SYLLABUS
APPLICATIONS OF SOCIAL SCIENCE - SS 284
FALL 2015

Instructor: Angela Wartel
Office: Spalding Hall 306
Class Hours: Blackboard
Telephone: 208-792-2851
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 12:00 pm-2:00 pm
or by appointment

Email: arwartel@lcsc.edu
Preferred Method of Contact: I can be reached via email through the Blackboard Learn platform by clicking the mail link on the left of the course page. Please send emails to this address OR to arwartel@lcsc.edu. I check both regularly.

Required Textbooks


Course Overview: Technology has dramatically impacted the way in which the criminal justice system operates. This course provides an introduction to the various aspects of technology utilized within the criminal justice system. Legal and ethical issues associated with the use of technology will be discussed and analyzed. The dark side of technology, including media misrepresentations and misconduct in the criminal justice system, will also be studied.

Course Objectives

• To develop critical thinking and writing skills while gaining a deeper understanding of the study of technology in criminal justice.
• To understand and identify a wide array of technology utilized within the criminal justice field and the ethical and legal issues surrounding the use.
• Discuss the use of technology in law enforcement and how it aids officers in a variety of ways.
• To critically analyze criminal justice information presented by the media and entertainment industry.

Course Requirements

Syllabus Quiz (1 @ 15 points): The syllabus quiz is a short quiz that must be completed by all students entering the course. This quiz will cover basic information from the syllabus. There is no time limit for the quiz and it can be retaken one time.

Introduction Post (1 @ 10 points): As a method of meeting your classmates, please write a paragraph or two introducing yourself to the discussion forum. Some ideas of things to include --your year in college, major, hobbies, future goals, hometown, family, pets, jobs, or anything else you are comfortable sharing. You can upload a picture if you wish, but it is not required. You are not required to reply to others in this thread, but are highly encouraged to do so.

Discussions: Sharing information promotes critical learning skills. The discussion board is a great place to share knowledge, experience, and various expertise. It is also a means to generate meaningful conversations about course topics. There will be twelve discussion forums covering the assigned course
readings. You will serve as a discussion leader for one of these forums. You will be a participant in all other forums.

Discussion Leader (80 points): Each discussion week, two students will serve as discussion leaders for the material. You will be responsible for leading one online discussion this semester. Discussion leaders will provide an in-depth post on the topic/readings of the week and provide two detailed discussion questions for others. The discussion questions should include several aspects of the reading. For example, do not simply ask “how does technology help community corrections?” Rather, a question could be something like, “Given the rise of technology in community corrections, what ethical dilemmas are presented when dealing with certain technological advances? Select two technologies employed by community corrections and detail their use and possible positive and negative implications. For negative implications, what can community corrections officers do to negate any perceived problems?”

You will want to relate the material to what is going on in the world. If you find online sources that deal directly with the weekly material, share them with the class. You should have all the material read, studied, and understood within the first two days of your discussion week.

You can work with the other weekly discussion leader, but this is not required. Even if you work together, you will each need to make an individual post with your questions. Consulting with the other discussion leader can be useful to ensure that you are not duplicating each other’s work (links shared, etc). Each discussion leader will be graded individually. I am looking for quality and quantity in your original post and your replies to other students. Your goal is to keep the conversation going during your week. This means that you will be one of the most active discussion posters. You should have no less than four replies to the comments from others this week. Those that comment more will be eligible for a higher grade.

Discussion Participants (11 @15 points each): If you are not the discussion leader, you are required to post three replies by the due date. You will reply to my short questions and each of the discussion leaders’ questions. You do not have to reply to every question presented by the discussion leaders, but it is recommended that you provide detailed responses to the questions that are selected. Suggested length of your replies are approximately 150+ words each. You are required to submit your replies by the due dates indicated on the course schedule. Your discussion posts should be written in proper English. Avoid “text-speak.”

- Do not assume that others have the same knowledge or experiences that you do. Provide a brief context to your postings.
- Do NOT ATTACH documents to the discussion forum. Attachments will not be considered for grading purposes.
- We are here to learn and have a comfortable course environment. Discussions must be supported by credible facts and figures. Responses should be respectful, tactful and polite. Rude postings (those that attack or are aggressive to another) are unacceptable and will result in a “0” for that week and possibly for the course.
- Responses should demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the week’s readings.
- Put some thought and time into your postings. Be sure to provide supporting statements with examples, experiences, or with references.
- Responses must help to continue the conversation by asking a relevant question, bringing in new information or relating the post to another phenomena.
• Only posts that demonstrate excellence in continuing the conversation and providing detail will be given full credit. One or two sentence replies are not acceptable.

