



KIIS Italy, Winter 2021-2022

CRIM 490 Topics: Comparative Criminal Justice Systems

Instructor: Dr. Joey Budd

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Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description: This course will examine the similarities and differences of the Italian Criminal Justice system to the United States Criminal Justice system. Students will compare areas of law enforcement, the court system, and the correctional systems. We will also explore the treatment of offenders with mental disabilities.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

This course examines law enforcement and corrections roles within the criminal justice system in Italy as it compares and contrasts with the United States. Particular emphasis will be placed upon a comparison with the U.S. criminal justice system and the aspects of the U.S. legal system relating to the treatment of offenders with mental disabilities. This course will explore the responses and actions of the criminal justice system as a part of the broad historical,

social, and political trends. This course will also explore the relationships between societal features/cultures and their influences on the criminal justice system in both Italy and the United States.

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Describe the similarities and differences of the Italian and United States Criminal Justice systems, specifically corrections and law enforcement.
- Identify and discuss the similarities and differences of the correctional system's treatment of offenders with mental disabilities.
- Identify and discuss the similarities and differences of police response to individuals with mental disabilities.

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

This course will examine the similarities and differences of the Italian Criminal Justice system to the United States Criminal Justice system. Students will compare areas of law enforcement and correctional systems. During the study abroad, the student will examine law, crime, criminal procedure, and social justice systems of Italy and the United States. This course will compare and contrast the social and psychological environment of policing and corrections. How do the police respond to individuals with mental illness and how do each correctional institutions treat inmates with mental illness. This course will assist students in the understanding and conceptualization of different criminal justice systems. The history of both systems will be examined along with the similarities and differences of each.

5. Required Readings and Materials: Required readings will be emailed to the student at the provided email before the trip departure. It is the responsibility of the student to check their email before departure and download, print, and bring the required course readings.

6. Graded Assignments:

Grading assessments for this course are as follows:

Assessment	Points	Total
Class Seminar Participation	10 per session	100
Reflective journal	10 pts daily (11 entries)	110
Reading Summary	50 pts per summary	200
Final reflective journal	100	100
	Total Points:	510

Class Participation: All students are expected to participate fully in seminar discussions. Students are also expected to be actively engaged during field trips and guest speaker presentations (if occurring). This includes listening to all information given and asking appropriate questions. The class participation grade is based upon the following:

CLASS PARTICIPATION ASSESSMENT RUBRIC	
Points	Assessment
10	Fully participated in each and every discussion as called upon or in a voluntary fashion.
8	In most cases participated in discussions as called upon or in a voluntary fashion.
7	Generally participated in discussions as called upon or in a voluntary fashion.
6	Occasionally participated in discussions as called upon or in a voluntary fashion.
4	Rarely participated in discussions as called upon or in a voluntary fashion.
0	Failed to participate when called upon or failed to volunteer in a fashion.

Reflective Journals: All students must keep a daily journal (including the 1st day of travel) in which they must make at least one entry per day. The intent of this requirement is for students to reflect upon what they have learned about the criminal justice system, theory, and practice in Italy as well as any field trips or excursions. Students are encouraged to make comparisons between the United States and Italy. Each journal must be submitted for review every other day and will be reviewed and returned by the instructor by the following day

Reading Summaries: All students will compose a 400-word summary of readings assigned for this course (all required readings will be sent to students before trip departure. It is the responsibility of the student to print and bring the required reading with them. The summary may be written in the same or different journal book as the daily journals; this is up to the student. These summaries will be collected and graded when the instructor receives the daily journals.

Final Reflective Journal Entry: This last reflective journal entry will be composed no earlier than the day before departure and will be collected by the instructor. The final reflective journal must be at least 1000 words and summarize the student's experience throughout the trip with a focus on the similarities and differences of the criminal justice systems. Final journals will be collected at the airport on the day of departure back to the United States and will be returned to the student before landing. If the student is not traveling with the group, the journal will be returned to the student before their departure.

7. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

8. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be

aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

9. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Deborah Wilkins (270-745-5396 / deborah.wilkins@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you

may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eo/titleixbrochure2020.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.