

Administration of Justice 102
Fall Semester 2003

POLICE and SOCIETY
Course Syllabus

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Office Hours: Tues., Thurs. 9:15-10:30 a.m.
Tues. 3:00-5:30 p.m.

Department website: www.sjsu.edu/depts/casa/aj (this syllabus will be posted there)

Class Meeting Times: Tues.-Thurs. 10:00-11:45 a.m.

Course Description: This course examines the role of law enforcement in American society from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. Topics include the history of law enforcement in the United States; theories of policing; the organization of police agencies; strengths and weaknesses of present-day American law enforcement, with special attention to community policing and police-community relations; the relationship of police to other parts of the criminal justice system; and challenges facing police forces today, including stress and danger, corruption, and misuse of force. Although primarily designed for AJ majors and minors, this course is also appropriate for non-majors who are interested in law, justice, crime, socio-legal studies, and American legal and political institutions.

1. Required Text:

a. Roy Roberg, John Crank, and Jack Kuykendall, *Police and Society*, 2d Edition (2000), available at the SJSU bookstore, Roberts bookstore, or online.

b. Note: You will also need *three (3) bluebooks* for the course, available at either bookstore. (It is up to you whether you use small or large bluebooks.)

Occasional supplementary readings may be made available during the semester.

2. Class Participation, Requirements, and Grading:

During class, please make sure your cell phones and pagers are silent.

A. Participation: You are responsible for keeping up with the assigned reading and being prepared to discuss it in class. Class participation helps your learning and your grade. At the end of the semester, up to 25 points will be awarded to students who have participated in class. Points for class participation are given for your contribution to class discussions (questions, comments, criticisms, etc.), and *not* simply for attendance. Participation points are separate from points given for in-class exercises.

B. Exams: Exams will cover both lectures and reading assignments. Some material discussed in class will not be in the readings; similarly, not everything discussed in the readings will be covered in class. Thus it is very important that you both keep up with the reading and attend class regularly. Students will be excused from class for legitimate medical reasons and for university-related engagements (e.g., athletics).

Exams are closed-book, closed-note. Exams include short-answer questions and one essay question. Review sheets will be given before each exam. The essay questions on the final exam may be cumulative. Bring a *new bluebook* and a pen to each exam.

C. Quizzes: Each quiz will be given on the day indicated in the syllabus. Quizzes will consist of one question on the material being covered that week, which you will answer in no more than one page. You will have twenty-five (25) minutes at the *end* of the class period to answer the quiz question. You do not need bluebooks for quizzes, and there will be no review sheets.

D. In-Class Exercises: Students will be divided into discussion groups early in the semester. Each student will be partnered with another student in her/his group to lead a group discussion once during the semester. (For example, if your group has 6 people, 2 people will lead a discussion on one day, 2 different people will lead on another day, and the last 2 people will lead on a third day.) You will sign up in advance for your discussion leader day.

On the day you lead a discussion, you and your partner are responsible for coming to class with questions for the group to discuss, based on the assigned course material for that week. At the end of that class, you and your partner will turn in a typed sheet with the questions your group discussed, along with a list of who participated and a handwritten summary of the key points made in your discussion (sample format is on the last page of this syllabus). Group leaders earn 75 points for leading the discussion. Missed discussion days/points cannot be made up.

E. Grades: Your grade will be based on 3 exams (2 midterms, 1 final), 3 quizzes, and participation in class exercises. Your grade will be calculated as follows:

Exams: 150 points each, total of	450 points
Quizzes: 50 points each, total of	150 points
In-Class Exercises:	75 points
Class Participation:	<u>25 points</u>
Total Points Possible:	700 points

Your scores for each of these will be added together, and your total points at the end of the semester will determine your grade. Final grades will be curved (you are measured against the performance of the rest of the class).

You must take the final exam to pass the course. Students who do not take the final will receive an “F” or an “I” for the course, at the instructor’s discretion, regardless of their class average prior to the final. In accordance with University policy, students caught cheating or plagiarizing will also receive an “F” grade for the course.

