PHI 805-12 Faith-Learning Integration and Interdisciplinary Studies

C. Brian Diggs

Omega Graduate School

Date: September 28, 2024

Professor

Dr. David Ward, Ph.D., Th.M.

**Assignment #3 – Essay**

**1.** Write a 5-page paper based on the following:

a. From the Course Resources tab in DIAL for SR 805, download the (a) Interdisciplinary Faith-Learning Research Worksheet and (b) Tips for answering the questions for each of the seven steps of the interdisciplinarity learning process.

b. Review (a) and (b). Complete the worksheet, including the top section, providing the submission date, your name, educational background, social profession, and other pertinent information (e.g., I have worked/been involved with/influenced by.…)

c. Answer the questions for the seven steps of the OGS Interdisciplinary Faith Learning Research Worksheet.

d. Document all sources in APA style, 7th edition, for in-text citations and for Work Cited. Include page numbers.

e. Include a separate Works Cited page, formatted according to APA style, 7th edition.

2. Submit through DIAL to the professor.

**Appendix 4A: Faith-Learning Integration Worksheet**

Date: September 28, 2024

Name of Scholar-Practitioner: C. Brian Diggs

Educational Background: Bachelor of Science Degree, Criminal Justice, Shippensburg University; Master’s Degree, Pastoral Counseling, Crisis Response and Trauma, Liberty University; Professional Training; Maryland State Police, Federal and Local allied law enforcement

Social Profession: Law Enforcement-Maryland State Police and Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Service-Deputy Chief

Other Pertinent Information: Light University, Board Certified Mental Health Coach, BODi Fitness Coach, Chesapeake Science Point High School Track Coach

**Tips for the SR805 100-Day Assignment Faith-Learning Integration Worksheet**

See the published article about this process (*Interdisciplinary Faith-Learning Integration for Social Change*, JIS, V26 (2014)—Dr. David C. Ward). The article is much more detailed than the syllabus because the method has been refined through the growth in understanding each stage of the process and interaction with the methods standard in the national interdisciplinary studies movement.

**Steps 2, 3, & 4 ought to have some sources to back up the process because it is an academic process in Steps 2-4, and a practical process in Steps 5-7**. In my article describes this approach to faith-learning integration and interdisciplinary social change is described as "***Learning***... [in such a way as] ***to Change Your World***."

**Step 1** **Research Problem/Question-** In the Syllabus it is an assigned topic: i.e. work as job, profession, career, or calling. *But you can select a topic based on your interests, especially if it is related to your sense of calling in some aspect.* I am interested in how you work through the process. Please e-mail the professor your topic ideas and receive feedback about your topic idea at the beginning.

**Step 2** **Hermeneutics/Literature Review**- can be whatever disciplinary sources are relevant; also, at this early stage in the program you can include in this stage any social research done on your subject, for example, if you found articles reporting research done on multi-generation businesses. As seen in Dr. Ward’s article, and by the dissertation stage of the OGS program, Step 4 is where your own social research project goes.

**Step 3** **Faith-Learning Integration**-is where faith-integrated sources (Scripture, tradition [i.e. if theologians have addressed the topic or Christian worldview/theological truths involved in applying a Christian worldview to the topic], reason [if Christian businessmen have written on the topic-if it was a business topic, etc.], and experience [this is where personal Christian reflections guided by prayer and the Holy Spirit would come in].

**STEP 1: OBSERVATIONS RAISING THE NEED FOR INQUIRY**

What is the subject/problem that prompts the need to integrate faith and learning and do Christian interdisciplinary research?

Police brutality is the use of excessive force by law enforcement, while the art of de-escalation emphasizes the importance of managing confrontational situations without resorting to force. Do de-escalation techniques help reduce tensions, leading to safer outcomes for law enforcement and civilians?

a. Why is the topic interesting, given your profession or personal history?

In my childhood, I was fortunate to have a sense of security and trust in law enforcement. Throughout my childhood, I was surrounded by family members, coaches, and neighbors who served as police officers. These individuals played a significant role in shaping my positive perception of law enforcement. I never feared encountering unfamiliar officers but held them in high regard. The sight of their uniforms and the stories they shared instilled in me a deep admiration for their profession, ultimately inspiring a desire within me to pursue a career in law enforcement. My understanding of policing was centered on the belief that these men and women aspired to effect positive change in their communities, all while maintaining respect for the citizens they were sworn to safeguard.

