JS 102: Police and Society

Course Syllabus, Fall 2007
T/R: 12:00-1:15

Professor: Mark E. Correia, Ph.D.
Office: Business Tower 451
Hours: T/R: 8:00-10:00 am
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Course Description

The nature of policing in America is in constant flux. The pressures upon policing organizations to provide "safety" to American communities come from numerous entities—internal and external. Not only are there numerous policing strategies, but there are economic, political and social entities that affect policing organizations as well.

This course provides an overview of the current challenges facing policing organizations as well as a "glimpse" into the future. After all, the landscape of justice is very different in modern day America, especially after 9/11.

Learning Objectives

Students will develop:

1. An understanding of the intricate relationship between police and society.

2. A broad understanding of the important influence rights has on policing in a democratic society.

3. The ability to critically assess the historical development of policing in America and its influence on policing in modern society.

Required Materials

In addition to the required readings listed below, additional course material will be posted on WebCT and are indicated with an "*".


Students will be required to access WebCT for this course. If you do not currently have a WebCT account, please go to http://sisu.webct.com/webct/public/home.pl and follow the instructions to create an account. The WebCT login for this course is http://sisu.webct.com/SCRIPT/js102f07mc/scripts/serve_home. The contents and schedule of this course are subject to change—any changes will be posted on WebCT.

Suggested Materials


Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (2001), 5th Edition. This is available in the reference section of the bookstore or can be found online at www.apastyle.org.

Course Requirements

Participation: While attendance is not required (you can't participate if you are not here), it is assumed that students are prepared and willing to answer course-related questions when called upon and, when appropriate, to take part in class discussion. In class writing assignments (quizzes) will be given throughout the course during the first 10 minutes of class. There will be no make-up quizzes.

Community Observations: Students will be required to conduct neighborhood observations in 2 neighborhoods in the Bay Area, focusing on the both the physical and demographic structure of the neighborhoods. The purpose of this activity is to show the impact of the specific area on policing activities. Additional information will be posted on WebCT.

Written Assignments: There will be 2 (two) written assignments distributed throughout the course. Each assignment is worth 50 points and will be written according to APA style. The dates of the assignments are listed syllabus. The student will post these assignments on Turnitin.com (see WebCT for additional instructions).

Exams: There will be 1 (one) exam in the course. The exam may consist of multiple choice and essay questions and the date of the exam is listed below. Students will be required to bring a bluebook to the exam. There will be no make-up exams.

Final Paper: The final paper will be on a topic concerning policing in America. This paper will be written in APA style and is due at the end of the course. The topic and requirements will be distributed on the date listed below. No late papers will be accepted.

All written work turned in for grading (i.e., term paper and assignments) will be graded according to the following criteria: content of the paper, logic and organization of paper, critical thinking, grammar and adherence to APA style. Writing is an art that takes time to flourish—nurture it over time and resist the temptation to procrastinate.
Email: I will accept email according to the following protocol. Deviations from this protocol will not be accepted and your email will be returned to you:

1. **Subject Line:** This line will contain the student’s name, course and the assignment number. For example, Mark Correia, JS 102, Assignment #1.
2. **Format:** All papers sent electronically must be saved in .doc or .rtf. I will not accept papers saved in .wps, .wpd or pasted into an email. If you use Wordperfect, Microsoft Works or Office 2007, you will need to save your document as .doc or .rtf.
3. **Email Address:** mark.correia@sjtu.edu.
4. **Confirmation:** I will send out a confirmation receipt for those emails with assignments that I have received within 48hrs. If you do not receive a confirmation, your assignment was not received.
5. **Responsibility:** It is the student’s responsibility to make sure that the assignment is properly attached to the email. If the assignment is not attached and received by the due date, the assignment will be considered late.
6. The student will also need to post his/her assignment on Turnitin.com. Instructions will be posted on WebCT.

**Grades**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>(75 pts)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observations</td>
<td>(75 pts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>(100 pts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>(100 pts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>(100 pts)</td>
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<td>450 pts</td>
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**Course Outline**

This course consists primarily of lectures held on Tuesday and Thursday. Due to the number of students and different views that he/she brings, it is the instructor’s belief that all of our views are enriched by way of discussion. Please be considerate of others and their views as everyone will have an opportunity to express their opinion.

I have listed my email address and office hours for your convenience. At all times, I will be available via email, and will try to respond within 72 hours. If you cannot make my office hours, nor have access to email, please set up an appointment. While I may be in my office at other times, I may not be available to meet.

**WEEK #1**

**Aug. 23:** Course Introduction and Syllabus Review

The Policing Ideal
The Context of Policing in America

WEEK #2
Aug. 28: Democracy, Policing and America
   Required Reading: Thurman and Giacomazzi, Chapters 1-4

Aug. 30: Policing and Democracy: Peering Through the Lenses of Time
   Required Reading: See WebCT*

WEEK #3
Sept. 4: The Intersection of Politics, Economic and Social Institutions and Policing
   Required Reading: See WebCT*

Sept. 6: The Legitimacy and Authority of Police: The Declination in America?
   Required Reading: See WebCT*

WEEK #4
Sept. 11: The Importance of Sept. 11, 2001 on Policing in America
   Required Reading: See WebCT*

Sept. 13: Perceptions of Law and Order in America
   Required Reading: See WebCT*