Check the discussions often! The free exchange of ideas (within the assignment confines) will help you to get more out of the course. Discussions will close at 11:59 PM on the due date indicated in the schedule. A detailed grading rubric can be located in the “Getting Started” course module. Discussion grades will be available in the “Course Grade” section within one week of the due date.

Technology Current Event Summary (75 points): Technology is used every day in criminal justice. News reports often include articles about events that impact the field of criminal justice in a variety of ways. You will select one recently published article relating to course technology topics to summarize and discuss. Specific assignment information will be available on Blackboard. Summary grades will be available in the “Course Grade” section within one week of the due date.

Short Paper (75 points): A short paper will be based on course materials. Work should be completed in size 12 and be double-spaced with one-inch margins. This is a formal assignment, so avoid the use of personal pronouns. All answers must be in essay format. When completing the assignment, make sure to draw on information from the texts. You will not need outside sources, however you will need to properly cite any (course) sources in either APA or MLA. A link on citation is included in the “getting started” module in the course. Specific assignment information will be available on Blackboard. Short paper grades will be available in the “Course Grade” section within one week of the due date.

Course Grading Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction Post</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Leader</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Discussions (11 @ 15 points)</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Paper</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Points Possible** 420 points

Overall Point Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (93-100)</td>
<td>391-420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A- (90-92)</td>
<td>378-390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+ (87-89)</td>
<td>365-377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B (83-86)</td>
<td>349-364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B- (80-82)</td>
<td>336-348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+ (77-79)</td>
<td>323-335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C (73-76)</td>
<td>307-322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C- (70-72)</td>
<td>294-306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+ (67-69)</td>
<td>281-293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D (60-66)</td>
<td>252-280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F (59 and below)</td>
<td>251 or below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I do not “round” up grades. Every point counts!
Course Policies and Syllabi Addendum

Participation and Work Load: Online courses are not self-paced or directed studies. They require active participation. If you cannot participate at least two times a week, your grade will suffer. Your active participation is a necessary and integral part of the course. It is important that you complete the readings and required works to be successful in this course. I urge you to set aside several hours each week to complete these course requirements. Due dates are not suggested dates for assignments. Your participation in discussion forums is crucial to your course grade. These forums will apply some of the basic concepts and ideas from the weekly lesson. Please plan your work accordingly. Do not wait until the last minute to complete your course work. It creates unnecessary stress and can impact the quality of your work. If you know that you will miss a week, work ahead! There is no penalty for working ahead in the course. If you do so, make sure that you remember to post your two discussion replies to others by the assigned due date.

The LCSC Policy and Procedures Manual indicates that for each one-hour time period spent directly within the class, students should be expected to study at least two hours outside of class. This translates into about six hours of studying per week, outside of direct coursework.

Late Work and Incompletes: Late original posts will receive a letter grade deduction up to five days including weekends. It is important that original posts are posted by the due date so others can read and respond to them. Discussion replies, assignments, and quizzes can be submitted late at a penalty of a letter grade per day. After five days (including weekends and holidays), assignments will receive no more than 50% of the original point value. No late work will be accepted after December 1. Note-discussion leader assignments are not eligible for late points.

Students are expected to complete all work in a timely fashion. Incompletes are granted at the discretion of the instructor after at least 80% of all course work is successfully (D+ or higher) completed. Incompletes are reserved only for documented catastrophic or extenuating circumstances. The instructor reserves the right to set the course completion deadline, which may be at any time prior to the end of the following semester. Incompletes revert to an F if the work is not completed by the expiration deadline.

Course Etiquette: The college experience brings together students from diverse backgrounds. In order to get the most out of the course, please be respectful to others. Oftentimes in the discussion forum section we will be discussing controversial topics. If a classmate does not agree with your point of view, remember that it does not make them a bad person. Listen to their argument and consider their points. This is a crucial part of the critical thinking process that is important to the college experience.

Please keep in mind you are responsible for your success in this course!! You earn your grade through your work and effort in this course. If at any time you feel overwhelmed or are having difficulties on the material covered in the class, please do not hesitate to email me. I want to help you succeed in this course.