The topic of brutality in police and the art of de-escalation intrigues me due to my career in law enforcement. When I started my career 38 years ago, there was a sense of mutual respect between the public and law enforcement. Back then, it was often possible to defuse a situation through dialogue and presence alone, without resorting to physical force or making an arrest. However, policing has undergone a significant transformation. Officers now approach every call with a heightened sense of threat, and the once-prized verbal de-escalation skills seem lost. I am interested in exploring whether this shift in approach has contributed to the increase in police brutality or if there are broader societal factors at play that have led to a decline in respect for law enforcement.

b. Why is there a need to research this subject/problem?

1. To evaluate if de-escalation techniques consistently result in safer outcomes for law enforcement officers and civilians.

2. To examine the potential scenarios in which de-escalation techniques may not effectively alleviate tensions and ensure safer outcomes in particularly high-stress situations.

3. To address the fact that the use of force by law enforcement is sometimes essential for public safety and cannot always be averted through de-escalation techniques.

c. What disciplines or perspectives need to be considered to adequately address this subject/problem?

1. The culture of systematic racism and racial profiling in policing
2. The need for diversity and fair and impartial training in policing
3. Interpreting police brutality: Police Perception and Citizen Perception
4. Police mental health, anxiety, depression, fear

d. How might faith-integration and interdisciplinary research yield better answers than either exclusively religious or exclusively academic research might provide?)

The daily work of a police officer is both physically and mentally demanding. Unlike most professions, when you take the oath to become a police officer, the need for situational awareness and the ability to react never turns off. During my first year or two on patrol, I realized that I had to rely on my training to survive on the streets. But more importantly, I had to rely on my faith to keep myself emotionally and mentally fit. Staying true to my faith also allowed me to respond and react to people I encountered on calls in a manner that reflected God’s grace. Yes, I have been in fights, I have had to use force, and being a member of the SWAT team is a dynamic part of the job. However, by integrating my faith into my daily routine, I can do my job while remembering that everyone still needs to be treated with a sense of respect and dignity.

**STEP 2: LITERATURE REVIEW- HERMENEUTICAL INQUIRY OF NATURAL/SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES/HISTORICAL TRADITIONS**

What are the different perspectives on the subject/problem from the relevant contemporary natural or social science disciplines, cultural trends, and ideas?

1. To evaluate if de-escalation techniques consistently result in safer outcomes for law enforcement officers and civilians.

De-escalation techniques can be an effective intervention tool that helps individuals in crisis and reduces police liability and injury. When an officer applies de-escalation skills appropriately, the probability that he or she will effectively intervene in a crisis is increased, and the need for using physical force is minimized (Oliva et al., 2010).

2. To address the fact that the use of force by law enforcement is sometimes essential for public safety and cannot always be averted through de-escalation techniques.

According to James et al. (2016), “the police have gone from being the ‘good guys’ to being the ‘bad guys’… every use of deadly force (particularly against minority subjects) seems to be presumed unreasonable until proven otherwise” (pg. 49). There is a clear crisis of police-citizen relations in American society, and much of this problem is defined along racial lines (Natalie Erin Todak, 2017).

a. How has the subject/problem developed relevant contemporary natural or social science disciplines?

The intersection of law enforcement and public health highlights the crucial necessity for providing mental health assistance in defusing high-stress situations. Identifying individuals experiencing mental health crises and connecting them with appropriate support can prevent potential conflicts from escalating into violent confrontations (Spielfogel & McMillen, 2016).

De-escalation is a valuable skill frequently associated with mental health environments, but its relevance extends to various fields, including law enforcement. Research indicates that effective de-escalation relies on essential elements such as communication, body language, active listening, and validation across professional domains (Spielfogel & McMillen, 2016).

Are there different traditions?

b. How has the subject/problem developed in cultural trends/history?

c. What disciplines have developed which have addressed the subject/problem?

In recent years, law enforcement’s response to handling calls involving people with mental illness or experiencing a mental health crisis has gained increasingly more attention; there have been several incidents that have escalated and resulted in the death of the individual (White & Goldberg, 2018).