The Policing Organization

WEEK #5
Sept. 18: Organizational Responses to the Context of Policing
   Required Reading: See WebCT*

Sept. 20: Values and Ethics in Policing Organizations
   Required Reading: Caldero and Crank, Chaps. 1 & 4

WEEK #6
Sept. 25: Values, Ethics and Policing: Developing a More Comprehensive Understanding
   Required Reading: Caldero and Crank, Chaps. 6 & 8

Sept. 27: Values, Ethics and Policing: A Framework for Success or Abuse of Power?
   Required Reading: Caldero and Crank, Chaps. 9, 10 & 11

Assignment #1 Distributed
Policing America: The Confounds of a Democracy

WEEK #7

Oct. 2: Policing the Poor in America

Required Reading: Websdale, Chapters 1-2

Oct. 4: Policing the Poor in America

Required Reading: Websdale, Chapters 3-4

Assignment #1 Due

WEEK #8

Oct. 9: Policing the Poor in America

Required Reading: Websdale, Chapters 5-6

Oct. 11: The Impact of Poverty and Deprivation on Policing in America

Review for Exam #1

WEEK #9

Oct. 16: EXAM #1

Oct. 18: Policing in America: The Issue of Race

Required Reading: See WebCT*

WEEK #10

Oct. 23: Policing Race in America: A Historical Crippling of Democracy

Required Reading: See WebCT*

Oct. 25: Policing Race in America: Racial Profiling

Required Reading: See WebCT*

WEEK #11

Oct. 30: Policing Drugs in America: Power and Discrimination

Required Reading: See WebCT*

Nov. 1: Police Behavior: Use of Force

Required Reading: Thurman and Giacomazzi, Chapter 6

See WebCT*
WEEK #12

Nov. 6: Police Behavior: Use of Force

Required Reading: Thurman and Giacomazzi, Chapter 6
See WebCT™

Nov. 8: Use of Force, Perceptions of the Police and the Legitimacy of Power

Required Reading: See WebCT™

Assignment #2 Distributed

WEEK #13

Nov. 13/15: No Class: American Society of Criminology Conference

Assignment #2 Due (11/15)

WEEK #14

Nov. 20: Field Work on Community Observations

Nov. 22: No Class: Thanksgiving

Developing More Democratic Policing

WEEK #15

Nov. 27: Citizen Involvement and the Police

Required Reading: Correia, Chapters 1-3

Nov. 29: Citizen Involvement and the Police

Required Reading: Correia, Chapters 4-all

Community Observations Due

Final Paper Topic Distributed

WEEK #16

Dec. 4: Policing a Democracy: Is it Possible?

Required Reading: See WebCT™

Dec. 6: The Future of Policing in America?
Required Reading: See WebCT

Week #17

Dec: 12:  

Final Paper Due by 12:00 pm

Syllabus Addendum

Grading: In order to receive a grade for this course, all course requirements must be completed. Failure to complete any of them may result in a failing grade for the course. Paper and course grades may be disputed at the instructor’s convenience (or during office hours). It is important to note, however, that upon review, the instructor reserves the right to increase as well as decrease the grade in question. Late assignments and papers will not be accepted nor any extra credit provided.

Academic Dishonesty: The “I got caught cheating” policy for this class is swift, severe, and certain: that is, if you cheat, chances are very good that you will be caught and punished with a failing grade for the product and possibly the course. In addition, plagiarism is absolutely unacceptable. If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, please contact the professor—while many students are ignorant of this offense, ignorance is not an excuse. I have several speeding tickets that prove this point!

Academic Integrity: 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 that 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 that 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

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

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
ADA: “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 that students with disabilities register with DRC to establish a record of their disability.”

Electronic Devices: Please turn off all cell phones, pages, PDA’s or any other electronic device that “makes noise”. While I commend those of you who have mastered text messaging, the use of these devices during class is disruptive and will not be tolerated. If I see you text messaging, I will ask you to leave the room. The use of computers in the classroom will not be allowed.

Classroom Etiquette: Class motto: “Treat others as you think they would like to be treated”. Yes, this is a spin on the ever popular, but not so empathetic phrase. This is a time to open your minds to new ideas, to explore new concepts, so please take advantage of this opportunity. Further, please be respectful of others and show them common courtesy. I firmly believe that the learning process is enriched by discussion, but damaged by arguments. Respect and professionalism are the guiding principles of this class. Tardiness will not be tolerated, if you are late, do not disturb class—wait until break to enter the classroom.

Written Work: I understand that many of our students have very busy life’s, filled with work and family obligations. I understand that “school work” is difficult to fit in to an already full schedule. With this said, I do expect quality work from everyone. Write every paper as though it is your best paper ever and be proud of your paper and work that you complete for this course.

As a side note: I am well aware of the websites that offer papers to students and have software that allows me to compare papers I receive to the thousands of databases of papers that exist. Trust me, it is not worth your effort, chances are, I will find out. All papers that are turned in to this class will be submitted to turnitin.com. Please see the course website for additional information.

+/- Grading: This course will be using the +/- system on final grades based on the following percentages:

95-100: A  74-76: C
90-94: A-  70-73: C-
87-89: B+  67-69: D+
84-86: B   64-66: D
80-83: B-  60-63: D-
77-79: C+  0-60: F