Course Background

- Policy Issues in Criminal Justice
  - SOC/CCJ/PSC 476
  - SOC (BS) & CCJ Seniors
- Topics Covered:
  - Families and Crime
  - Prisons
  - Community Policing
  - Deterrence
  - Street Gangs
  - Sentencing
  - Probation and Parole
- Capstone/Seminar-style course
  - 25-28 enrolled per section
- Students integrate material from topical, methodological, and theoretical courses with policy
  - Weekly Panel Discussions
- Writing Intensive:
  - Bi-weekly Briefs
  - Research Prospectus
  - Position Paper

Course Changes

Original Assignment:
- Outline & Annotated Bibliography
- Instructor Feedback

Revised Assignment:
- Research Prospectus & Annotated Bib.
  - Peer Review using Eli Review
  - In-Class Discussions
  - Revised Prospectus & Revision Plan
  - Instructor Feedback
- Students were having difficulty moving from outline to final paper stage
  - Basic concepts -> Higher-level thinking
- Students drafted a research prospectus and bibliography, following specific guidelines
  - Participated in online peer review and two in-class assignment discussions
  - Revised prospectus/bibliography, integrating peer feedback/discussions

Results

Survey Question:
Getting ideas after reading work of classmates in Eli Review has been:

- Fall 2017 - 22 Responses
- Spring 2018 - 24 Responses

Opinions of peer review remained unchanged, but majority of students found Eli Review useful
- Online nature allowed for more reflective feedback
- In-class discussions with classmates reported as useful
- Overall, writing has improved and grading more enjoyable for me!