By drawing on principles of conflict resolution, law enforcement can devise strategies that prioritize negotiation and mediation over confrontation. Training officers in mediation techniques can empower them to facilitate dialogue between conflicting parties, ultimately fostering peaceful resolutions (White & Goldberg, 2018).

How have they addressed it (briefly)?

Are there different schools of thought?

Interpreting police brutality: Police Perception and Citizen Perception. The central concern of the current research is to assess police officers' and citizens' perceptions of neighborhood problems.

Extensive research has focused on neighborhood problems. Previous studies have mainly examined the perceptions of officers and citizens separately, with very few examining both simultaneously. As a result, there is limited understanding of the extent to which officers and local residents agree or disagree on their perceptions of neighborhood problems (Sun & Triplett, 2008).

The surrounding environments within neighborhoods can provide valuable insights into how residents perceive disorder, their fear of crime, and the impact of policing. However, limited empirical assessment has been made of how these factors influence officers' perceptions of neighborhood problems (Sun & Triplett, 2008).

**STEP 3: FAITH-LEARNING INTEGRATION INQUIRY WITH CHRISTIAN AND SCIENTIFIC SOURCES**

How does Scripture deal with this issue? Realize that many issues that result from modernity or technological advances will not be directly addressed by the Bible, but Scripture may provide a parallel or precedent with a similar issue or subject, or the topic may be addressed through extrapolation.

The concept of policing as we understand it today did not exist in ancient times, including in the Old Testament. However, the Old Testament provides various insights into law enforcement, justice administration, and communal responsibility, foundational principles underpinning modern policing.

The New Testament does not directly address policing in the modern sense, as the structures and roles within law enforcement were not present when it was written. However, it offers teachings and principles that can shed light on a Christian perspective regarding justice, authority, and community relations, which can be relevant to the concept of policing today.

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a. Are there any developments in biblical thought about the issue from the Old Testament?

In ancient Israel, leaders and judges played a significant role in maintaining order and administering justice. The judges acted as mediators, ensuring that justice was served according to the laws of the land. This reflects an early form of law enforcement, where community leaders were responsible for upholding societal norms and adjudicating conflicts (*NIV Bible*, 2011).

The Old Testament emphasizes collective responsibility for maintaining justice and order. This communal aspect highlights the shared responsibility for upholding laws and ensuring justice. Additionally, laws such as the instruction to not bear false witness (*NIV Bible*, 2011 Exodus 20:16) and to treat others fairly (*NIV Bible*, 2011 Leviticus 19:15) underscore the moral obligations of individuals within the community to support a just society.

The Old Testament recognizes that disobeying God's laws can lead to societal breakdown and injustice. This understanding of the consequences of sin serves as a backdrop for the need for order and accountability within the community. Whoever does not obey the law of your God and the law of the king must surely be punished by death, banishment, confiscation of property, or imprisonment (*NIV Bible*, 2011 Ezra 7:26)

b. Are there any changes in biblical thought about the issue from the Old to the New Testament?

Are there any developments in biblical thought about the issue in the New Testament?

The New Testament emphasizes the divine origin of all authority, with the Apostle Paul highlighting in his writings that governing authorities are established by God to uphold good and justice (*NIV Bible*, 2011 Romans 13:1-5). This passage implies that law enforcement is a role sanctioned by a higher power, with the purpose of preserving societal order and ensuring justice prevails. Authorities, including police, are described as "servants" of God, tasked with upholding justice and punishing wrongdoing. This highlights the moral obligation of those in power to act justly and with integrity (*NIV Bible*, 2011 Romans 13:1-5).

c. Are there any developments in Christian thought and history about the issue since biblical times?

d. If the subject/problem is not directly addressed in the Bible, what principle can be extrapolated from a clear biblical teaching that helps to frame the subject/problem within a Christian worldview?

e. Which contemporary natural or social sciences address this subject/ problem?

What additional perspectives does each science or discipline add?

f. How do religious and scientific perspectives interact or integrate to provide a more comprehensive account of the subject/problem?

