

Revised 3,13, 2020 in Response to COVID-19: In response to the need for Instructional Continuity, these highlighted portions represent efforts to move our face-to-face class (which already uses the Blackboard assessment tool for outside students to submit work) to a fully-online format. All other portions of this syllabus remain the same and are not highlighted.

Class Location, Date, & Time:

Hawkins Prison Unit - Mondays at 6:30pm. Our first class session will be Monday, January 27th. It is very important to arrive as close to 6pm at the prison as possible in order to go through security screening and get to the actual classroom. The goal is to walk all of us from the security screening area to the classroom at the same time since we must be escorted by a correctional officer. Also, unlike in the “free world,” rules on attire are strictly enforced and prison staff might not let you inside for class if you are in violation. Please see the “What to Wear” section below and please know that the prison is actually serious about these clothing rules.

The class plans to meet via Collaborate Ultra (the free video conferencing and document sharing tool within Blackboard and available anywhere with an internet connection. Since our class has a significant number of students who live within a prison, research was done to determine what other courses like this are doing. Several prisons across the U.S. are working to allow use of video conferencing for Inside-Out class sessions. The Hawkins Unit administration wants to try to work something out (still being finalized) to have all of the insider students in gather in the Visitation Room facing a video screen and the UALR students participate via Collaborate Ultra. The session link would be sent to the warden and the decision for the best room (if not Visitation) to allow connectivity and keep ADC security in mind. UALR students would simply continue meeting weekly, but via these Collaborate Ultra sessions in Blackboard.

About the Location of Our Class:

Our class is held in Wrightsville, Arkansas; specifically the Hawkins side of the Wrightsville Prison, managed by the Arkansas Department of Correction. Please note that you are coming to the “Hawkins” side of the complex and not the “Wrightsville” side of the complex; both sides make up the overall ADC facility in Wrightsville Arkansas.

Hawkins Prison Unit in Wrightsville Arkansas



Directions: 10 miles south of Little Rock, Interstate 530 (Exit 7- Wrightsville/Pratt Road Exit), East to Highway 365 in Wrightsville (Pulaski County), to Highway 386 East. As you come down the long road to the prison, you will see a well-lit set of buildings at the end of the road (as you are heading toward it). That set of buildings is the “Wrightsville” side of the complex (not the one you need). Please pay careful attention to make a left onto a dirt road just before you reach the parking area for the Wrightsville side. Make that left and continue until you see another set of buildings on your right; that is the “Hawkins” side of the complex. Park in any of the spots you see that is not marked as reserved for prison staff. There is a small building (the only one you can physically walk to) in that parking area. That small building is the security screening area where we will meet each week for class. After you have done this the first time, it will not seem complicated (smile).

Getting to Class: In the past, most students have carpooled to class leaving from campus. That means that those willing to drive, have been kind-enough to meet others on campus (usually in front of the UALR Police Station in the Big Lots parking area). You are also free to drive to class on your own. If you are carpooling, please be respectful of your classmates so that you are not late to class; this means exchanging phone numbers in order to communicate as needed. I will also be able to carry 3 students with me each week from campus.

Instructor:

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Introduction

I am Dr. Montague and I have the pleasure of being your instructor for this life-changing course. UALR has the two only certified instructors for this course in Arkansas and it is made up of half UALR students and half inmates at the prison. We meet for roughly 2.5 hours (starting at 6:30pm) and it is a hard-hitting emotional course in which the insiders and outsiders share their views about our criminal justice system, behavior, rehabilitation, and other related matters. This course is part of an international educational program based at Temple University and you can learn more about it by visiting the National Inside-Out Center website at <http://www.insideoutcenter.org>.

Most students who have taken this course consider it a life-changing experience and it is open to students in any major at UALR which allow electives. Each week we go over readings I have provided the previous week and discuss them as a class using specialized techniques designed to break-down barriers students might have in sharing their thoughts about criminal justice issues. It is an open environment in which mutual respect is required and the students tend to quickly forget they are even physically within a prison; meaning the discussion is engaging. Here is the link for an orientation video about the class; please watch it (<https://bbvideo.ualr.edu/watch/S17pU>).

