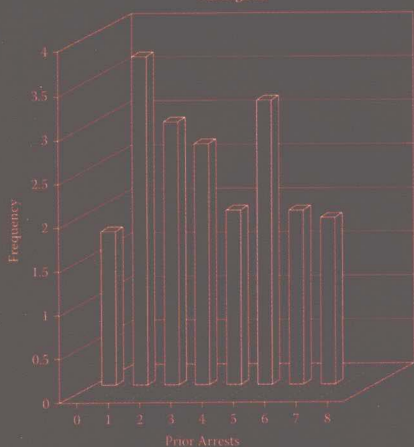


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Criminal Justice Research Methods

Theory and Practice

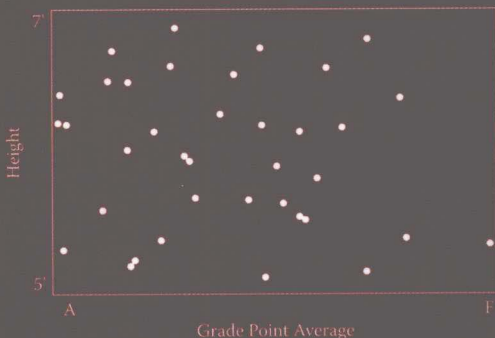
Second Edition

Gerald J. Bayens
Cliff Roberson



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preface

Before writing the first edition of this text, we identified several key issues that greatly influenced what materials would be covered on the subject of research. First, we noted that most college students who are studying research for the first time do so during a single semester and usually while taking several other academic courses. In the second edition, we have updated the examples, reworked the exercises, added additional discussion points, and updated the research-in-action sections.

Trying to learn a vast amount of information about the subject of research in a 14- to 16-week time frame can be problematic, if not impossible. This is especially true if a very complex and technical textbook is adopted for the course. Second, experience in the classroom tells us that some students are intimidated by research textbooks. Complicated research terminology, mathematical formulas, and the lack of practical examples can cause the best of students to become perplexed and dread the study of research. Third, there are all types of research documents available to students in the 21st century. Thousands of research books, periodicals, and electronic print documents covering specific types of research, research designs, methodologies, analyses, and other subjects are currently available to enable students to become more educated in certain aspects or areas of research. Finally, and probably most important, we firmly believe that the art of learning research occurs in only one place—the field. It is not until the student actually conducts research under the watchful eyes and direction of a veteran researcher that real research knowledge is set in place.

Having considered each of these matters, we ambitiously have written an introduction to this criminal justice research textbook that is, foremost, easy to understand. In this book, you will not find

undue complicated research language, and the complexities often associated with research have been kept to a minimum. Also, we adopted a straightforward approach and cover a sufficient amount of material to allow first-time research students to get “comfortable” with the study of research. Moreover, parameters were established with regard to the length of the textbook, so that the subject matter can easily be covered within a single academic semester.

This text provides a clear approach to the study of research, enabling students who are experiencing their initial exposure to this subject to be fundamentally prepared to go out into the real world and become proficient researchers in criminal justice and criminology.

Gerald J. Bayens
Cliff Roberson

the authors

Gerald J. Bayens, PhD, is a professor and chair of the Criminal Justice and Legal Studies Department at Washburn University. He also provides direct services and technical assistance to criminal justice agencies, focusing on strategic planning and policy development.

Dr. Bayens teaches courses in law enforcement and correctional management, criminal justice policy, and research methods. He earned an interdisciplinary doctorate in criminal justice, political science, and research methods from the Union Institute and University, a master's in criminal justice from the University of Alabama, and a BA in criminal justice from Washburn University.

Dr. Bayens worked in the criminal justice field for 22 years. He is a former special agent of the Kansas Bureau of Investigations, director of Juvenile Corrections, and director of Intensive Supervised Probation. He served as a military policeman in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1974 through 1978.

He is the author of more than 20 research articles and government technical reports, including "Defining Law Enforcement's Role in Protecting American Agriculture from Agroterrorism," "Campus Crime Data: The Need to Collect Simple Assault Statistics," "The Impact of the New Penology on ISP," and, most recently, "Best Practices in the Prevention of Agroterrorism: A Descriptive Study of the Readiness of Nine Beef-Producing States." He has delivered more than 50 lectures, conference papers, and presentations in the United States and abroad. He is also a co-author of *Criminal Justice Research Methods: Theory and Practice* (2000, Wadsworth Publishing, Belmont, California) and *Community-Based Corrections* (forthcoming 2011, McGraw-Hill Publishing, New York).

Dr. Bayens is a member of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and serves on the Academic Review and Certification Committee. He is the recipient of the 1993 Washburn Fellow Award. In 1992 and 1993, he served as president and past-president of the Kansas Correctional Association.

Cliff Roberson, LLM, PhD, is the editor-in-chief of the *Professional Issues in Criminal Justice Journal* and is academic chair for the Master of Science in Criminal Justice Program of Kaplan University. He is also an emeritus professor of criminal justice at Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas.

In 2009, a research study conducted by a group of professors from Sam Houston State University determined that Cliff Roberson was the leading criminal justice author in the United States based on his publications and their relevance to the profession (see *Southwest Journal of Criminal Justice*, Vol. 6, Issue 1, 2009). He has authored or co-authored over 50 books and texts on legal subjects. His books include *Procedures in the Justice System*, 9th ed. (with Harvey Wallace and Gilbert Stuckey), Pearson, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, 2009; *Constitutional Law and Criminal Justice*, Taylor & Francis, Boca Raton, Florida, 2009; *Principles of Criminal Law*, 4th ed. (with Harvey Wallace), Allyn & Bacon, Boston, 2008; *Police Field Operations: Theory Meets Practice* (with Michael Birzer), Pearson, 2008; *An Introduction to Comparative Legal Models of Criminal Justice* (with Dilip Das), Taylor & Francis, 2008; *Ethics and Criminal Justice* (with Scott Mire), Taylor & Francis, 2010; and *Family Violence* (with Harvey Wallace), Pearson, 2010.

Dr. Roberson also served as associate vice president for academic affairs at Arkansas Tech University; dean of arts and sciences, University of Houston, Victoria; director of programs, National College of District Attorneys; professor of criminology and director of Justice Center, California State University, Fresno; and assistant professor of criminal justice, St. Edwards University. Dr. Roberson's nonacademic experience includes U.S. Marine Corps service as an infantry officer, trial and defense counsel and marine judge advocate, and director of the Military Law Branch, U.S. Marine Corps. Other legal employment experiences include assignment as trial supervisor, Office of State Counsel for Offenders, Texas Board of Criminal Justice and judge pro tem in the California courts. Dr. Roberson is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Military Appeals, U.S. Tax Court, federal courts in California and Texas, and the Supreme Courts of Texas and California.

He earned a PhD in human behavior from U.S. International University, an LLM in criminal law, criminology, and psychiatry from George Washington University, a JD from American University, a BA in political science from University of Missouri, and pursued a year of postgraduate study at the University of Virginia School of Law.

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