Numerous religious beliefs highlight the values of peace, compassion, and nonviolence. For instance, in Christianity, there is an emphasis on loving one's neighbor and practicing non-retaliation (*NIV Bible*, 2011 Matthew 5:39). These teachings can serve as a guiding principle for law enforcement officers, encouraging them to approach confrontational situations with empathy and restraint rather than resorting to aggression.

Psychological research provides insights into human behavior, particularly in high-stress situations. Understanding the triggers that lead to escalation can inform police training in de-escalation techniques.

Unnecessary violence occurs when well-meaning officers are incapable of handling a particular situation without hastily resorting to physical means of solving the problem. This form of violence occurs due to incompetence and inadequate training. Excessive force and other forms of misconduct that stem from officers’ unconscious or implicit biases may also contribute to unnecessary police violence (Natalie Erin Todak, 2017)

**Appendix 4B: Interdisciplinary Research Worksheet**

Date: September 28, 2024

Name of Scholar-Practitioner: C. Brian Diggs

Educational Background: Bachelor of Science Degree, Criminal Justice, Shippensburg University; Master’s Degree, Pastoral Counseling, Crisis Response and Trauma, Liberty University; Professional Training; Maryland State Police, Federal and Local allied law enforcement

Social Profession: Law Enforcement-Maryland State Police and Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Service-Deputy Chief

Other Pertinent Information: Light University, Board Certified Mental Health Coach, BODi Fitness Coach, Chesapeake Science Point High School Track Coach

**Tips for the SR805 100-Day Assignment Faith-Learning Integration Worksheet**

**Step 4** **Converting Your Synthesized Topic to a Formal Social Research Problem and Hypothesis:**

See excerpt from *Empirical Research in the Social Sciences* by Richard Walters, pp.25-26.

Stage 4 (at the beginning of the Interdisciplinary Research Worksheet) is described as a synthesizing step at this program stage. This is where you use sources on your subject written by Christians who are farther along than you, who have done the faith-integrating work for you, and who have proposed Christian approaches to your topic.

You then need to ***imagine a hypothetical*** social research project at this stage. Assume you collect and analyze data (do not worry about how it is too early in the program for that yet). Assume the project was completed (written in past tense) and that research findings supported the educated guess that produced your Research Problem and Hypothesis. See below:

*Example Problem:* It is not known whether teenagers abuse drugs or alcohol to escape from negative thoughts about themselves.”

*Example Hypothesis:* Drug-abusing teenagers will score higher on the I Feel Worthless Inventory than non-drug-abusing teenagers.

*Hypothetical Research Results* (this is what you project in STEP 4): The drug-abusing teenagers scored higher in statistically significant measures on the I Feel Worthless Inventory than non-drug-abusing teenagers.

You need to articulate a research discovery worth sharing before you figure out how to communicate it (Step 5, and then you influence with it through leadership application of “So What” change your world strategies to enact in Step 6).

**Step 5** **Contextualization-** Who is the target audience you want to influence with this research project? How can you package your results to be persuasive with them? This stage and Stage 6 you work through as a hypothetical, kind of as a plan in the future tense. My target audience is XXXXX and they have these characteristics 1), xxxx, 2) xxxx, etc. Therefore, to adapt my findings to communicate persuasively with them, I can emphasize the following benefits, and use the following venues (??? research report, multimedia presentation, trade journal article, etc. ???), AND SO ON...

**Step 6** **Orthopraxis/Leadership**- Also, for ease of understanding, Step 6 moved in the article from being called orthopraxis to leadership. Leadership is all about applying truth and solutions within groups, whether they are in the context of any kind of human organization in family, church or society, as the OGS world changer mission statement states.

**Step 7** **Evaluation (of the Process)**- Make this Journal-like, i.e. here is what I learned from this process, and here is how, if I did follow through in practice with Steps 5 & 6, that I could assess the effective of the results.

**STEP 4: SYNTHESIZED INTERDISCIPLINARY FORMULATION (WITH SOCIAL RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS)**

How would you synthesize what you have learned into a statement describing the problem you want to address? One or two sentences should adequately describe the problem you would use interdisciplinary social science research to address (i.e. you would need to collect and analyze real-world data to test how you address the problem). What is the subject/problem that prompts the need to do Christian interdisciplinary research?