Professor Bio



Dr. David R. Montague is the Director of Online Learning and Faculty Mentoring at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock; and is a tenured, Full Professor of Criminal Justice. In this role, he oversees all aspects related to administration and innovation for online learning at the university and the university's program to mentor new faculty out of the Office of the Provost. He earned a PhD at Howard University in Political Science, an MA at The George Washington University in Crime and Commerce, and a BA at Morehouse College in Political Science.

Dr. Montague completed federal investigations for fourteen years in law enforcement and intelligence capacities working for the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as a federal drug diversion investigator, the United States JFK Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) as the Senior Investigator (i.e. head of the investigations unit), and as a consultant on national security matters with US Investigations Services, Inc. He has lectured on Asset Forfeiture at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia and was a member of the founding faculty of the PhD Program in Organizational Leadership at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

Having come to UALR in 2004 joining the Department of Criminal Justice as an Assistant Professor teaching in their undergraduate and graduate programs, he has used his time at UALR to facilitate a mix of his teaching, research, and service in such a manner as to use his access to expose students via projects, collaborate both on and off campus, and generate grant and contract funding as often as possible. He founded the UA Little Rock Senior Justice Center, to promote service and research on crime against older people. He is the recipient of the 2003, Outstanding Faculty Staff Award for Outstanding Teaching and Intellectual Development of Undergraduate Students by the University of Maryland at College Park Nyumburu Cultural Center, the 2009 UALR College of Professional Studies Faculty Excellence Award in Teaching, and the 2014 UALR College of Professional Studies Faculty Excellence Award in Service. He is also the recipient of the 2016 Felix Fabian Founder's Award from the Southwest Association of Criminal Justice, awarded for outstanding contributions to SWACJ and the criminal justice profession.

Dr. Montague formerly served as the graduate coordinator for the UALR Master of Science Program in criminal justice and is a graduate of the LeadAR Program, the Arkansas State leadership program involving a two-year commitment of service-learning and

travel within-state and the People's Republic of China. He was a founding member of the UALR Chancellor's Committee on Race and Ethnicity and his most recent funded research project was to evaluate programming for the Arkansas Department of Community Correction, dealing with services for clients during and after release from prison. In 2017, he was appointed to a part-time role as coordinator of the university's mentoring program for new faculty and became permanent director in 2019.

Dr. Montague is active in the community volunteering as a deputy sheriff in Arkansas, participating in a rehabilitation program at three prisons, and has served on several discipline-related boards; one of them being the board of directors for the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, one of the largest national associations for criminal justice educators.

He has presented his research internationally at conferences in Austria, Slovenia, Germany, Holland, Trinidad, and Canada. In addition to serving as a keynote speaker nationally, he has testified before two state legislatures on prospective policies. He has written numerous publications and is the coauthor of the book *Travesty of Justice: The politics of crack cocaine and the dilemma of the Congressional Black Caucus*, now in its Second Edition. He is also finishing up a new book dealing with his tenure as part of the Congressional reinvestigation of JFK assassination records during the 1990s.

Dr. Montague resides in Little Rock, Arkansas with his wife and daughter.

Course Requirements

- No books required for this course
 - All learning materials are provided by the instructor
- No tests or exams
- No reaction/research paper
- Only detailed weekly reflection papers about the experiences each student has and attendance
- All learning materials are provided by the instructor
- Activities
 - Such as small-group exercises
 - A poetry slam
 - Discussion of scholarly articles and news articles o First-name-only stories

We will simply be flexible about the remaining larger scale class activities (e.g. poetry slam) and handle them via Collaborate Ultra.

Important Regarding Security at the Hawkins Unit in Wrightsville, AR

- Bring your ID each and every time we meet for class; prison staff will not let you in without it.
- Be mindful of what you are wearing, in that unlike in the "free world," rules on attire are strictly enforced and prison staff might not let you inside for class if you are in violation.
- Bring a pen/pencil and paper for note taking and important information.
- Please arrive on time, every time (meaning by 6pm). We all have to be searched one at a time and we have to sign in and we want to be sure that everyone in attendance is signed-in and ready to go by the time the escort arrives to walk us to the visitation center where we will hold class this semester.
- Any person or vehicle entering a correctional unit can be searched for contraband. Do not bring anything in your car that you know is illegal.
- Do not bring anything into the unit that is considered contraband. Do not question the rules of the prison as to "why" certain things are contraband, just know that the prison takes these seriously:
 - Some contraband (meaning legal outside of prison but illegal inside prison) items:
 - weapons
 - tobacco
 - cell phones matches
 - lighters
 - hand sanitizer sharp objects cameras,
 - pagers
 - pocket knives food
 - water/liquid bottles/cans
 - There are vending machines

