a zero to any student not adhering to this policy. Students will not be allowed to make-up the “lead class discussion” assignment unless it is an excused absence and even then it will most likely have to be an alternate topic of the professor’s choice.

**Late Assignments:** Late assignments are accepted with penalties and only until one week after the original due date. Each day the assignment is late is worth a letter grade. For example, if the assignment is due at 1pm on November 4th, it is late at 1:01pm on 11/4 and the highest grade you could receive would be a B. If you turn in the assignment on 11/6, the highest grade you would receive would be a D. Assignments will not be accepted one week (7 days) after the original due date.

**Academic Integrity:** Each student is expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not
confined to: plagiarizing; cheating on tests or examinations; turning in counterfeit reports, tests, and papers; stealing tests or other academic material; knowingly falsifying academic records or documents of the institution; accessing a student's confidential academic records without authorization; disclosing confidential academic information without authorization; and, turning in the same work to more than one class without informing the instructors involved. Any student found responsible of academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary action. Violation of these expectations, as specified above and in sections III, IV, and V of the Student Handbook, may result in penalties up to and / or including expulsion from the University.

UCO subscribes to the Turnitin.com plagiarism prevention service. Students agree that by taking this course, all required assignments may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted assignments will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com restricted access reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such assignments. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Use posted on the Turnitin.com website. Turnitin.com is just one of various plagiarism prevention tools and methods which may be utilized by your faculty instructor during the terms of the semesters. In the UCO Student Handbook, there is a process for contesting any plagiarism allegations against you.

Students with Disabilities: The University of Central Oklahoma complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need special accommodations must make their requests by contacting Disability Support Services at (405) 974-2516. The DSS Office is located in the Nigh University Center, Room 309. Students should also notify the instructor of special accommodation needs by the end of the first week of class.

To access the Student Information Sheet and Syllabus Attachment, please go to:
http://www.uco.edu/academic-affairs/files/aa-forms/faculty/StudentInfoSheet.pdf

Expectations: Students are expected to come to class prepared. Students should have read the assigned chapter/material prior to that day’s class and be ready to discuss the material.

Fatal Error Policy – Students should know (or learn) how to write properly and in a professional manner. All written work should meet certain standards. For this course, there are three (3) main areas of writing that students will be expected to know. If students do not do as instructed, there will be consequences. The three areas are citations, following directions, and

grammar and spelling.

**Citations** - students need to properly cite their sources, quotations, etc. If they do not, it will result in an automatic zero for the assignment.

**Following Directions** - students need to follow the directions for the assignment. Failure to follow the directions will result in an automatic 25% reduction in grade for the assignment.

**Grammar and Spelling** - student’s work should be free of grammar and spelling mistakes. A few common mistakes include:

- Misspelled word,
- Sentence fragment,
- Run-on sentence,
- Capitalization mistake,
- Serious error in punctuation,
- Error in verb tense or subject/verb agreement.

If a student's assignment exceeds the allowed number of grammar and/or spelling mistakes (see each individual assignment for that specified number), he/she will automatically receive a 25% reduction in grade for the assignment. Students could receive a total of 50% off an assignment if they do not follow directions and exceed the number of grammar and spelling mistakes allowed.

If you have trouble writing, please visit with writing center on campus (part of Tutoring Central). It helps to read your work out loud. You will catch many mistakes that way. Additionally it is always a good idea to have someone else proofread your work.

**Final Exam, Emergency & No-Show:** If a university emergency occurs that prevents the administration of the final exam, the student’s final course grade will be calculated based on the work in the course completed to that point. Final exams will not be rescheduled, and a grade of incomplete (I) will not be given as a result of the missed exam. If a student does not show up and take the final exam during the scheduled exam time, he/she will receive a zero for the exam unless the student contacts the professor within 24 hours of the scheduled exam and provides documents detailing why the student had a legitimate reason for not taking the exam as scheduled.