

# CAS 304: Urban Crime and Justice

## A Community-Engaged Learning Course

Fall 2018 – Thursday 6:15 – 7:30 – (B&L 269) Judge Craig Doran  
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**Attendance:** Successful completion of this course requires attendance at all class meeting and satisfactory attendance in the court placement. If you have a conflict with a class, visit, or seminar, you must inform the instructor at least one week in advance so alternative arrangements can be made. An excused absence is acceptable if a documented medical or family emergency prevented your attendance.

**Participation:** Simply put, if you are not in attendance, you are unable to participate. Each of us is expected to participate actively in each class meeting and guest seminar. That means coming to class having done the assigned readings and with questions to discuss.

**Placement at Hall of Justice:** Each student will be paired with an agency or department located at the Hall of Justice, 99 Exchange Blvd in Downtown Rochester. Students are expected to serve a total of 4-6 hours at court each week: 1-2 hours will be observation with judges, staff and litigants; 2-4 hours will include hands on work with offices in the Hall of Justice. Areas of focus for these placements include adult crime, juvenile crime, treatment courts, domestic violence court, court-community partnerships, and equity disputes. Placement supervisors will provide evaluations to the course instructor and will be considered when assigning the participation grade.

**Assignments:**

## **Critical Reflection Journals**

You will submit weekly reflection journals that correspond with that week's topic and court placement. Reflections are due for Weeks 3-12, totaling ten entries. The requirements of the entries are as follows:

- Two typed pages of writing describing what you observed and experienced during that week's visit and class.
- Using the critical reflection framework learned in class, you will write on how those observations and experience affected your ideas about the institutions you observed.
- The journal entry for each visit is due by 11:59 pm on the Sunday immediately following that visit. Your grade will be reduced by 50% for being late. Journal entries are graded on a pass/fail basis -- you get full credit for an entry as long as it meets these requirements and reflects quality work. The instructor will occasionally ask you to share material from your journal entries with your classmates during our on-campus meetings. Together, the ten reflections count for 25% of your final grade.

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## **Synthesis Paper**

This 10-page paper enables you to connect the things you learned during community visits, discussions in class and seminars, and in the readings assigned. In this paper, you are also required to draw from outside research to support your thesis. This is an opportunity to academically explore a criminal justice issue while also applying your experiences and reflections from community involvement. The goal is to encourage use of what you see in our community to deepen the relationship between community engagement and scholarship.

Though the final draft of this paper is due at the end of the semester, you will be turning in an outline midway through the term. By sharing your writing and thoughts with the instructor and your peers, you will gain

valuable feedback that can inform the way you finish your work. We will discuss further details of this paper in class. The due dates for the Synthesis Paper are as follows:

- September 20: Annotated bibliography that includes 3 sources drawn from outside the required course reading

- October 18: Outline of Synthesis Paper

- November 29: Final draft of Synthesis Paper The three components of your Synthesis Paper count for 25% of your final grade **Final presentation:** During the class's scheduled exam time you will be giving a presentation of your final paper and final thoughts on the class material. The requirements for this presentation are as follows:

- Presentation will be 10-15 minutes

- Use visual or multimedia to present your ideas (short video, slides, symbolic item, etc.)

- Provide an overview of your Synthesis Paper

- Highlight thoughts from reflection journals

- Prepare discussion questions and facilitate discussion with the class The presentation will account for 25% of your final grade **Grading Summary:** Participation 25% Reflection Journals (P/F) 25% Synthesis Paper 25% Presentation 25%

- You will also be asked to hand in your signed time sheets to demonstrate that you have completed at least 40 hours at the Hall of Justice; failure to do so will result in a 1/3 reduction of your final grade.

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| <b>Process</b>                      |  |
| Week 1:<br>August 30                | Course Overview,<br><br><b>Required reading:</b> Review <a href="http://www.nycourts.gov">www.nycourts.gov</a> to gain familiarity with the NY State Court System in preparation for class   |
| Week 2:<br>September 6              | Reflection & Learning<br><br><i>Guest Lecturer on Critical Reflection</i><br><br><b>Required Reading:</b><br><br>1. Critical Reflection Article  |
| Week 3:<br>September 13             | Overview of the Criminal Justice Process<br><br><b>Required Reading:</b><br><br>1. <a href="https://www.justia.com/criminal/procedure/stages-criminal-trial/">https://www.justia.com/criminal/procedure/stages-criminal-trial/</a><br>2. <a href="https://www.justia.com/criminal/procedure/stages-criminal-case/">https://www.justia.com/criminal/procedure/stages-criminal-case/</a> |
| <b>Juvenile Crime &amp; Justice</b> |  |
| Week 4:<br>September 20             | Juvenile Crime & Education Systems<br><br><i>Guest Lecturer: Dr. Patrick Davies</i><br><br><b>Required Reading;</b><br><br>1. Johnston et al “the Prism and Prison of the Child”   |