**CONVERTING TO A FORMAL SOCIAL RESEARCH PROBLEM AND HYPOTHESIS:**

See excerpt from *Empirical Research in the Social Sciences* by Richard Walters, pp.25-26.

How would you state and reframe your research problem as a testable social research hypothesis?

Research Problem: How would you state your research problem in a declarative sentence about what is not known that the research will clarify?

Example: “It is not known whether teenagers abuse drugs or alcohol to escape from negative thoughts about themselves.”

My Research Problem: As the deputy chief of a police division, I lead a team that engages with individuals from diverse ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds daily. The landscape of policing is evolving to a model of de-escalation, and this transformation can be linked to a range of factors, including enhanced training, deeply held religious beliefs and values, and proactive interdisciplinary involvement.

Research Hypothesis: How could you communicate your research hunches as predictions? A social research hypothesis asserts an educated guess about how two conditions or social phenomena are related so that it makes a comparison that can be tested by collecting real-world data and analyzing it to see if the hypothesis is supported/confirmed.

Example: Drug abusing teenagers will score higher on the I Feel Worthless Inventory than non-drug abusing teenagers.

My Research Hypothesis: Police utilizing interdisciplinary approaches will result in less negative community interaction.

Significance: What difference would the research make to change the world?

**STEP 5: CRITICAL (APOLOGETIC) AND CONTEXTUAL COMMUNICATION**

What critical reasons (apologetic) can you give for why your interdisciplinary Christian perspective should be accepted?

An interdisciplinary Christian perspective can bring several valuable insights and benefits to policing, promoting a more holistic approach. By accepting and integrating an interdisciplinary Christian perspective in policing, law enforcement agencies can enhance their effectiveness, promote ethical behavior, and foster positive relationships with their communities.

a. How will you answer the contrary perspectives to your view?

Many law enforcement officers believe using force is necessary for public safety and cannot always be avoided through de-escalation techniques. Given the mental health crisis in our country, it is important to consider alternative approaches while still preserving effective law enforcement tactics.

b. Are there any objections or criticisms from variant views that should be anticipated and preempted?

How do you contextualize your perspective to influence the culture/context where it applies?

I aim to share insights gained from my experience working across different departments throughout my career and my involvement in high-stress, fast-paced incidents. Our strategies will remain unwavering while also ensuring access to interdisciplinary resources. Although our objectives will remain constant, the methods and results related to using force will undergo a transformation.

c. What cultural conditions might cause resistance or misunderstanding of an approach to the subject/problem that sociologically integrates religion and society?

The old-school traditional law enforcement methods and philosophies. This approach emphasizes law enforcement, primarily enforcing laws and maintaining order through a zero-tolerance policy. Officers are primarily seen as enforcers of the law rather than community partners. This approach was more reactive, focusing on responding to crimes after they occurred rather than proactively preventing crime. Officers typically patrolled areas to react to incidents rather than engaging with the community. Interaction with the community was minimal, and the police were often viewed as an external authority rather than an integral part of the community. Community relations were strained, leading to mistrust.

The old-school approach often accepted the use of force as a legitimate method for dealing with suspects and maintaining control, leading to aggressive tactics and a confrontational style of policing. Success was often measured by the number of arrests made or citations issued rather than by community satisfaction or crime prevention efforts, resulting in a narrow definition of effective policing.

The old school approach relied heavily on the idea that visible police presence and strict enforcement of laws would deter crime, often without addressing underlying social issues.d. What social conditions need to be changed to sociologically integrate religion and society about the subject/problem?

e. How can you make your proposal more persuasive to “change your world”?

**STEP 6: ETHICAL & SOCIAL ORTHOPRAXIS (i.e. LEADERSHIP ACTIONS)**

What practical implications does your interdisciplinary Christian perspective have for your orthopraxis or leadership for world change?

An interdisciplinary Christian perspective can bring several valuable insights and benefits to policing, promoting a more holistic approach to law enforcement.

My faith emphasizes the importance of justice, mercy, compassion, and respect for human dignity. righteousness and justice are the foundation of the throne; love and faithfulness go before you (NIV Bible, 2011 Psa 89:14). These principles can guide police officers in making ethical decisions and nurturing a culture of integrity within law enforcement. Additionally, Christian teachings promote peace-making and reconciliation, which can help officers de-escalate conflicts and resolve disputes without force, leading to safer outcomes for all involved parties.

