
NORTH CAROLINA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Justice 318
Research Methods
Spring 2020
ONLINE
3 semester hours of credit

Class Meetings: ONLINE
Instructor: Carl Lewis PhD
Office: 239 Braswell
Instructor's E-Mail: clewis@ncwc.edu
Telephone Contact: (252) 985-5166
Facsimile: (252) 985-5109
Office Hours and Conferences: As this online class is over the summer the most efficient way to contact me is via email

PLEASE NOTE:

This syllabus is a contract. Enrollment in the course signifies your agreement to abide by its contents. Course policies are not negotiable. Students are required to check their email inbox and the class myncwc page at least once every 24 hours for important messages.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM OBJECTIVES: The objectives of the faculty in Criminal Justice are to:

1. provide instruction and guidance for assisting majors to understand the theories and issues of the criminal justice system;
2. encourage majors to critically analyze situations confronted by criminal justice professionals by applying relevant theoretical and legal explanations in the development of appropriate action;
3. enable majors to understand the complexity of the criminal justice system as it addresses criminal behavior through prevention and intervention strategies; and

4. provide the majors with the ability to apply theoretical and legal knowledge to real world situations

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A study in the logic and methods of Criminal Justice Research and its application-including project design; measurement, collecting, analysis, interpretation of data; ethical implications and program development.

PREREQUISITES: JUS 111 and MAT 213

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of this course, it is expected that the student will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the difference between inductive and deductive research
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the connection between data analysis and crime mapping
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the term *special populations* as it applies to research
4. Demonstrate an understanding of policy analysis and evidence based policies

REQUIRED READING MATERIAL: This course has one **required** textbook:

Fundamentals of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice

4th Edition

Bachman & Schutt

Sage Publishers

All other readings, if any, will be posted to the course site at my.ncwc.edu.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

This is a demanding class. There is a lot of information for you to master in a short amount of time. Many of you have personal and professional obligations in addition to being a student. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you have about the forum or content of the course. **Contacting me by email is best.** Please note that only those emails sent from an NCWC account will be read and acknowledged by the professor. Any question that you submit *regarding the materials* for this course will be answered to the group. I will remove the name of the student asking the question when this is done. There are no silly questions except the one you have that you do not ask.

If at any point you feel that you are becoming lost or overwhelmed by the course, you should contact me as soon as possible so that we can discuss the situation and plan a strategy for you to

get back on track. Also, Wesleyan has a Student Success Center that provides a variety of services and programs designed to connect Wesleyan students with the resources needed to assist with academic and personal development. Their website is: <http://www.ncwc.edu/student-affairs/success>

ATTENDANCE:

Please note that all assignments will need to be submitted prior to 11:00 AM EST on the Date that is listed. At 11:00 AM EST on the due date the system will lock and will not allow you to submit an assignment. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED

If you have any questions related to a class assignment or topic please feel free to contact me.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING SCALE: This course is comprised of graded exams and one writing assignment.

Class Research Paper Assignment: The class research paper assignment will be due during the final week of the class. This assignment will be worth 30% of your grade.

Weekly Assignments: Each week there will be an assignment these assignments will count for 70% of your final grade. Class attendance will be taken based on classwork submitted: if you do not submit an assignment – you are subject to be counted absent. (If an emergency occurs please contact me immediately.)

GRADE SCALE: Final grades will be determined using the following scale:

| | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| A = 94 to 100 | C = 73 to 76 |
| A- = 90 to 93 | C- = 70 to 72 |
| B+ = 87 to 89 | D+ = 67 to 69 |
| B = 83 to 86 | D = 63 to 66 |
| B- = 80 to 82 | D- = 60 to 62 |
| C+ = 77 to 79 | F = Any grade below 60 |

Grades will not be curved. For example, if you earn a 79.8, you will receive a letter grade of C+.

EXTRA CREDIT: There will be NO opportunities for extra credit in this course.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND DISHONESTY: North Carolina Wesleyan College and faculty guarantee the integrity of the academic process. Since cheating and plagiarism are threats to this integrity, all members of the College community must work together to prevent their occurrence (NCWC, 2010). Students are encouraged to the section Academic Standards in

the College handbook. Specific attention should be given to the section regarding “Plagiarism and Cheating.”

Acts of cheating, plagiarism, falsification or attempts to cheat, plagiarize or falsify will not be tolerated and will be reported to the Vice President of Academic Affairs as mandated. The Catalog defines these terms as follows:

Definitions: “Cheating” means the giving or receiving of information illicitly with intent to deceive the instructor in his or her effort to grade fairly any academic work. “Plagiarism” is “to take and use as one’s own the thoughts, writings, or inventions of another” (Oxford English Dictionary). It is plagiarism when one uses direct quotations without proper credit and appropriate quotation marks, and when one uses the ideas of another without proper credit.

If the professor becomes aware of a potential academic integrity violation, the student will be contacted using the procedures outlined in the College Catalog. If an academic integrity violation has taken place, the instructor reserves the right to assign a grade penalty up to and including an F for the course.

All work in this course is to be completed **independently**, without assistance from any other student or person. While study groups are fine and even encouraged, *there is to be absolutely no group work on graded assignments unless otherwise noted on the directions for the assignment.* Although this course is online, be aware that recent trends in technology and software have improved the detection of cheating and plagiarism. The professor reserves the right to review any written material submitted for a grade and any other online work submitted for a grade with said software and technology to determine the authenticity and ownership of the information.

If you include material in your work that is not your own original thought, then a citation must be included in the text of the document and in the reference list. Failure to cite sources will be viewed as a violation of the academic integrity policy. Note: It is better to over cite sources, than to be questioned regarding your integrity. If you have question, concerns, or need clarification, please let the professor know.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES: North Carolina Wesleyan College seeks to fully comply with the American Disability Act (ADA). *Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) at 985-5369 as soon as possible to coordinate and implement accommodations in a timely fashion. The Office of DSS is located in 192 Pearsall.* Students requesting accommodations based on a covered disability must go to the Student Support Center to verify the disability before any accommodations can occur. This is the student’s responsibility.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: Please consult Jenzabar/my.ncwc.edu for information regarding this class.

Please look at the course handouts section for additional handouts related to APA formatting and the use of material. Anytime that you have a question please feel free to contact me.