Policing in America; an examination of the history, culture and contemporary issues in policing and the criminal justice system.

Course Format

Let me start by saying that I’m both delighted and honored to be teaching at the Fromm Institute. I have been an adjunct professor at USF’s School of Management for eleven years and this is my first Fromm course. While I’m sure we can adjust to the on-line format, I certainly wish we were meeting in person.

I’m looking forward to our discussing the topics mentioned in the course description, and taking a close look at the challenging issues presented by how communities currently address public safety. We will look at effective policing policies and problems in the industry, and consider the opportunities we have to create a better future.

Our class will start at 10:00 am and conclude at 11:40 am. We will take a ten-minute break at 10:50 am and resume class at 11:00 am.

Below you will find a course schedule, which sets out generally the topics that I plan to cover in each of our sessions. That said, depending on how our on-line time together unfolds, I may adjust our curriculum a bit. I will prepare a PowerPoint for each class presentation.

I look forward to your questions and will pause at least every 20 minutes for questions and answers. In addition, if you have a comment or a question that I didn’t answer, please email same to me at RLCORRIEA@USFCA.EDU. I will start off the following session by addressing any questions or issues from the previous session.

Schedule of Topics

Session 1 (09/15/2020)
- Course format
- Course objectives
- Instructor introduction
- History of policing
- 20th century policing paradigms

Session 2 (09/22/2020)
- Sir Robert Peel’s influence on American policing
- “Broken Windows” theory and its progeny
- Police organizational structure, administration and leadership

Session 3 (09/29/2020)
- Police recruitment
- Employee vetting and selection process
• Recruit training
• Pay, benefits and working conditions
• Promotions

Session 4 (10/06/2020)
• Police Culture
• Regulation
• Discipline and due process
• Police unions

Session 5 (10/13/2020)
• Community concerns and expectations; Justice, legitimacy and trust
• Politics related to police activities and policy development
• Police relationships and interactions with vulnerable populations
• Policing in a diverse society

Session 6 (10/20/2020)
• Use of force policy
• Force options
• Legal standards
• Oversight
• Criminal sanctions

Session 7 (10/27/2020)
• Police criminal investigations
• Special Victims
• Prosecution
• Probation and Parole

Session 8 (11/03/2020)
• Reform and change movements
• Future of policing in America
• Discussion and recommendations