COURTS AND SOCIETY
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE 103
Spring, 2002

Lecturer: Anthony C. Robinson
Office Hours: Monday 7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.
Wednesday 6:30 pm. – 7:00 p.m., or by appointment.
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to explore the criminal justice system and how it functions in our society today. We will examine the courts from a variety of different perspectives including the defendants, victims, witnesses, prosecutors, judges, and juries. This course will delve into the historical background of the courts, but will focus primarily on the present day functionality. The roles of the various actors in court will be examined through the basic steps of the criminal case.

We will cover the entire process that a criminal defendant faces; starting with the arrest and booking, continuing through to the arraignment, pretrial and trial, and finishing with the sentencing and appeal process. This course will cover cases throughout the United States but will focus mainly on the California justice system.

The course will be taught as part lecture, and part Socratic method of questions and answers.

GRADING:

Factors that will be considered in a student’s grade will be participation in class, and execution of assignments. There will be a number of short quizzes, 2 writing assignments, one courtroom observation trip, and the final exam. Papers should be approximately five pages in length. Specific requirements will be provided when the assignments are given.

REQUIRED TEXT:

America’s Courts and the Criminal Justice System (7th Edition) by David W. Neubauer.
Additional Materials will be provided as the course proceeds.
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<th>DATE</th>
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| 1/23   | Introduction
Overview of the legal system                                     | Read Chapter 1                                       |
| 1/28   | Legal System, First paper given                                         | Read Chapter 2                                       |
| 2/4    | The American Courts
Federal and State                                         | Read Chapters 3 and 4                                 |
| 2/11   | Pretrial Release: Bail and O.R.                                         | Read Chapter 11
First Paper Due: 2/13                                 |
| 2/18   | Beginning the Prosecution
Arrest, Charging and Arraignment                                      | Read Chapters 5 and 10                                |
| 2/25   | The role of the Prosecutor
Second Paper Given                                                        | Read Chapter 6                                        |
| 3/4    | The role of the Defendant, Counsel and victims                           | Read Chapters 7 and 9                                 |
| 3/11   | Evidence: Discovery, Suppression                                         | Read Chapter 12
Second Paper Due: 3/13                                 |
| 3/18   | Beginning the Trial Process
Negotiations                                                             | Read Chapter 13                                       |
| 3/25   | Spring Break!!!                                                         | No assignments given                                  |
| 4/1    | Trial: The role of the judge
Courtroom Observation Assignment                                         | Read Chapter 8                                        |
| 4/8    | Trial: The role of the Jury                                             | Read Chapter 14                                       |
| 4/15   | Sentencing: Role of Judge
Probation officer and Counsel                                             | Read Chapters 15 and 16                                |
| 4/22   | Appellate Procedures                                                    | Read Chapter 17                                       |
| 4/29   | Juvenile Court, Drug Court                                              | Read Chapter 19                                       |
| 5/6    | Open for Review and Catch up                                            | Courtroom Assignment Due                             |
| 5/13   | Review for Final                                                        |                                                      |
| 5/17   | Final Exam: 7:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.                                       |                                                      |