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|   | <p>2. Davies and Martin, “Children’s Coping and Adjustment in High Conflict Homes: The reformulation of Emotional Security Theory”</p>   |
| <p>Week 5:<br/>September<br/>27</p>             | <p>Juvenile Crime &amp; Justice Seminar</p> <p><b>Required reading:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Curren, “Moral Education and Juvenile Crime”</li> <li>2. <a href="https://nypost.com/2018/01/20/youre-not-an-adult-until-you-turn-24-science-says/">https://nypost.com/2018/01/20/youre-not-an-adult-until-you-turn-24-science-says/</a></li> </ol> <p><b>**Annotated Bibliography due**</b> Hand in a hard copy in class. Make sure to also submit the assignment to Blackboard by 11:59.</p> |
| <p><b>Adult<br/>Crime &amp;<br/>Justice</b></p> |  |
| <p>Week 6:<br/>October 4</p>                    | <p>Adult Crime and Issues in Mental Health</p> <p><i>Guest Lecturer: Dr. Robert Weisman</i></p> <p><b>Required reading:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Weisman, Lamberti, “Integrating Criminal Justice, Community Health care, and Support Services for Adults with Severe Mental Disorders”</li> <li>2. Lamberti and Weisman, “Forensic Assertive Community Treatment”</li> </ol>   |

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|                       | 3. Rosner Chapter  |
| Week 7:<br>October 11 | <p>Adult Crime and Issues in Substance Use</p> <p><i>Guest speaker: Deputy Mayor of the city of Rochester: Dr. Cedric Alexander</i></p> <p><b>Required reading:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chandler, Fletcher and Volkow, “Treating drug abuse and addiction in the criminal justice system: improving public health and safety”</li> <li>2. Alexander, “Public Safety, the Community, and the University in Times of Change”</li> </ol> <p><b>**Outlines of Synthesis Paper Due**</b> Hand in a hard copy in class. Make sure to also submit the assignment to Blackboard by 11:59</p> |
| Week 8:<br>October 18 | <p>Morally Offensive Crimes: Societies Morals and Public Perception</p> <p><b>Required Reading:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="http://time.com/5132314/chemical-castration-sex-offenders/">http://time.com/5132314/chemical-castration-sex-offenders/</a></li> <li>2. <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/video/opinion/100000005415081/a-frightening-myth-about-sex-offenders.html?smid=fb-nytimes&amp;smtyp=cur">https://www.nytimes.com/video/opinion/100000005415081/a-frightening-myth-about-sex-offenders.html?smid=fb-nytimes&amp;smtyp=cur</a></li> </ol>                     |
| Week 9:<br>October 25 | <p>Incarceration, Alternatives to Incarceration, Re-entry</p> <p><i>Guest Lecturer: Robert Burns director of Public Safety (tentative)</i></p> <p><b>Required Reading:</b></p>   |

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|  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Alexander, “The New Jim Crow”</li> <li>2. Forman, “Racial Critiques of Mass Incarceration: Beyond the New Jim Crow”</li> <li>3. Watch 13<sup>th</sup> Netflix Documentary</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Inequalities in Crime &amp; Justice</b> |  |
| Week 10:<br>November 1                     | <p>Gender, Sexual Orientation, and Inequalities in Criminal Justice</p> <p><i>Guest speaker: Amy Shwartz</i></p> <p><b>Required reading:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Harris , “Gender, Violence, Race and Criminal Justice”</li> <li>2. Sandefur, “Access to Civil Justice and Race, Class, and Gender Inequality”</li> </ol>  |
| Week 11:<br>November 8                     | <p>Race/Class Inequalities in Criminal Justice</p> <p><b>Required Reading:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Petit and Western, “Mass imprisonment and the Life Course: Race and Class Inequality in the U.S Incarceration”</li> <li>2. <a href="https://www.yalelawjournal.org/forum/community-policing-a-s-a-counter-to-bias-in-policing">https://www.yalelawjournal.org/forum/community-policing-a-s-a-counter-to-bias-in-policing</a></li> </ol> |

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| <p>Week 12:<br/>November<br/>15</p> | <p>Beyond Mass Incarceration - How should we respond?</p> <p><b>Required Reading:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Eric Holder's speech on sentencing to the ABA</li> <li>2. Memo from Eric Holder to U.S Attorneys implements sentencing reform</li> <li>3. Letter from National Association of Assistant US Attorneys opposing Holder's reform</li> <li>4. Vera Institute of Justice Report</li> </ol> |
| <p>Week 13:<br/>November<br/>22</p> | <p>NO CLASS</p>   |
| <p>Week 14:<br/>November<br/>29</p> | <p>Politics, Due Process, and Community Values, an Impossible Fit?</p> <p><b>Required Readings</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="https://www.courtinnovation.org/areas-of-focus/procedural-justice">https://www.courtinnovation.org/areas-of-focus/procedural-justice</a></li> </ol>   |
| <p>Week 15:<br/>December 6</p>      | <p>TBD</p> <p><b>**Synthesis Paper Due**</b> Hand in a hard copy in class. Make sure to also submit the assignment to Blackboard by 11:59.</p>  |



