Community-Oriented Policing

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Law Enforcement I</th>
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<td>Unit IV</td>
<td>Community-Oriented Policing</td>
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**Rationale**
Community-Oriented Policing (COP) is a recent, and occasionally controversial, concept in law enforcement. It is important for an officer to understand its significance in order to lower crime rates by effectively working with community members.

**Objectives**
The student will be able to:

1. Define terms associated with COP.
2. Compare and contrast traditional law enforcement with COP.
3. Analyze research on traditional law enforcement and recommendations made about police work.
4. Assess what skills an officer needs to be effective in COP.
5. Examine ways police departments have implemented COP.
6. Create methods to address crime in the community.
7. Evaluate the effectiveness of COP ideas presented by fellow students.

**Engage**
Use the following scenario and questions for a class discussion:
There is an apartment complex in your community that officers consider a “hot spot,” an area where officers spend a disproportionate amount of time responding to calls. The crimes in this complex are numerous and include drug deals, assaults, robberies, gangs, and property crimes. Officers have only treated the symptoms with traditional methods of arresting and investigating. Unfortunately, this has not reduced the crime rate. What alternative methods could the police department attempt? What are some elements that might be helpful?

**Key Points**

I. Definitions

A. Community-Oriented Policing (COP) – decentralized policing programs that focus on crime prevention, quality of life, public order, and alternatives to arrest

B. Problem-Oriented Policing – also associated with COP; a proactive type of community policing that focuses on solving the underlying problems of delinquency and crime

II. Characteristics

A. Focuses on proactive crime prevention rather than emergency response

B. Encourages officers to see citizens as partners

C. Shifts decision-making and discretion downward to those who...
know the neighborhood best: patrol officers
D. Increases visible operations

III. Comparisons with traditional law enforcement
A. Traditional
   1. Rapid response
   2. Crime investigation
   3. Apprehension of criminal
   4. Law enforcement
   5. Responds to the symptoms
B. COP
   1. Uses strategies that promote crime prevention
   2. Promotes the community quality of life and public order
   3. Uses alternatives to arrest and force in order to solve the problem

IV. Origin
A. Police research of, and Presidential Commissions for the events in the 1960s resulted in data and recommendations
B. Data
   1. Analysis of crime statistics showed that the current emphasis on crime fighting has had a limited effect on reducing crime.
   2. Police isolation
      a) Prevented strong ties to the community
      b) Hampered crime-fighting efforts
      c) Resulted in ignorance of unreported crimes
   3. Randomized patrols had a limited impact on crime
   4. A large portion of serious crimes were not deterred by rapid response
   5. There was less friendly foot patrolling because of the reimplementation of automobiles
   6. Answering the high number of 911 calls overwhelmed the police and left them little time for crime prevention
   7. Detectives solved only a small percentage of the crimes; the majority of solved cases hinged on information obtained by patrol officers
C. Recommendations
   1. There is a need for formal call screening procedures to differentiate between emergency and nonemergency calls.
   2. Rather than performing randomized patrols when not handling calls, the officers' time could be more profitably spent addressing specific criminal activities.
   3. Police could identify the community “hot spots” and reduce the number of repeated calls to these locations.
   4. Patrol officers needed to become knowledgeable about their beats through "beat-profiling" activities such as studying
demographics and call histories.
5. Officers needed to develop “tailored patrol” strategies to address the types of crime and citizen concerns revealed by their profiling activities.
6. Officers must be assigned to permanent shifts and beats if they are to participate in community activities.

V. Benefits
A. Interaction with the community can improve the attitudes of officers toward their jobs and toward the communities they serve, which encourages the officers to develop creative solutions to complex problems.
B. Officers are able to obtain valuable information about criminal activity and perpetrators by getting to know members of the community.
C. Officers can obtain realistic assessments of community members’ needs and their expectations of police services.