F. Missed exams, quizzes and discussion:

Exams: **only one** exam can be made up, and only if you have a good reason for missing the exam (e.g., serious illness with physician’s note). Make-up exams are longer and involve more writing than the regular exams. The make-up exam day is the last day of class, and it is your responsibility to notify the professor that you intend to take a make-up exam.

Quizzes: **only one** quiz can be made up, only on “quiz make-up day.” The make-up quiz question will be harder than the average quiz question.

Discussion: missed discussion days and points cannot be made up.

There will be **no exceptions** made to these policies.

G. Extra Credit: Extra credit assignments may be handed out during the semester. However, extra credit will *not* be sufficient to make up for (replace) a missed exam, quiz or discussion; if you slack off during the semester, you cannot rescue your grade with extra credit. In other words, it is essential to keep up with readings, lectures and assignments, and not to miss exams (as makeup exams are more difficult).

Course Outline, Reading Assignments, and Exams

I. Perspectives on Police

- Week 1. Tuesday August 26 - Thursday August 28: Introduction to course.
Read for class: Skim Text, Chapter 2 for Thursday
- Week 2. Tuesday September 2-Thursday September 4: A brief history of policing; the role of police in the United States
Read for class: Text, Chapter 1

II. Police Organizations

- Week 3. Tuesday September 9-Thursday September 11: Police Administration, Community Policing
Read for class: Text, Chapters 4-5
Discussion Day #1 Thursday: Special Topic - Police, Terrorism, and Democracy
- Week 4. Tuesday September 16-Thursday September 18: Organizational Change, Community Policing
Read for class: Text, Chapter 3
Quiz #1 Tuesday: Community Policing
- Week 5. Tuesday September 23-Thursday September 25: Diversifying the Police: Women Officers, Officers of Color
Read for class: Text, Chapter 12
- Week 6. Tuesday September 30-Thursday October 2: Review and **Exam**
No reading assignment.

EXAM I: Thursday October 2. Closed Book. Covers Discussions & Readings for Weeks 1-5. Bring a bluebook and a pen.

III. Police Operations

- Week 7. Tuesday October 7-Thursday October 9: Recruitment Criteria; Duties & Expectations of Police on Patrol
Read for class: Text, Chapters 6-7
- Week 8. Tuesday October 14-Thursday October 16: Patrol; The Problems of Force & Coercion
Read for class: Text, Chapter 9
Quiz #2 Tuesday: Patrol

Week 9. Tuesday October 21-Thursday October 23: Force and Coercion, continued
No new reading assignment
Video: Deadly Force

Week 10. Tuesday October 28-Thursday October 30: Force and Coercion, conclusion; **exam review**
No new reading assignment
Discussion #2 Tuesday: Brutality and deadly force

Week 11. Tuesday November 4-Thursday November 6: **Exam**; begin Police Behavior

EXAM 2: Tuesday November 4. Closed Book. Covers readings & discussions for weeks 7-11. Bring a bluebook and a pen.

Thursday November 6: Varieties of Police Behavior; Police Corruption
Read for class: Begin Text, Chapter 8

Week 12. Tuesday November 11-Thursday November 13: Police Behavior & Corruption
Read for class: finish reading Text, Chapter 8
Quiz #3 Thursday: Corruption

Week 13. Tuesday November 18-Thursday November 20: Stress and Danger
Read for class: Text, Chapter 13
Discussion #3 Thursday: Stress and Danger

Week 14. Tuesday November 25: Stress and Danger, continued
No new reading assignment
Thursday November 27: Thanksgiving holiday (no class)
Quiz Make-up Day Tuesday: Stress and Danger

Week 15. Tuesday December 2-Thursday December 4: Mechanisms for Controlling Inappropriate Police Behavior; course conclusion and final exam review
Read for class: Text, Chapter 10

Week 16: Tuesday December 9: **EXAM MAKE-UPS.** No lecture.

FINAL EXAMINATION: Thursday December 11, 9:45-Noon (in our regular classroom)
Bring pen, bluebooks.

Note: If you want to know your final grade before grades are sent out, please bring a self-addressed, stamped postcard or envelope to the final and I will mail your course grade when I finish grading the finals. To protect student privacy, grades cannot be given out by telephone or email.