Keep up to date on the LCSC Social Sciences Division at https://www.facebook.com/LCSCSocScienceDiv

Course Information and Resources
Blackboard’s Accessibility webpage: [http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx](http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx)

Technical Support:

**For help with Blackboard:**
- Blackboard helpdesk phone: 208-792-2635
- Blackboard helpdesk email: [blackboard@lcsc.edu](mailto:blackboard@lcsc.edu)
- Helpdesk hours: M-F from 8am-5pm, PST
- Distance Learning website: [http://www.lcsc.edu/e-learning/](http://www.lcsc.edu/e-learning/)

**For help with LCMail and WarriorWeb:**
- IT Helpdesk phone: 208-792-2231
- IT Helpdesk email: [helpdesk@lcsc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@lcsc.edu)
- IT Helpdesk hours: M-F from 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm

Technology Requirements for E-Learning students: [http://www.lcsc.edu/e-learning/computerrequirements/](http://www.lcsc.edu/e-learning/computerrequirements/)

**Academic Support Services:**

TRIO Academic Services webpage: [http://www.lcsc.edu/trio/current-trio-students/trio-services/](http://www.lcsc.edu/trio/current-trio-students/trio-services/)

**Research and Writing:**
- LCSC writing lab webpage: [http://www.lcsc.edu/writing-center/](http://www.lcsc.edu/writing-center/)
- LCSC Library homepage: [http://www.lcsc.edu/library/](http://www.lcsc.edu/library/)
- Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL): [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/)

Math and Science help: [http://www.lcsc.edu/science/](http://www.lcsc.edu/science/)

Blackboard’s On Demand Learning Center for Students: [http://ondemand.blackboard.com/students.htm](http://ondemand.blackboard.com/students.htm)

LCSC’s Student Services webpage: [http://www.lcsc.edu/studentservices/](http://www.lcsc.edu/studentservices/)


*Syllabus Addendum*

**CONSUMER INFORMATION**

In 2008, the federal government required all post-secondary institutions offering federal financial aid programs to provide key data to both prospective and current students. To comply with this requirement, Lewis-Clark State College has developed a [consumer information](http://www.lcsc.edu/student-affairs/student-code-of-conduct/) page.
DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

Students requiring special accommodations or course adaptations due to a disability and/or a health-related issue should consult their course instructors and the LCSC Student Counseling Center immediately (RCH 111, 792-2211). Official documentation may be required in order to provide an accommodation and/or adaptation.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students have the responsibility for knowing their program requirements, course requirements, and other information associated with their enrollment at LCSC. Students should review the LCSC General Catalog and the LCSC Student Handbook for more information.

ACCIDENTS/STUDENT INSURANCE

Students participating in LCSC classes normally must look to their personal health insurance policy (Student Health Insurance Plan or comparable private coverage) should an accident occur. In the event of an accident, please seek medical help, if necessary, and report the incident to LCSC Security (792-2226). Fieldtrips or other special student activities may also require students to submit a signed participation waiver (forms can be obtained from the supporting Division Office).

ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION/ATTENDANCE

Students who are not actively pursuing their classes may have to repay part or all of their financial aid awards depending upon the circumstances.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty, which includes cheating and plagiarism, is not tolerated at LCSC. Individual faculty members may impose their own policies and sanctions regarding academic dishonesty after offering the student an opportunity to explain his or her actions. Sanctions imposed by the faculty member are limited to grades on the assignment(s) in question and/or on the course grade. On matters of academic dishonesty, faculty members do not have the authority to dismiss a student from class indefinitely nor to disenroll a student from a program without corroboration from a Division Chair (or program ethics committee where applicable), the appropriate instructional dean, and the Vice President for Student Affairs. Students who are accused of being academically dishonest may be referred to the VP for Student Affairs for official disciplinary action.

ILLEGAL FILE SHARING

Students using LCSC’s computers and/or computer network must comply with the college’s appropriate use policies and are prohibited from illegally downloading or sharing data files of any kind. Specific information about the college’s technology policies and its protocols for combating illegal file sharing may be found on the VP for Student Affairs’ Code of Conduct web page.
**DIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT**

Regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation, you will be treated and respected as a human being.

**DISCLOSURES**

During this course, if you elect to discuss information with me which you consider to be sensitive or personal in nature and not to be shared with others, please state this clearly. Your confidentiality in these circumstances will be respected unless upholding that confidentiality could reasonably put you, other students, other members of the campus community, or me in danger. In those cases or when I am bound by law to report what you have told me, such as incidents involving sexual assault or other violent acts, I will submit a report to appropriate campus authorities.

**STUDENT FEEDBACK**

Students shall be provided the opportunity to formally evaluate each course in which they are enrolled. Notification of student feedback opportunity and timelines will be made through the official LCSC student email (currently LCMail) or online course learning management (currently Blackboard Learn) systems.

*Approved by VP for Student Affairs & Provost 5/12/2015*