
Calumet College



of Saint Joseph

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Calumet College of St. Joseph is a Catholic institution of higher learning dedicated to the academic, spiritual and ethical development of undergraduate and graduate students. Informed by the values of its founding religious community, the Missionaries of the Precious Blood (C.P.P.S.), the College promotes the inherent dignity of all people, social justice, an ethic of service, student empowerment, opportunity, and lifelong learning.

COURSE SYLLABUS, Spring, 2020

Course: CRIJ 356 Cults in America

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name	Monica N. Lopez
Office Number:	DNA
Phone Number:	773-387-6390
Email:	Mlopez4@ccsj.edu
Office Hours:	Available by appointment upon request. In addition, the instructors will meet with students either before or after class as requested.
Instructor Background: Calumet College alumni of the PSM and PSA programs. Retired Chicago Police Officer with 22 years of service. Director and Founder of "I'm Not Just A Name Children's Resource Center", a children's center for missing and exploited children with locations in Illinois and Texas. B.S Private Security Management M.A. Private Security Administration	

Course Information:

Course Time:	Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
Classroom:	Room 305
Prerequisites:	CRIJ 100
Required Books and Materials:	Title: Cults in Our Midst Edition: Revised Edition Author: Robert Jay Lifton ISBN: 0-7879-6741-6
Learning Outcomes/ Competencies: Students in this course will: By the end of this course students will have demonstrated the ability to analyze the attraction of certain individuals to cults through a thoughtful and critical evaluation of the nature composition and purpose of cults. To Achieve the critical performance, students will have demonstrated the ability to:	

- Discuss the various definitions of the word “cult”
- Outline the origin and historical development of cultic groups providing reasoned explanations for their continuing emergence
- Compare the major cultic groups of the past and present
- Examine social psychological processes such as obedience, brainwashing, persuasion, and coercion in the context of cults.
- Analyze the relationship of cultic groups to religion and terrorism
- Assess society’s views of cults and cultic groups
- Research the existence of cultic groups on college university campuses with particular reference to personal experiences.
- Collaborate effectively with peers to complete oral and written activities that demonstrate a respect for differing viewpoints and an appreciation of diversity.

Course Description: This course examines the complexities of the cult phenomenon. The general approach will be to determine what cults are, how they work and how to help ex-cult members. Written product(s) will be assigned. Satanic cults and law enforcement approaches to cults will be examined.

Course Objectives: This course meets the following program objectives: 1) Learning to apply knowledge and skills to benefit others or serve the public good. 2) Developing ethical reasoning and/or ethical decision making. 3) Each student shall develop skills in expressing himself/herself orally and in writing. 4) Each student shall learn to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions). 5) Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course.

Assessments:

Major Assignments:	Midterm Paper, Final Paper, Final Presentation.	
Assessments:	Quizzes, Tests, Writing assignments, Group Projects.	
Class Participation:	Students will be assessed based on their written work product, including an evaluation of content understanding, writing quality, and overall clarity/effectiveness writing.	Class participation, attendance, and collaboration 40% Quizzes & Exams 30% Papers & Assignments 30%
Total		100%

Grading Scale:

100% – 92%: A	91% – 90%: A-	
89% – 88%: B+	87% – 82%: B	81% – 80%: B-
79% – 78%: C+	77% – 72%: C	71% – 70%: C-
69% – 68%: D+	67% – 62%: D	61% – 60%: D-
59% and below:	F	

Course Schedule: Tentative Schedule and Readings List

CLASS DATE:	ASSIGNMENTS:	CLASS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIVITIES:
Week 1 – 1/14/20	Read Chapter 1. Prepare for class discussion	Introductions, syllabus. What is a Cult? “Cults explained” video
1/16/20	Blackboard discussion post.	Chapter 1 discussion. Types of Cults article.
Week 2 – 1/21/20	Read Chapter 2. Prepare for class discussion	“NXIVM Sex Cult” History of cults discussion
1/23/20	Blackboard discussion post.	Chapter 2 discussion. Classroom assignment.
Week 3 – 1/28/20	Read Chapter 3. Prepare for class discussion Midterm paper topics due.	“Cults & Brainwashing” video Brainwashing discussion.
1/30/20	Blackboard discussion post.	Chapter 3 discussion Class activity
Week 4 – 2/04/20	Read Chapter 4 Prepare for class discussion	QUIZ #1 “Mark Kilroy” case
2/06/20	Blackboard discussion post Prepare for class discussion	Chapter 4 discussion Group work
Week 5 – 2/11/20	Scientology assignment	Scientology article review
2/13/20	Blackboard discussion post	Scientology discussion
Week 6 – 2/18/20	Read Chapter 5 Prepare for class discussion	“Mind Control Ministry” video/discussion
2/20/20	Blackboard discussion post	Chapter 5 discussion Cult Recruitment
Week 7 – 2/25/20	No assignment	QUIZ #2 Midterm exam review
2/27/20	Midterm paper due No assignment	MIDTERM EXAM
Week 8 – 3/03/20	SPRING BREAK	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
3/05/20	SPRING BREAK	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Week 9 – 3/10/20	Read Chapter 7 Prepare for class discussion	“Mugshots: David Koresh – Prophet of Death” video/discussion
3/12/20	Blackboard discussion post	Chapter 7 discussion.
Week 10 -3/17/20	Read Chapter 8 ** Prepare for class discussion	Movie
3/19/20	Blackboard discussion post	Chapter 8 discussion Class activity
Week 11 – 3/24/20	Read Chapter 9 Prepare for class discussion	The legal system v. cults discussion
3/26/20	Blackboard discussion post	Chapter 9 discussion Group work
Week 12 – 3/31/20	Read Chapter 10 Prepare for class discussion	“Ritual Child Abuse” article review
4/02/20	Blackboard discussion post	Chapter 10 discussion
Week 13 – 4/07/20	Read Chapter 11 Prepare for class discussion	QUIZ #3 “Leaving the Cult” article review/discussion
4/09/20	Blackboard discussion post	Chapter 11 review

