Professor R. Roberg  
MH 508  
924-2941  

AJ 204  
JUSTICE POLICY ANALYSIS  

COURSE DESCRIPTION  
An analysis of justice system policies and procedures, with an emphasis on how policies are formulated, evaluated and interpreted.  

COURSE OBJECTIVES  
The major objectives of the course are fivefold: (1) to provide a basic understanding of the evaluation and policy analysis process; (2) to gain entree into a criminal justice agency program; (3) to identify and detail an operational problem; (4) to establish evaluation criteria for problem measurement; and (5) to hypothetically evaluate the problem and determine policy implications for program improvement.  

TEXTS  

COURSE STRUCTURE  
The course will be conducted in a seminar style, which means that both the student and the instructor share responsibility for the success of the course. Participation in the class is mandatory and will be necessary for the successful completion of the course. Participation is considered to be more than being in attendance; it includes discussions indicating knowledge of the subject matter and/or asking probing questions. Thus, it is imperative that the assigned materials be read and "digested" prior to each class meeting.  

COURSE EVALUATION  
Evaluation/Policy Analysis Paper  
(including presentation, outline, and bibliography)  
75%  
Participation  
25%
A research paper detailing a hypothetical evaluation of an ongoing criminal justice program, and a discussion of the policy implications resulting from the evaluation, is required. You will seek out an agency official or representative who can describe an operational problem within their agency they would like evaluated (in general, the program should not have been previously evaluated). Your charge is to verify the problem, design an evaluation method for defining and assessing the problem, and to describe the policy implications (based on the hypothetical findings), that, if implemented, should improve program effectiveness.

Note: If you currently work in a criminal justice agency, you may not use your agency for evaluation/policy analysis purposes. In other words, you must seek out and gain entree to a "nonfamiliar" agency; however, this does not preclude other students from using your agency.

Grading: In addition to the normal expectations for a graduate research paper, this paper will also be assessed from the standpoint of its potential utility to the criminal justice agency. The central question would be: Does the paper provide sufficient information to properly conduct the evaluation effort and to guide the policy decisions?

Length: The length of the paper shall not exceed twenty-five (25) typewritten, double spaced pages, including footnote and bibliography pages. Not included in the length limit will be the inclusion (appendices) of the instrument(s) used in your hypothetical analysis.

Standards: The following standards apply to the final paper:

- typewritten and double spaced
- correct punctuation, spelling and mechanics
- properly footnoted (e.g., Turabian, Campbell, APA, ASR or MLA)
- proper bibliography
- appendices
- no plagiarism
Paper Format

Part I Introduction
Describe Criminal Justice Agency Program including
problem definition
Brief Historical Background

Part II Literature Review
Describe previous research (3 to 5 studies?) of a similar nature;
"outside" studies may be necessary
Describe designs and quality of the research efforts (i.e.,
expert/quasi-expert/survey; control vars., etc.)
Report the findings

Part III Design of the Hypothetical Evaluation
Research Design: type, important variables, etc.
Sample
Instrumentation: measuring instruments/methods
Data Analysis

Part IV Findings and Policy Implications
Hypothetical results: based on lit. rev. and knowledge of
program
Recommended policy changes

Part V Summary
Overall Summary
Prospects for the future

Part VI Presentation of Paper
Due to the class the day of the presentation:
Outline (1-2 pps)
Bibliography
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 29th</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 5th</td>
<td>P. and S. Chaps. 1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W. Chaps. 1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 12th</td>
<td>P. and S. Chap. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W. Chap. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 19th</td>
<td>W. Chap. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P. and S. pps. 306-326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 26th</td>
<td>Overlap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion: Instrumentation/Topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5th</td>
<td>Research Day/Agency Visitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 12th</td>
<td>W. Chap. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P. and S. Chap. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 19th</td>
<td>P. and S. Chap. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion: Topics/Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26th</td>
<td>Individual Meetings (one-half)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Day (one-half)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2nd</td>
<td>Individual Meetings (one-half)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Day (one-half)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 16th</td>
<td>W. Chap. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P. and S. Chap. 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>