By Incorporating my faith, I can also support officers' mental and emotional well-being. Encouraging reflection, prayer, or mindfulness-based on Christian principles can assist the officers under my command in coping with the stresses of their jobs, promoting resilience and reducing burnout. Taking an interdisciplinary approach can lead to developing comprehensive training programs that encompass tactical skills, emotional intelligence, communication, and ethical considerations. This can better prepare officers to handle complex situations more effectively.

Keeping this in mind is crucial because it helps me stay balanced and enables me to handle every area of my life efficiently. My mental, physical, and spiritual well-being are interconnected, and they serve as the driving force behind my professional and personal life.

a. What applications for your orthopraxis/leadership need to be made to your personal or family life?

b. What applications for your orthopraxis/leadership need to be made to your church life?

c. What applications for your orthopraxis/leadership need to be made to your work or community life?

**STEP 7: REFLECTIVE EVALUATION**

a. How well did the research satisfy the original need for inquiry? Were there aspects of the problem left unanswered in the research design?

Police utilizing interdisciplinary approaches will result in less negative community interaction does not take into account the varying dynamics between neighborhoods in lower socioeconomic areas and affluent neighborhoods. It also does not address the differences in approaches to police brutality and de-escalation among local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

b. Did the findings spawn new ideas that must be taken through the interdisciplinary process?

c. Did the attempts at orthopraxis surface any gaps between your position in Step 4 and the adequacy of its ethical and/or social orthopraxis/leadership? Why?

Law enforcement is a dynamic and evolving profession that requires adaptation. I believe embracing an interdisciplinary approach can establish a strong foundation for success. Remaining flexible allows us to drive change more effectively and efficiently.

# References

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**Charles Brian, excellent work on your Interdisciplinary Faith-Learning Integration Research Worksheet for PHI 805-22!**

**I can see how you addressed the important parts in each Step and will provide comments from each of the 7 STEPS:**

**Step 1 Research Problem/Question:**

**\*Doing a good job with problem definition and what to focus research on through the right question is the secret of good research. Working through the OGS 7 step learning-to-change-your-world process will make you a more powerful redemptive change agent. But to master it you must stay focused on the objective of each step in order. Then the lights come on more brightly as the power in each step is unleashed!**

**\*Excessive use of force by law enforcement is the problem, which you could explain more fully in a way that justifies the need for faith integrated interdisciplinary research. For example, police brutality has several causes and multiple dimensions. Both the causes and the dimensions of police brutality need insights from several disciplines to better address the problem; therefore interdisciplinary research on police brutality is needed. Managing confrontational situations with criminals and malevolent lawlessness has dimensions that include but transcend physical and psychological levels; there spiritual forces involved, both good and evil. Therefore researching police brutaility and how to reduce it requires resources that are spiritual and not just physical. Therefore integrating supernatural resources accessed through faith are needed.**

**\*Why is the topic interesting, given your profession and personal history: It is inspiring to see the impact of growing up with strong role models in producing a respect for the law and law enforcement, even to the extent that it led you into law enforcement as your calling. I appreciate your service! .... What a disturbing historical perspective you provide from the inside of a 38 year career. You are a witness to the terrible transition that has occurred toward policing in the last decade (or more) in American culture. To me it is a sign of moral decay in the country that lawlessness and distrust in law enforcement have both increased.**

**\*Why the need to research this subject/problem: You made a good case for the need for the research. What is impressive is the nuanced and realistic spectrum of conditions under which your research focus on the potential benefits of de-escalation techniques has for safer outcomes in law enforcement.**

**Step 2 Hermeneutics/Literature Review:**

**What disciplines or perspectives need to be considered to adequately address this subject/problem:**

**1. The culture of systematic racism and racial profiling in policing.**

**2. The need for diversity and fair and impartial training in policing.**

**3. Interpreting police brutality: Police Perception and Citizen Perception.**

**4. Police mental health, anxiety, depression, fear.**

**These are all helpful perspectives to consider. What academic disciplines could help interdisciplinary research on the effects of de-escalation techniques in law enforcement? From sociology? From psychology? From (social) conflict theories?**

