
SYLLABUS

Comparative Police Practices, Law, and Policy

Lecturer: Professor Melanie Reid

Institution: Lincoln Memorial University Duncan School of Law

Duration of the course: 10 hours

Start and end of the lectures: 16h00 - 18h00

Place: ULisboa Faculty of Law

Assessment: **40%** of the course grade will be based upon in-class participation, and **60%** of the course grade will be based upon a final essay in which you will discuss your philosophy of policing, discuss a solution to a local policing issue, explore use of force policies, and identify a resolution from the perspective of a civilian review board.

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PURPOSE OF THE COURSE UNIT:

This course studies how the police and other government agencies “police” society and investigate crimes in various countries. It deals with fundamental issues concerning the relationship between the state and the individual, and raises critical concerns about surveillance, force, racial justice, and basic civil liberties. Topics include police stops, frisks, the community policing philosophy, predictive policing, and police strategies to reduce crime. What privacy protections are provided to U.S. and EU citizens, what is law enforcement entitled to do, and how do U.S. protections differ from those in the European Union and in countries in other regions? This course is starting ground for anyone interested in learning more about the criminal justice space, be it direct services or law reform, but will be of interest to anyone concerned about some of the paramount issues of the day: community policing, the policing culture, police strategy and tactics, and excessive force cases.

MAIN TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Class One – Monday, February 24 16.00-18.00

The Concept of Policing -- [Class 1 In-Class Exercises](#)

- Police Organizational Structure
 - Pros/Cons of the organizational policing structure in various countries
- What do police do? What is the democratic police ideal?
 - The police department mission statement
- What is the function of the modern police department?
 - Which federal law enforcement activities should local police departments join?

Class Two – Tuesday, February 25 16.00-18.00

Evolution of Modern Policing & Community Policing -- [Class 2 In-Class Exercises](#)

- Evolution of Policing
 - Policing in 1968: What’s changed? What’s stayed the same?
- Community Policing
 - What are the goals of Community Policing?
- What are the metrics of success?
 - What are positive non-enforcement activities to promote community engagement?

Class Three – Wednesday, February 26 16.00-18.00

Policing Culture: Defining Culture, Cultural Values -- [Class 3 In-Class Exercises](#)

- What shapes police culture?
 - What do you believe to be the relevant attributes of both the operational and organizational environment?
- Culture by design: define the behaviors that drive your success
 - Does culture impact how police respond on patrol and at traffic stops? What are the behaviors of rightful policing?
- Culture by design: ritualize the practice of rightful policing and select people who are the right fit for your culture
 - What rituals could help us to think about, talk about, teach, practices, and focus on rightful policing? What people would be a good fit for a culture focused on rightful policing?
- How might we build a police culture committed to procedural justice?

Class Four – Thursday, February 27 16.00-18.00

Proactive Policing Tactics & Police Technology -- [Class 4 In-Class Exercises](#)

- The origins of proactive policing and place-based predictive policing
 - What are the pros and cons to place-based predictive policing? Are these algorithms better than existing patrol practice? What are the impacts on people?
- Person-based predictive policing
 - What are the lessons learned from the first generation of predictive policing? What do you think works to prevent crime?
- The Next Generation: Data-Driven Policing
 - Are we OK with the collection of all this data? How will this impact community orientation and outreach?

Class Five – Friday, February 28 16.00-18.00

Police Training, Oversight, and Recruitment -- [Class 5 In-class Exercises](#)

- Police Training: Recruit and In-Service
 - Mental Health Calls: Can we train police officers to handle these situations appropriately or should we create another agency to handle such calls?
- Police Oversight
 - What is the best mechanism to discipline police? What role should unions have in holding police accountable?
 - What is the ideal civilian review board?
- Police Recruitment
 - Who is the ideal candidate to be a police officer? Are we recruiting the right type of individual?

LITERATURE:

CLASS ONE:

1. Reducing Crime Podcast: Interview with John Mina (#72)
 - <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/72-john-mina/id1412813382?i=1000660290575>
2. [Federalist Paper No. 17](#)
3. [Gary Marx Police and Democracy](#)
4. [Sir Robert Peel Policing Principles](#)

5. [UN Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement](#)

CLASS TWO:

1. Reducing Crime Podcast: Interview with Charles Ramsey (#41)
 - <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/41-charles-ramsey/id1412813382?i=1000543353176>
2. [Seth Stoughton Evolution of Policing](#)
3. [Chris Braiden Community Policing](#)
4. MP3 Audio file: [Intro to Community Policing](#)
5. MP3 Audio file: [Organizational Transformation](#)
6. MP3 Audio file: [Effective Partnerships](#)
7. MP3 Audio file: [Problem Solving](#)

CLASS THREE:

1. Reducing Crime Podcast: Interview with Grant Edwards (#74)
 - <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/74-grant-edwards/id1412813382?i=1000667042818>
2. [Paoline on Police Culture](#)
3. [Meares on Rightful Policing](#)

CLASS FOUR:

1. Reducing Crime Podcast: Interview with Bill Bratton (#35)
 - <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/37-bill-bratton/id1412813382?i=1000530150696>
2. [Brennan Center for Justice What Caused the Crime Decline](#)
3. [Ferguson Article on Predictive Policing](#)

CLASS FIVE:

1. Reducing Crime Podcast: Interview with Thaddeus Johnson (#76)
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/76-thaddeus-johnson/id1412813382?i=1000674843409>
2. [Caniglia v. Strom Article](#)
3. [Police Unions Tools for Reform or Obstructing Progress](#)
4. [Sharon Fairley Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement](#)

OPTIONAL: [Caniglia v. Strom \(U.S. 2021\)](#)

ESSAY REQUIREMENTS:

PART ONE:

We have read about and discussed policing philosophy, principles, and culture, as well as the contemporary issues related to policing and crime. Keeping those materials and our discussions in mind, please write a paper that responds to both of the following prompts:

- 1) What is your theory of policing? In other words, which aspects, if any, of the policing philosophy, principles, and culture that we studied do you agree with? Which, if any, do you disagree with? Are there any principles you would add? Fully explain why.
- 2) Identify an issue you have seen in policing in your country of residence. If you were hired as legal counsel to solve this issue, what would your solution be?

Your response to PART ONE is limited to no more than 1,000 words.

PART TWO:

Identify a recent (within the last 2 years) event involving the use of force by police in your country of residence. Using this resource ([Find a Country | The Law on Police Use of Force](#)) and what you've learned this week, determine the following:

- Did the event identified adhere to the existing use of force policy? Why or why not?
- Could amendments to the policy have prevented this event from occurring or reduced harm for those involved?
- Craft a statement from the perspective of your civilian review board that you created in class: In reviewing this policy and those from the jurisdictions in the US, what additional components would you like to see included in the use of force policy going forward to ensure greater safety and security for community and police officers alike?

Your response to PART TWO is limited to no more than 1,000 words.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

In this course, we will study the interesting and important topic of police law and policy. Upon successful completion of this course, students should:

- (1) Be aware of the theoretical and practical implications of policing in contemporary society;
- (2) Be familiar with different legal and administrative regulations that shape police agency policy and officer behavior; and
- (3) Be conversant with the aspects of policing that have been identified as problematic, the causes of those problems, and the different solutions that have been proposed to resolve them.