Week 14 – 4/14/20	No assignment	Group work
4/16/22	Blackboard discussion post	Group work
Week 15 – 4/21/20	Read Chapter 12 Prepare for class discussion	What happens next? Discussion
4/23/20	Blackboard discussion post	QUIZ #4/review Chapter 12 review
Week 16 – 4/28/20	Prepare for final exam	Final exam review
4/30/20	Final Paper Due	FINAL EXAM

I reserve the right to change this schedule to meet the needs of the class.

Responsibilities	
Attending Class	You cannot succeed in this class if you do not attend. We believe that intellectual growth and success in higher education occur through interaction in the classroom and laboratories. Being absent doesn't excuse you from doing class work; you have more responsibilities to keep up and meet the objectives of this course. Poor attendance will NEGATIVELY AFFECT YOUR GRADE . Students are expected to arrive ON TIME or early and prepared for class. Excessive tardiness or class absences will result in a drop of one full letter grade.
Turning In Your Work	If you miss class it is your responsibility to catch up on the material you missed. It would be a good idea for you to make friends with people in the class so you can help each other. If you anticipate scheduling conflicts or other problems meeting the requirements of this course, please consult with me well in advance. Because you will know due dates for papers well ahead of time, late papers will not be accepted.
CCSJ Student Honor Code	This course asks students to reaffirm the CCSJ Student Honor Code: I, as a student member of the Calumet College academic community, in accordance with the college's mission and in a spirit of mutual respect, pledge to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuously embrace honesty and curiosity in the pursuit of my educational goals; • Avoid all behaviors that could impede or distract from the academic progress of myself or other members of my community; • Do my own work with integrity at all times, in accordance with syllabi, and without giving or receiving inappropriate aid; • Do my utmost to act with commitment, inside and outside of class, to the goals and mission of Calumet College of St. Joseph.
Using Electronic Devices	Electronic devices can only be used in a case of emergency. If you must take an emergency call you will be asked to exit the classroom until the completion of the call. If you text or access the Internet for other purposes, you may be asked to leave, in which case you will be marked absent.
Participating in Class	You must be on time, stay for the whole class and speak up in a way that shows you have done the assigned reading. If you are not prepared for class, you may be asked to leave, in which case you will be marked absent.
Doing Your Own Work	If you turn in work that is not your own, you will be subject to judicial review by the Faculty-Student Grievance Committee. These procedures can

	<p>be found in the Student Planner. The maximum penalty for any form of academic dishonesty is dismissal from the College.</p> <p>Using standard citation guidelines to document sources avoids plagiarism. You'll find guides to the major citation methods at the CCSJ Specker Library Web page at http://www.ccsj.edu/library/subjectsplus/subjects/guide.php?subject=cite</p> <p>PLEASE NOTE: All papers may be electronically checked for plagiarism.</p>
Sharing Your Class Experience	<p>At the end of the term, you will have the opportunity to evaluate your classroom experience. These confidential surveys are essential to our ongoing efforts to ensure that you have a great experience that leaves you well prepared for your future. Take the time to complete your course evaluations – we value your feedback!</p>
Withdrawing from Class	<p>After the last day established for class changes has passed (see the College calendar in the CCSJ Course Catalog), you may withdraw from a course by following the policy outlined in the Course Catalog.</p>

Resources	
CCSJ Book Rental Program	<p>The CCSJ Book Program ensures that everyone has the right course materials on the first day of class to be successful. You pay a book rental fee each semester, and in return, receive all the materials for all your classes prior to the beginning of classes. At the end of the semester, simply return the books. For traditional students, the Book Rental Program is conveniently located in the library, where students can pick up and return their books. For students in accelerated programs and graduate programs, books will be delivered to their homes and they can return them by mail. For more information, see http://www.ccsj.edu/bookstore. All books must be returned at the end of the semester or you will incur additional fees, which will be charged to your student account.</p>
Student Success Center:	<p>The Student Success Center provides faculty tutors at all levels to help you master specific subjects and develop effective learning skills. It is open to all students at no charge. You can contact the Student Success Center at 219 473-4287 or stop by the Library.</p>
Disability Services:	<p>Disability Services strives to meet the needs of all students by providing academic services in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. If you believe that you need a “reasonable accommodation” because of a disability, contact the Disability Services Coordinator at 219-473-4349.</p>
Student Assistance Program	<p>Through a partnership with Crown Counseling, Calumet College of St. Joseph provides a free Student Assistance Program (SAP) to current students. The SAP is a confidential counseling service provided to students for personal and school concerns which may be interfering with academic performance and/or quality of life. The SAP counselor is available on campus once a week and off-site at the Crown Counseling offices in Crown Point or Hammond. For more information, contact Kerry Knowles SAP Counselor, at 219-663-6353 (office), 219-413-3702 (cell), or kerryk@crowncounseling.org.</p>
CCSJ Alerts:	<p>Calumet College of St. Joseph’s emergency communications system will tell you about emergencies, weather-related closings, or other incidents via text, email, or voice messages. Please sign up for this important service annually on the College’s website at: http://www.ccsj.edu/alerts/index.html.</p>