**\*You did a great job in Step 2 in finding relevant scholarly literature to support your research questions! This led to many new ideas and practical insights from experts.**

**Step 3 Faith-Learning Integration:**

**\*How faith-integrated interdisciplinary research will yield better answers: This is a wonderful window into what faith can contribute: 1) faith for mental health, 2) treating people with grace, as well as 3) respect and dignity.**

**\*You did a good job identifying key Old Testament and New Testament passages on which to develop a “Christian worldview perspective” on law from which “a faith-integrated view of law enforcement and policing can be developed. This is what you are doing well in a survey form.**

**\*Are there any developments in Christian thought and history about the issue since biblical times? Plenty of literature exists on these historical developments. Since this topic is one you will continue to research, you will need to find this research. It is actually relevant in the PHI 815 class.**

**\*Since the modern form of the policing is not directly addressed in the Bible, what principles can be extrapolated from a clear biblical teaching that helps to frame the managing conflict in law enforcement through de-escalation within a Christian worldview? As you go forward with your research, you can find Chirstian literature in the form of books, articles, and dissertations that develop these principles.**

**\*Which contemporary natural or social sciences address this subject/ problem? Plenty of literature exists on contributions to law enforcement and policing from sociological theories. Since this topic is one you will continue to research, you will need to find this research.**

**Step 4 Social Research Problem and Hypothesis:**

**\*My Research Problem: As stated earlier, this is not the research problem, but you can frame how the landscape of policing is evolving to a model of de-escalation.**

**The problem needs to be framed in terms of the role of force in law enforcement, and the problems of excessive force, which at the extreme expresses itself in police brutality.**

**\*My Research Hypothesis: Hypothesis: When managing confrontational situations in law enforcement policing, a model of de-escalation using interdisciplinary methods will lead to transformation of conflict into cooperation that will result in less negative community interaction. De-escalation using interdisciplinary methods can utilize a range of methods, including enhanced training, deeply held religious beliefs and values, and proactive interdisciplinary involvement of police who are learning to de-escalate conflicts toward promoting obeyed laws.**

**Step 5 Contextualization:**

**\*How do you contextualize your perspective to influence the culture/context where it applies? Contextualization is about communicating solutions in a way that your target audience can receive and be influenced by the results of your research. Your response here is exactly in the right direction.**

**\*How will you answer the contrary perspectives to your view?**

**Many law enforcement officers believe using force is necessary for public safety and cannot always be avoided through de-escalation techniques. Given the mental health crisis in our country, it is important to consider alternative approaches while still preserving effective law enforcement tactics. YES! This is a great start, but it needs development as you go forward in the OGS program with your research.**

**\*What cultural conditions might cause resistance or misunderstanding of an approach to the subject/problem that sociologically integrates religion and society? The old-school traditional law enforcement methods and philosophies. This approach emphasizes law enforcement, primarily enforcing laws and maintaining order through a zero-tolerance policy. Officers are primarily seen as enforcers of the law rather than community partners. This approach was more reactive rather than engaging with the community. YES. A lot of this can fit in the variant views section which you left blank. The old status quo that is less effective is the variant view to the newer de-escalation approach.**

**Step 6 Orthopraxis/Leadership:**

**\*What practical implications does your interdisciplinary Christian perspective have for your orthopraxis or leadership for world change?**

**You developed a great and aspirational applicational conclusion leading to improved practice.**

**Step 7 Evaluation (of the Process):**

**\*Were there aspects of the problem left unanswered in the research design?**

**\*Police utilizing interdisciplinary approaches will result in less negative community interaction does not take into account the varying dynamics between neighborhoods in lower socioeconomic areas and affluent neighborhoods. It also does not address the differences in approaches to police brutality and de-escalation among local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. NOTE: This is a very good recognition of limitations. Acknowledging limitations is an important part of research design that will become more clear in later research courses.**

**WORKS CITED: See the attached document for detailed corrections here.**

**SUMMARY EVALUATION: Brian, this was a fantastic assignment. This process is the way of "changing your world through research" that runs through our entire program! You totally got it! Keep up the excellent work, Charles Brian! -- Prof. David Ward**

**Grade: A**