

AJ020 - COURSE SYLLABUS
PRINCIPLES OF INVESTIGATION
SPRING SEMESTER, 2000

INSTRUCTOR

Lieutenant Eric Sills (408) 277-4102
Sexual Assault Investigations Unit, San Jose Police Department

REQUIRED TEXT

Harvey Burstein, Criminal Investigation An Introduction, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, Prentice Hall Inc.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will provide an introduction to both criminal and private investigations. Students will learn about the evolution of the investigative process and the various private and governmental agencies who perform them. Students will then learn the step by step process of conducting an investigation, beginning with the preliminary investigation, the collection and processing of evidence, and the identification and arrest of suspects.

CLASS SCHEDULE

The class will meet Fridays from 1130 hrs. until 1415 hrs. (except for scheduled holidays). The lecture and reading assignments are tentative pending class discussion, guest speakers and the overall pace of the class.

GRADING

Students will be graded on a 100 point system according to the following criteria:

1. One Midterm Exam, Friday, March 10 @ 1130 hours which will account for 30% of the course grade.
2. One Final Exam, Thursday, May 25 @ 0945 hours which will account for 30% of the course grade.
3. One oral class presentation which will account for 30% of the course grade.
 - ◆ The presentation should last for approximately 10-15 minutes. Anyone who exceeds 15 minutes will be cut short by the instructor whether the presentation is completed or not.
 - ◆ It may be on any related topic of criminal investigation, however it must first be approved by me.
 - ◆ Students must prepare an outline and bibliography for me which must be turned in the day of the presentation.
4. Class participation during discussions of lecture material and case exemplars which will account for 10% of the course grade.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
Jan. 28	Course Introduction Historical Background What is an Investigation (Chapters 1-2)	<u>March 31</u>	<u>Spring Break</u>
Feb. 4	Who Conducts Investigations Characteristics of a Good Invest. How Investigations are Initiated (Chapters 3-5)	April 7	Identifying & Arresting Suspects
Feb. 11	The Preliminary Investigation Jurisdictional Issues Crime Scene Examination Investigative Photography (Chapters 6-8)	April 14	Crimes of Violence (Chapter 15)
Feb. 18	Crime Scene Sketches Crime Scene Searches Notes and Reports (Chapters 8, 12 and 20)	April 21	Homicide
Feb. 25	Report Writing Exercise Collecting and Preserving Evid. (Chapters 20 and 12)	April 28	Homicide
March 3	Types of Evidence The Laboratory Chapters 12 and 13)	May 5	Child Exploit Guest Speaker Det. McEwan SJPD
<u>March 10</u>	<u>Midterm Exam</u>		
March 17	Interview and Interrogation Locating and Interviewing Witnesses Interrogating the Suspect Class Discussion (Chapters 10 and 14)	May 12	Sexual Assault
March 24	Guest Speaker Officer Enrique Garcia SJPD	<u>May 25</u> (Thurs.)	<u>Final Exam</u> 0945 hrs.