

**PSL 498: Special Topics in Public Safety Leadership**

**Spring Semester 2024**

**P.O.S.T. Course Code:**

**INSTRUCTOR:**             Ben Cohen, MPA

**EMAIL ADDRESS:**      ben.cohen@reinhardt.edu

**PHONE:**                       (404) 702-7474

**COURSE SCHEDULE**  
Spring Semester | Session II: March 11th - May 5th, 2024

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is the Public Safety Leadership capstone seminar.  This undergraduate seminar emphasizes topics of current relevance and interest in public safety leadership. Content will have a strategic management/leadership focus. A focal point of this course will be the discussion and preparation of position papers on the issues relevant to the successful management and leadership integration of public safety systems.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

No textbook is required for this course.

**OML PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLOs)**

Upon completion of the Bachelor of Organizational Management & Leadership degree, the individual student should possess the following qualities, abilities, and skills:

* PLO 1: Graduates will critique the application of management/leadership theories across diverse organizational contexts and environments.
* PLO 2: Graduates will examine organizational issues through application of analytical principles and scholarly/professional literature.
* PLO 3: Graduates will evaluate organizational issues through analysis of legal, ethical, and moral dimensions.
* PLO 4: Graduates will develop adaptive strategies to promote problem solving, positive change, and innovation within organizations.
* PLO 5: Graduates will develop individual awareness and professional communication skills that influence outcomes.
* PLO 6: Graduates will develop awareness of global and multicultural issues in relation to organizational management and leadership.
* PLO 7: Graduates will demonstrate the ability to articulate positions and communicate findings through composition of APA style scholarly/professional writings.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs):**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be prepared to:

* CLO 1: Define and evaluate the application of major leadership and management theories in the context of public safety (PLO 1; PLO 2).
* CLO 2: Analyze leadership and organizational issues through legal, ethical, and moral dimensions (PLO 2; PLO 3).
* CLO 3: Critique scholarly case studies that assists with developing possible innovative solutions to leadership issues (PLO 3; PLO 4).
* CLO 4: Produce a scholarly paper outlining a chosen leadership / management topic within the context of their profession, addressing relevant leadership challenges within and outside of their department  (PLO 5; PLO 6; PLO 7).
* CLO 5: Present scholarly paper in class through the context of serving in a leadership role (PLO 6; PLO 7).

**CREDIT HOUR STATEMENT**

Courses offered in an 8-week session are twice as intensive as those held during a traditional full semester. In addition to the 40 hour residency component, students should expect to spend a minimum of 11 hours each week interacting with course content through a combination of direct instruction and out of class student work.  Examples of direct instruction may include viewing or reading course lectures, engaging in class forum discussions with the course instructor and other students, viewing or reading supplementary online content required by the instructor, completing online assignments, and reading instructor announcements related to course material and instructor feedback.  Examples of out of class student work may include reading the assigned course textbook, doing independent library research, completing essay assignments, developing more extensive research papers, and preparation for examination or quizzes.

**RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT**

This course includes a mandatory residency.  The residency shall be delivered through a combination of asynchronous online course work and traditional face to face class sessions during residency. The amount of hours scheduled for the residency is to be determined at a later date.

**GEORGIA P.O.S.T. COUNCIL UNIFORM ACADEMY REGULATIONS**

The OML program consists of career development courses and is defined as specialized training by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council. Individual courses shall be administered in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Georgia P.O.S.T. Council.

**Georgia P.O.S.T. Uniform Academy Regulation 9.2.1 / 9.2.2**

Due to the comprehensive building-block nature of specialized courses, it is vital that students attend the entire course.

Any student who fails to attend a minimum of 90% of the mandatory 40-hour residency component for this course will not be eligible for Georgia P.O.S.T. training credit.  
The residency component shall consist of 40 hours. The residency shall delivered through a combination of scheduled online interactive class sessions and traditional face to face class sessions.

Students who fail to attend a minimum of 90% of the residency component and subsequently attend this course at a later date shall be required to attend and successfully complete the entire course. This shall include completion of blended independent/interactive online assignments and the mandatory residency component.

**Georgia P.O.S.T. Uniform Academy Regulation 9.1.3**

Students shall not be provided with an opportunity to re-test on written examinations.