VI. Challenges
A. Decentralization of decision-making is difficult because officers are more comfortable with a structured leadership.
B. The need for retraining is difficult for the traditional officers who see the public as their enemy.
C. Crime displacement versus elimination
D. Acceptance by biased communities who may have a preconceived, negative stereotype of police
E. The tyranny of neighborhoods that suppress persons who are considered objectionable

VII. Officer skills needed
A. Attentive
B. Non-judgmental
C. Communication skills
D. Resourceful
E. Open-minded
F. Flexible
G. Problem-solving
H. Hard-working
I. Outgoing

VIII. The SARA method of application
A. Scanning – gather data to define the problem
B. Analysis – determine the nature of the problem, causes, and possible solutions
C. Response – work with people, groups, and agencies to implement solutions
D. Assessment – follow up on the initiatives taken

Activities
1. Students research how police departments use COP, design a visual aid, cite resources, and report their findings to the class. A potential resource is [http://www.cj.msu.edu/~people/cp/20year.html](http://www.cj.msu.edu/~people/cp/20year.html).

2. Students work as individuals or groups to research crime issues in their local community and to develop an effective COP program. They will present their program to the class for evaluation.

3. Students complete the COP open-note quiz.

Assessments
COP Exam
COP Quiz (open-note)
Discussion Rubric
Group Evaluation Rubric
Presentation Rubric
Summary Rubric

Materials
COP PowerPoint
Computers
Internet Access
Presentation software or poster boards with markers

Resources

National Center for Community Policing [http://www.cj.msu.edu/~people/cp/20year.html](http://www.cj.msu.edu/~people/cp/20year.html)


Accommodations for Learning Differences
For reinforcement, students will compare the characteristics between traditional law enforcement and community policing and why each method could have a different impact on the community.

For enrichment, students will research complaints against community policing, and determine if they are valid and outweigh the benefits of it.
State Education Standards
Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Career and Technical Education
§130.293. Law Enforcement I (One to Two Credits)
(12) The student summarizes the philosophy and concepts that influence the development and implementation of a community-oriented police program. The student is expected to:
   (A) define community-oriented policing; and
   (B) evaluate the skills needed to be a successful community-oriented police officer.

College and Career Readiness Standards
V. Research
   A. Formulate topic and questions
      2. Explore a research topic.
   B. Select information from a variety of sources.
      1. Gather relevant sources.
      2. Evaluate the validity and reliability of sources.
      3. Synthesize and organize information effectively.
   C. Produce and design a document.
      1. Design and present an effective product.
      2. Use source material ethically.
Community-Oriented Policing Exam

1. Which of the following involves decentralized policing programs that focus on crime prevention, quality of life in the community, public order, and alternatives to arrest?
   a) Community-Oriented Policing
   b) Problem-Oriented Policing

2. Which of the following focuses on solving the underlying problems of delinquency and crime?
   a) Community-Oriented Policing
   b) Problem-Oriented Policing

3. What is not a characteristic of Community-Oriented Policing?
   a) Focus is on proactive crime prevention rather than emergency response
   b) Encourages officers to see citizens as partners
   c) Shifts decision-making and discretion downward to patrol officers
   d) Less visible operations

4. Rapid response is a characteristic of which of the following?
   a) Traditional law enforcement
   b) Community-Oriented Policing

5. Crime investigation is a characteristic of which of the following?
   a) Traditional law enforcement
   b) Community-Oriented Policing

6. Strategies that promote crime prevention are a characteristic of which of the following?
   a) Traditional law enforcement
   b) Community-Oriented Policing

7. Apprehension of the criminal is a characteristic of which of the following?
   a) Traditional law enforcement
   b) Community-Oriented Policing

8. Law enforcement is a characteristic of which of the following?
   a) Traditional law enforcement
   b) Community-Oriented Policing

9. Promoting the community quality of life and public order is a characteristic of which of the following?
   a) Traditional law enforcement
   b) Community-Oriented Policing
10. Using alternatives to arrest and force to solve the problem is a characteristic of which of the following?
   a) Traditional law enforcement
   b) Community-Oriented Policing

11. Responding to the symptoms is a characteristic of which of the following?
   a) Traditional law enforcement
   b) Community-Oriented Policing

12. According to findings done by police research, what kind of effect does the current emphasis on crime fighting and randomized patrolling have on reducing crime?
   a) Powerful effect
   b) No effect
   c) Limited effect
   d) Research is inconclusive

