FALL 2006
AJ 118, Section 2
TTh 9:00 - 10:15
MacQuarrie Hall Rm 520
http://sjsu.edu/faculty/hart

Dr. Cynthia Baroody-Hart
Office: MacQuarrie Hall 511
Phone: 924 - 2944
Office Hours:
TuTh: 7:30 - 8:30, 10:30-11:30
Wed: 4:30 - 5:30
OR BY APPOINTMENT

AJ 118
THEORIES OF CRIME & DELINQUENCY

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Theories of Crime & Delinquency deals with the analysis of the nature and extent of crime, including causation and prevention. Descriptions of offenses, criminal typologies, and victim surveys. Evaluation of various prevention and control strategies are discussed.

The financial and human costs of crime are staggering. Crime and criminality rank as one of the top issues in the list of American concerns.

This course is designed to explore the nature of crime, criminality and delinquency. In order to do so, we must first understand how crime is "officially" defined and the workings of the criminal justice system relative to that definition. We must also understand the extent of crime (which is not an easy thing to do!) We will discuss various ways of measuring crime and how that may color our definitions. Our study of the nature and extent of crime, will be guided by discussions of various types of crime.

The majority of the class lectures and discussions will focus on various theoretical explanations of crime and criminality. We will discuss psycho-biological, socio-economic, and socio-cultural perspectives in criminology.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To examine legal definitions of various acts as criminal.
2. To review the workings of the criminal justice system.
3. To understand the extent of crime.
4. To identify the ways of measuring crime.
5. To analyze various theoretical explanations of crime and criminality.

REQUIRED READING:


The books are available at the Spartan bookstore as well Robert's bookstore. Other readings may be assigned to supplement the text. These will be placed on the website or given to the student in class. Students are also expected to keep up with recent developments in the criminal justice area by reading a daily newspaper such as, The Los Angeles Times, The San Francisco Chronicle, The New
York Times or The San Jose Mercury News. As well as watching
national/international news such as PBS (The Newshour with Jim Lehrer) AND/OR
The BBC. These provide a more in-depth approach. Watching C-SPAN provides a
view of the workings and interrelationships between business and government.
STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO CLASS DISCUSSION REGARDING CURRENT
CRIMINAL JUSTICE EVENTS AND ISSUES.

GRADING:

The basic requirements for the course consist of adequate performance (in line
with the university requirements) on three examinations. The format of the
exams will be a combination of multiple choice & essay. The examinations will
reflect (1) required readings (2) lectures (3) class discussion and (4) films
used in class. Each examination is worth 100 points and represents 33% of the
final grade.

EXAM #1 = 33%
EXAM #2 = 33%
EXAM #3 = 33%
100%

EACH STUDENT IS REQUIRED TO SCHEDULE AN INITIAL CONFERENCE WITH THE INSTRUCTOR
EARLY IN THE SEMESTER. I would like to see students on a regular basis - my
door is always open to you, don’t hesitate to come by. If your schedule does not
fit well with my office hours, please call for an appointment. I am frequently
around at times other than scheduled office hours. You are welcome to come by
any time.

CLASS PARTICIPATION IS ALSO ENCOURAGED. While there is no clear formula, in
cases where a final grade is between two grades, attendance and class
participation may help to enhance your grade. I will be keeping close track of
class participation, tallying class participation and lack of participation. I
reserve the right to increase a student’s final grade based on class
participation.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is important. However, attendance is not required but is suggested,
strongly.

MAKE-UP POLICY:

Make-ups are given in EXTREME CASES and only when APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION is
provided. A make-up exam will be given on the following exam date along with the
subsequent exam in the time allotted.
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Tentative class schedule

Students are EXPECTED TO HAVE THE MATERIAL READ FOR CLASS!!!!!!

1st week 8/22 Intro

2nd week 8/29 Norms, Deviance & Crime Chapter 1

3rd week 9/5 The Study of Crime Measuring Crime

4th week 9/12 Costs of Crime & Classical Theories Chapter 3/Handout

5th week 9/19 Bio & Psych Theories Chapter 5

6th week EXAM 1 SEPT. 28th

7th week 10/3 Socio-econ Sources of Crime Chapter 6

8th week 10/10 Social Control Theory Chapter 7

START READING TRADE BOOK

9th week 10/17 Learning Theory Chapter 8

10th week EXAM 2 OCT. 26th

11th week 10/31 Opportunity Theory Chapter 9

12th week 11/ 7 Criminal Careers Chapter 10

13th week 11/14 Organization Chapter 11

14th week 11/21 Thanksgiving Holiday/ No Class 11/23

15th week 11/28 Response to Crime Chapter 12

16th week 12/5

LAST DAY OF CLASS AND EXAM REVIEW December 7th

FINAL EXAM WEDNESDAY DEC. 13th 7:45 - 9:45

HAVE A GREAT VACATION!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Course Add/Drop Statement
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. You, the student, are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, withdrawal, etc.** found at: [http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct](http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct)

Academic Integrity Statement
Academic integrity is essential to the mission of San José State University. As such, students are expected to perform their own work (except when collaboration is expressly permitted by the course instructor) without the use of any outside resources. Students are not permitted to use old tests, quizzes when preparing for exams, nor may they consult with students who have already taken the exam. When practiced, academic integrity ensures that all students are fairly graded. Violations to the Academic Integrity Policy undermine the educational process and will not be tolerated. It also demonstrates a lack of respect for oneself, fellow students and the course instructor and can ruin the university’s reputation and the value of the degrees it offers. We all share the obligation to maintain an environment which practices academic integrity. Violators of the Academic Integrity Policy will be subject to failing this course and being reported to the Office of Student Conduct & Ethical Development for disciplinary action which could result in suspension or expulsion from San José State University. The policy on academic integrity can be found at: [http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct](http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct)

To better understand plagiarism and to aid you in making sure that you are not plagiarizing, please see me and/or visit: [http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/plagiarism/index.htm](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.

Justice Studies Department