Expectations During Class Sessions

- Students will adhere to the behavior guidelines of the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC)
- Students must treat all students, ADC officials, the instructor, and the teaching assistant with respect, dignity, and courtesy
- Students will come prepared for each class session having completed all readings and their reflection papers
- Students will follow the “rule of Inside-Out” with respect to talking during class

What you Can Share With Others in the Class

- Do not share any personal information you do not wish to. According to the International Inside-Out Program rules, students cannot share their last name (for security reasons). We will all be on a first- name basis.
- Do not tell anyone where you live.
- Do not accept any note/document from any other student unless it is something for class. If a student has altered that note/document in some manner by adding information to it, do not accept it.
- Do not pass any note/document to another student.
- Insiders and outsiders are not to communicate with each other outside of the aspects of this course while it lasts; anything else constitutes a conflict of interest and the instructor must notify ADC officials about any instance of this happening.
- Report anything that makes you feel uncomfortable to Dr. Montague or the teaching assistant immediately.
- Violations of these rules can result in being barred from the class and from admittance to any ADC facility in the future.

What to Wear

Class, please know that the prison has no “wobble-room” on this and you should make sure you think about what you are going to wear to class once you get dressed that morning. Some students keep extra clothing in their vehicle just for this class to avoid being refused entrance after travelling all the way there:

- No sleeveless tops
- No halter-tops
- No tank tops
- No muscle shirts
- No hats
- No shorts
- No mini-skirts/dresses
- No see-through clothing
- No camouflage pattern attire (they have concerns of people escaping into the woods)
- No cut-up/slashed jeans
- No sandals
- No open-toe shoes
- Try not to wear clothing that is “tight” on the body
- Absolutely no “gang” attire
- Try not dress in all-white (the insiders wear all-white)

Special Accommodations

Any student needing special accommodations must contact the instructor. Depending on whether the student is an insider or an outsider, either/or both the ADC and the UALR Disability Resource Office will have to be contacted. The instructor will make every effort to work with any reasonable accommodations and respect the privacy of the student.

Students with Disabilities

Your success in this class is important to me, and it is the policy and practice of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock to create inclusive learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you have a documented disability (or need to have a disability documented), and need an accommodation, please contact me privately as soon as possible, so that we can discuss with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) how to meet your specific needs and the requirements of the course. The DRC offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process among you, your instructor(s) and the DRC. Thus, if you have a disability, please contact me and/or the DRC, at 501-569- 3143 (V/TTY) or 501-683- 7629 (VP). For more information, please visit the DRC website at www.ualr.edu/disability.

Accessing Course Material

The Outside students (i.e. those from UALR) will access the course material via the course shell on BlackBoard. The Inside students (i.e. those living at Wrightsville) will be provided hard copies of the course material.

Class Schedule

Please refer to the modules on BlackBoard for each week. They are clearly marked by date. The class will follow the UALR class calendar unless modified by the instructor.

Turning in Assignments Each Week

Each week, students must complete a 1-page assignment called a “reflection paper.” For students who have had me for Crime and Behavior, this is not the same thing as the reaction paper I assign in that course. This asks for only 1 page that has two detailed paragraphs; nothing more. Please see the requirements of the reflection papers below:

- Student First and Last name
- Trojan or ADC Number
- Date completed
- Outside students must submit their reflection papers during the same week as the same class session they are writing about—these must be submitted in the appropriate Blackboard module submission tool for that week’s class session. Inside students must submit their reflection papers on the next Monday at the start of the class session.
- In addition to the three things listed above, your reflection paper must be organized in the following manner:
 1. Part One = A detailed paragraph explaining what we actually did in class. Give me clear sentences and examples of what actually happened. Please write in a way that does **not** presume I was there at the time to make it clear.
 2. Part Two = A detailed paragraph explaining what the class session meant to you personally. That is, what stood out to you? What surprised you? What impressed you? What bothered you? Again, please write as though you are explaining this to someone who was not actually there for class.

Remember, these reflection papers are confidential and can only be shared if you give me permission to do so. The UALR students already submit their weekly reflection papers via Blackboard’s submission tool. The plan is for the prison to either scan and email the insider students' papers to the instructor snail-mail them.

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