13. According to findings done by police research, what has prevented strong police ties to the community, hampered crime fighting efforts, and resulted in police ignorance of unreported crimes?
   a) 911 calls
   b) Foot patrol
   c) Rapid response
   d) Police isolation

14. According to the results of police research, a large portion of serious crimes are not deterred by which of the following?
   a) Police isolation
   b) Rapid response
   c) Foot patrol
   d) 911 calls

15. According to the results of police research, what was reduced due to automobiles?
   a) Rapid response
   b) Foot patrol
   c) 911 calls
   d) Police isolation

16. According to the results of police research, which of the following overwhelmed the police and left them little time for crime prevention?
   a) Rapid response
   b) Foot patrol
   c) 911 calls
   d) Police isolation
17. According to findings done by police research, who solved only a small percentage of the crimes analyzed?
   a) Patrol Officers
   b) Detectives

18. According to recommendations from the police research, what is needed to differentiate between emergency and non-emergency calls?
   a) Formal call-screening procedures
   b) Hot spots
   c) Beat profiling
   d) Specific criminal activities

19. According to recommendations from the police research, rather than performing randomized patrols when not handling calls, the officers’ time is more profitably spent addressing what?
   a) Tailored patrol strategies
   b) Hot spots
   c) Beat profiling
   d) Specific criminal activities

20. According to recommendations from the police research, what can police identify to reduce the number of repeated calls to specific locations in a community?
   a) Tailored patrol strategies
   b) Beat profiling
   c) Hot spots
   d) Specific criminal activities

21. According to recommendations from the police research, patrol officers need to become knowledgeable about their beats through “__________” activities such as studying the demographics and call histories.
   a) Tailored patrol strategies
   b) Beat profiling
   c) Permanent shifts
   d) Interaction with the community

22. According to recommendations from the police research, officers need to develop __________ to address the types of crime and citizen concerns revealed by their profiling activities?
   a) Tailored patrol strategies
   b) Beat profiling
   c) Permanent shifts
   d) Community interaction
23. According to recommendations from the police research, what must officers be assigned, if they are to participate in community activities?
   a) Permanent shifts
   b) Permanent beats
   c) Beat profiling
   d) A and B

24. What improves the attitudes of officers toward their jobs and the communities they serve which encourages the officers to develop creative solutions to complex problems?
   a) Tailored patrol strategies
   b) Beat profiling
   c) Permanent shifts
   d) Interaction with the community

25. What can officers gain by getting to know community members?
   a) Valuable information about criminal activity
   b) Valuable information about perpetrators
   c) Specific criminal activities
   d) A and B

26. Which of the following is a huge shock to the traditional officers who see the public as their enemy?
   a) Decentralization of decision making
   b) Need for retraining
   c) Crime displacement versus elimination
   d) Acceptance by biased communities
   e) Tyranny of neighborhoods

27. The ____________ who have a preconceived negative stereotype of police is a challenge for community policing.
   a) Decentralization of decision making
   b) Need for retraining
   c) Crime displacement versus elimination
   d) Acceptance by biased communities
   e) Tyranny of neighborhoods

28. Moving crime to a part of the community that is less vocal about it describes what?
   a) Decentralization of decision making
   b) Need for retraining
   c) Crime displacement versus elimination
   d) Acceptance by biased communities
   e) Tyranny of neighborhoods

29. The suppression of persons who are considered objectionable describes what?
a) Decentralization of decision making  
b) Need for retraining  
c) Crime displacement versus elimination  
d) Acceptance by biased communities  
e) Tyranny of neighborhoods  

30. Officers being more comfortable with a structured leadership describes what?  
a) Decentralization of decision making  
b) Need for retraining  
c) Crime displacement versus elimination  
d) Acceptance by biased communities  
e) Tyranny of neighborhoods  

31. Which of the following is a characteristic of an effective community-oriented policing officer?  
a) Communication skills  
b) Resourceful  
c) Open-minded  
d) Flexible  
e) All of the above  