**Georgia P.O.S.T. Uniform Academy Regulation 9.1.4**

Students who fail to demonstrate required skills on an assignment classified as a performance examination shall not be provided with structured remediation nor be retested. This regulation will not apply to assignments classified as practical exercises.

**Georgia P.O.S.T. Uniform Academy Regulation 9.1.6**

Students must achieve a final cumulative average of 80% or higher in this course to receive Georgia P.O.S.T. training credit for attendance. Students who fail to achieve the minimum final cumulative average and subsequently attend the course at a later date shall be required to attend and successfully complete the entire course. This shall include completion of blended independent/interactive online assignments and the mandatory residency component.

**REINHARDT UNIVERSITY ONLINE ATTENDANCE AND WITHDRAWAL POLICY**

Students must meet weekly online attendance requirements. An online week is defined as being Monday 12:00 AM (EST) through Sunday at 11:59 PM (EST). Deadlines for attendance are based on Eastern Standard Time.

A student will be considered in attendance for a given week of instruction if he or she participates in the course through the submission of a required assignment or attends a scheduled online interactive class session.

**Initial Course Participation**

A student who fails to participate during the first 8 calendar days of a course shall be administratively dropped from the course.

**Ongoing Course Participation**

Ongoing course participation is satisfied through the continued completion of weekly online course room activities. Students who do not participate in a course for 7 or more consecutive days are not satisfying ongoing course participation.  
  
Students who are not satisfying the ongoing course participation requirement shall be notified by a University representative via University email. The student must resume participation in the course within 3 calendar days following the sending of the notification.

Students who do not resume participation in the course will be administratively withdrawn from the course and be issued a grade of “W” or “F”.

A grade of “W’ will be issued if an administrative or voluntary withdrawal occurs before 11:59 PM (EST) on Monday of the fifth week of the course.

A grade of “F” will be issued if an administrative or voluntary withdrawal occurs after 11:59 PM (EST) on Monday of the fifth week of the course.

Students may be impacted academically and financially in the case of voluntary and administrative withdrawals. It is the student’s responsibility to understand these implications.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

All assignments must be completed by the learner. Learners are expected to read and adhere to the Academic Integrity section of Reinhardt University’s Academic Catalog.

Cases of academic dishonesty may result in expulsion from the University, a failing grade for the course, or a failing grade for the assignment.

This course is sanctioned by the Georgia P.O.S.T. Council as specialized training.  Instances of cheating or academic dishonesty must be reported to the Council as prescribed in the Uniform Law Enforcement Academy Regulations.

The following are recognized as unacceptable forms of academic behavior at Reinhardt University:

* Plagiarizing, that is presenting words or ideas not your own as if they were your own. The words of others must be enclosed in quotation marks and documented. The source of the distinctive ideas must also be acknowledged through appropriate documentation. (NOTE: Strictly adhere to APA citation and referencing guidelines to avoid this).

* Submitting a paper written by another student or another person as if it were your own.

* Submitting a paper containing sentences, paragraphs, or sections lifted from another student’s work or other publication; there must be written documentation.

* Submitting a paper written by you for another course or occasion without the explicit knowledge and consent of the instructor.

* Fabricating evidence or statistics that supposedly represent your original research.

* Cheating of any sort on tests, papers, projects, reports, etc.

* Using the internet inappropriately as a resource. See 3 above.

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS & EVALUATION**

This is a course based primarily on submission of timely capstone reviews, so class attendance is required. Class participation is absolutely critical in the success of the students. Students are expected to have read the material and maintain sufficient progress towards the completion of their capstone research project.

It is expected that previous courses the students have taken in the MPA program will be used in the format of contributing to assignments.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS**

Knowledge of the material presented in this course will be evaluated based on the satisfactory completion of all coursework. Methods of instruction and learning include unit reading assignments, individual research, and writing assignments. Learners are expected to complete all module activities during the week assigned and, in the manner, prescribed.

**Reading Assignments**

While there is not a required textbook adopted for this class, mandatory reading assignments will posted each week in the Module Academic Requirements pages in the form of scholarly journal articles.

**Weekly Assignments**

Deadlines for module assignments shall be published within individual Module Academic Requirements. Students must meet requirements specified for each assignment.  Assignments must adhere to the citation and referencing guidelines contained in the 7th Edition APA Manual, as well as proper formatting.

