

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY
JS020 – PRINCIPLES OF INVESTIGATION
SECTION 1, FRIDAY 12:30 – 3:15 PM, MH 523
FALL SEMESTER, 2009

INSTRUCTOR

Captain Eric Sills, Office Number MH 527
Special Operations Division, Bureau of Field Operations
San Jose Police Department (408) 277-5832
Email: eric.sills@sanjoseca.gov

REQUIRED TEXT

Kären M. Hess and Christine Hess Orthmann, Criminal Investigation, 9th Edition,
Wadsworth Publishing, Belmont, CA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will provide an introduction to criminal investigation. Students will first learn about the evolution of policing and then learn about the procedures involved in conducting investigations for crimes against persons and property. They will then learn the step by step process of any investigation, beginning with the preliminary investigation, the collection and processing of evidence, and the identification, interviewing and arresting of suspects.

CLASS SCHEDULE

The class will meet each Friday from 12:30 PM. until 3:15 PM. The lecture and reading assignments are tentative pending class discussion, guest speakers and overall pace of the class. (See reverse side for class schedule.)

GRADING

Students will be graded on a **100 point system**. (100-90 points = A, 80-89 points = B, 70-79 points = C), the points will be awarded according to the following guidelines:

1. One midterm exam, Friday, Oct. 9, @ 12:30 PM. which will be worth **30 points**.
2. One final exam, Thursday, December 10, 12:15 PM which will be worth **30 points**.
3. One oral presentation which will be worth **30 points**.
 - ◆ 10 minutes on any related topic of private or criminal investigation.
 - ◆ Students must prepare an outline and bibliography for me which must be turned in the day of the presentation.
 - ◆ Prepare one multiple choice question (on a separate piece of paper) from your presentation which I may use on either the midterm or final exam.
4. Class participation which will be worth **10 points**.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
August 28	Course Introduction, Oral Presentation Skills (Instructor's notes)
September 4	Chapter 1 – Criminal Investigation: An Overview
September 11	Chapter 2 – Documenting the Crime Scene: Note Taking / Photographing the Crime Scene
September 18	Chapter 2 – Photographing (continued) / Sketching the Crime Scene Chapter 4 – Begin lecture on Searches
September 25	Chapter 4 – Searches (continued) <u>California Department of Justice Legal Source Book</u> (Not required reading)
October 2	Chapter 5 – Forensics / Physical Evidence Barry A. Fisher, <u>Techniques of Crime Scene Investigation</u> (Not required reading) Charles E Ohara., <u>Fundamentals of Criminal Investigation</u> (Not required reading)
<u>October 9</u>	<u>MID-TERM EXAM 12:30 PM – 3:15 PM</u>
October 16	Chapter 5 – Forensics / Physical Evidence (continued)
October 23	Chapter 6 – Obtaining Information and Intelligence / Interview and Interrogation
October 30	Chapter 6 – Interview and Interrogation (continued)
November 6	Chapter 7 – Identifying and Arresting Suspects
November 13	Chapter 7 – Identifying and Arresting Suspects (continued)
November 20	Chapter 8 – Death Investigations
<u>November 27</u>	<u>THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO CLASS</u>
December 4	Chapter 8 – Death Investigations (continued)
<u>December 10</u>	<u>FINAL EXAM – (Thursday) 12:15 PM – 2:30 PM</u>

Syllabus Addendum

Course Add/Drop Statement

For information regarding adding and dropping a course, please refer to the Schedule of Instructions, Policies, and Procedures:

<http://info.sjsu.edu/cgi-bin/socfiles?command=ftok&arg=soc-spring-narrative>

Instructors are permitted to drop students who fail to attend the first scheduled class meeting and who fail to inform the instructor prior to the second class meeting of the reason for any absence and their intention to continue in the class. Some instructors will drop students who do not meet the stated course prerequisites. However, instructors are not required to drop a student from their course. ***It is the student's responsibility to make sure classes are dropped.***

Academic Integrity Statement

In accordance with University policy this course strives to uphold academic honesty. "Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University, and the University's Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs." A student may be reprimanded, receive a failing grade on their evaluation instrument (exam, paper, etc.), have their grade lowered, or receive an "F" in the course, and referred to administrative sanctions if they are suspected of plagiarism or cheating. The policy on academic integrity can be found at:

<http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.pdf>

To better understand plagiarism and to aid you in making sure that you are not plagiarizing, please see me or visit:

<http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/plagiarism/index.htm>

American with Disabilities Act

"If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with DRC to establish a record of their disability."

Fall 2009 Semester – Justice Studies Department