32. What is not a characteristic of an effective community-oriented policing officer?  
a) Attentive  
b) Judgmental  
c) Problem solving  
d) Hard working  
e) None of the above  

33. What does SARA stand for?  
a) Surveying, Announcing, Receiving, Assessment  
b) Scanning, Announcing, Receiving, Assessment  
c) Surveying, Analysis, Response, Assessment  
d) Scanning, Analysis, Response, Assessment
Community-Oriented Policing Exam Key

1. A
2. B
3. D
4. A
5. A
6. B
7. A
8. A
9. B
10. B
11. A
12. C
13. D
14. B
15. B
16. C
17. B
18. A
19. D
20. C
21. B
22. A
23. D
24. D
25. D
26. B
27. D
28. C
29. E
30. A
31. E
32. B
33. D
Community-Oriented Policing Quiz

Decentralized policing programs that focus on crime prevention, quality of life in the community, public order, and alternatives to arrest are called what?

1. ____________________________________________________________________

What focuses on solving the underlying problems of delinquency and crime?

2. ____________________________________________________________________

List at least 4 characteristics of Community-Oriented Policing.

3. ____________________________________________________________________

4. ____________________________________________________________________

5. ____________________________________________________________________

6. ____________________________________________________________________

List at least 3 characteristics of Traditional Law Enforcement.

7. ____________________________________________________________________

8. ____________________________________________________________________

9. ____________________________________________________________________

According to findings done by police research, what kind of effect does the current emphasis on crime fighting and randomized patrol have on reducing crime?

10. ____________________________________________________________________

According to findings done by police research, what has prevented strong police ties to the community, hampered police crime fighting efforts, and made police unaware of unreported crimes?

11. ____________________________________________________________________

According to findings done by police research, a large portion of serious crimes are not deterred by what?
12.___________________________________________________________________

According to findings done by police research, what was there less of because of automobiles?

13.___________________________________________________________________

According to findings done by police research, what kept the police overwhelmed by the number of calls for service, and left police little time to prevent crimes from occurring?

14.___________________________________________________________________

According to findings done by police research, who solved only a small percentage of the crimes analyzed?

15.___________________________________________________________________

According to recommendations that came from the police research, what is needed to differentiate between emergency and nonemergency calls?

16.___________________________________________________________________

According to recommendations that came from the police research, rather than performing randomized patrols when not handling calls, the officers’ time could be more profitably spent addressing what?

17.___________________________________________________________________

According to recommendations that came from the police research, what could police identify to reduce the number of repeated calls to these locations in a community?

18.___________________________________________________________________

According to recommendations that came from the police research, patrol officers need to become knowledgeable about their beats through “__________” activities such as studying the demographics, and call histories.

19.___________________________________________________________________

According to recommendations that came from the police research, what did officers need to develop to address the types of crime and citizen concerns revealed by their profiling activities?

20.___________________________________________________________________

According to recommendations that came from the police research, what must officers be assigned if they are to participate in community activities?
21. What could improve the attitudes of officers toward their jobs and toward the communities they served and could encourage the officers to develop creative solutions to complex problems?

22. What can officers obtain by getting to know members of the community?

23. This can be a huge shock to traditional officers who see the public as their enemy.

24. The acceptance by minority communities who may have a bias against, or a preconceived negative stereotype of, police is a challenge of what for community policing?

25. Eliminating or moving crime to another part of the community that is less vocal about it describes what?

26. The suppression of persons who for one reason or another are considered objectionable such as paroled offenders or minority teenagers in a white neighborhood is describing what?

27. Officers being more comfortable with a structured leadership would be describing what?

28. List at least 4 characteristics of an effective community policing officer?

29. 

30. 

31. 

32. 

29. 

30. 

31. 

32. 