**Capstone Presentation**

Students will be expected to present on their chosen topic at the end of the course. Students will investigate and explore their chosen topic and draw connections to practice.  Students will be expected to deliver presentations on their findings.

**Comprehensive Examination**

A final, comprehensive examination will be administered during the in-person residency for this course.  The examination shall consist of essay questions based on subject matter tied to course and program learning outcomes.

**Final Capstone Research Paper**

Students are required to write a paper analyzing and evaluating a topic of concern within public safety leadership, which takes into account social, political, or legal influences. All topics must be approved in advance by the course instructor.

The paper should reflect an interest that explores the dynamics of leadership & management issues within public safety and its context. Consider addressing a policy area or write your paper as a policy white paper including relevant research and documentation.

The final paper must meet the following requirements:

* Written in APA 7th Edition format.

* Must follow the template format as provided.

* Must have a title page in APA format. An abstract will be required as the paper may exceed more than 10 pages in length.

* Must have a reference page in APA format.

* Must have a reasonable amount of acceptable scholarly references listed and cited in the body of the work.

* Double spacing is required between sentences and paragraphs per APA guidelines.

* Use Times New Roman 12 font when preparing the paper.

* Must demonstrate the ability to utilize short quotes, and summary/paraphrase in proper APA format.

* Plagiarism will not be tolerated…your paper must properly document all ideas and information not your own. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade for this course. Other sanctions may be imposed based on University policy.

* Do not attempt to copy and paste from research papers or essays available online. The instructor will diligently check all papers for plagiarism.

**Quality of Student Work**

Use of proper grammar, correct spelling, and writing principles are expected in all work. Full credit will not be granted for work that contains grammar or spelling errors.

**EVALUATION & GRADING**

The following grading scale will be utilized in the determination of the student’s final course grade:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grade Percentage** | **Corresponding Letter Grade** |
| 90-100% | A |
| 80-89% | B |
| 70-79% | C |
| 0-69% | F |

NOTE:  A final grade of 70% (C) or higher is required for academic credit.

**FINAL AVERAGE BREAKDOWN**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ASSIGNMENT CATEGORY** | **FINAL GRADE PERCENTAGE** |
| Case Study Analyses | 30% |
| Discussion Assignments | 20% |
| Final Cumulative Examination | 20% |
| In-Class Presentation | 10% |
| Topic Analysis Paper | 10% |
| Program Reflection Essay | 5% |

**PROJECTED LEARNING SCHEDULE**

**Module #1:  March 11th - March 17th, 2024**

Overview of Course

Introductory Discussion Assignment

**Module #2:  March 18th - March 24th, 2024**

Review of PSL 310: Foundations of Managerial Leadership Behavior

Relevant Case Study Analysis

**Module #3:  March 25th - March 31st, 2024**

Review of PSL 320: Communications & Cultural Change

Relevant Case Study Analysis

**Module #4: April 1st - April 7th, 2024**

Review of PSL 330: Human Resource Management

Relevant Case Study Analysis

**Module #5: April 8th - April 14th, 2024**

Review of PSL 460: Ethics, Values & The Law

Relevant Case Study Analysis

**Module #6: April 15th - April 21st, 2024**

Prepare for in-person residency discussions, paper presentation, and final cumulative examination

Work on topic analysis paper

**Module #7: April 22nd - May 5th, 2024**

Mandatory residency component. Students will continue to draft and revise their papers for final submission. Students will also prepare a PowerPoint presentation to present in class along with completing a final cumulative examination. A program reflection essay will also be due this module.

**ONLINE ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES**

Reinhardt University offers academic support services for online students through BrainFuse HelpNow. Services include access to live tutors, writing lab assistance, and study center resources. These resources are offered at no additional charge and are available on demand through [Course Resources](https://reinhardtuniversity.instructure.com/courses/2439/pages/course-resources).

**NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

Reinhardt University does not discriminate in any of its policies, programs, or activities on the basis of race, color, age, culture, national origin, socioeconomic status, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, physical (dis)ability or genetic information.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a documented disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Support Office (ASO).

Reinhardt University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Therefore, if you are seeking classroom accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to register with the Academic Support Office (ASO). ASO is located in the basement of Lawson Building. Phone is 770-720-5567. To receive academic accommodations for this class, please obtain the proper ASO letters/forms.