What does S.A.R.A. stand for?
Community-Oriented Policing Quiz Key

1. Community-Oriented Policing
2. Problem-Oriented Policing
3. Focus is on proactive crime prevention rather than emergency response
4. Encourages officers to see citizens as partners
5. Shifts decision-making and discretion downward to patrol officers who know the neighborhood best
6. More visible operations, Strategies that promote crime prevention, Promoting the quality of life of the community and public order, Use of alternatives other than arrest and force to solve the cause of the problem
7. Rapid response
8. Crime investigation
9. The apprehension of the criminal, law enforcement, responding to the symptoms
10. A limited effect
11. Police isolation
12. Rapid response
13. Foot patrol
14. 911 calls
15. Detectives
16. Formal call-screening procedures
17. Specific criminal activities
18. Hot spots
20. Tailored patrol strategies
21. Permanent shifts and beats
22. Interaction with the community
23. Valuable information about criminal activity and perpetrators
24. Need for retraining
25. Crime displacement versus elimination
26. Crime displacement versus elimination
27. Tyranny of neighborhoods
28. Decentralization of decision making
29. Attentive
30. Nonjudgmental
31. Communication skills
32. Resourceful, open-minded, flexible, problem-solving, hard-working, outgoing
33. Scanning, Analysis, Response, Assessment
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<td>Participates in group discussion</td>
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<td>Encourages others to join the conversation</td>
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<td>Keeps the discussion progressing to achieve goals</td>
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<td>Shares thoughts actively while offering helpful recommendations to others</td>
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<td>Gives credit to others for their ideas</td>
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<td>Respects the opinions of others</td>
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<td>Involves others by asking questions or requesting input</td>
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<td>Expresses thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively</td>
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**Total Points (32 pts.)**

**Comments:**
Group Evaluation

Group 1

Did the group take the assignment seriously?
No
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Yes

Could you tell what the group was trying to portray?
No
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Yes

Was the group portrayal creative?
No
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Yes

Did the group include the correct elements?
No
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Yes

Would you like to see this group demonstrate their talent for you in the future?
No
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Yes

Total Score_______

Group 2

Did the group take the assignment seriously?
No
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Yes

Could you tell what the group was trying to portray?
No
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Yes

Was the group portrayal creative?
No
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Yes

Did the group include the correct elements?
No
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Yes

Would you like to see this group demonstrate their talent for you in the future?
No
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Yes

Total Score_______
Group 3

Did the group take the assignment seriously?  
No  Yes
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Could you tell what the group was trying to portray?  
No  Yes
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Was the group portrayal creative?  
No  Yes
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Did the group include the correct elements?  
No  Yes
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Would you like to see this group demonstrate their talent for you in the future?  
No  Yes
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Total Score_______

Group 4

Did the group take the assignment seriously?  
No  Yes
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Could you tell what the group was trying to portray?  
No  Yes
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Was the group portrayal creative?  
No  Yes
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Did the group include the correct elements?  
No  Yes
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Would you like to see this group demonstrate their talent for you in the future?  
No  Yes
1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Total Score_______
Group 5

Did the group take the assignment seriously?  Yes
No

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Could you tell what the group was trying to portray?  Yes
No

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Was the group portrayal creative?  Yes
No

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Did the group include the correct elements?  Yes
No

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Would you like to see this group demonstrate their talent for you in the future?  Yes
No

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Total Score_______

Group 6

Did the group take the assignment seriously?  Yes
No

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Could you tell what the group was trying to portray?  Yes
No

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Was the group portrayal creative?  Yes
No

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Did the group include the correct elements?  Yes
No

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Would you like to see this group demonstrate their talent for you in the future?  Yes
No

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10

Total Score_______
# Presentation Rubric

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<td>• Image and font size are legible to the entire audience</td>
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<td><strong>Oral Presentation</strong></td>
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**Comments:**
## Summary Rubric

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<td>The critical analysis has all required parts from introduction to body to conclusion.</td>
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<td>The critical analysis is concise but complete.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The critical analysis demonstrates that the writer comprehends the content.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The critical analysis demonstrates accurate spelling, grammar, and punctuation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The overall content of the critical analysis emphasizes appropriate points.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The writer shows an understanding of sentence structure, paragraphing, and punctuation.</td>
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<td>The source of the critical analysis is clearly and accurately documented.</td>
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<td>The critical analysis demonstrates the correct use of terminology.</td>
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</table>

**Total Points (32 pts.)**

**Comments:**