

Dr. Inger J. Sagatun-Edwards,  
AJ 206, Th17.30-20.15, MH 526, Fall, 2003  
Office: MH 509, Phone: 408-924-2945, FAX, 408-924-2953; isagatun@email.sjsu.edu  
Office hrs.: T 13.30-17.30;W 13.30-17.00, Th: 15.00-17.30

**SEMINAR IN JUVENILE JUSTICE  
AJ 206, Fall, 2003**

History and theory of juvenile justice. Juvenile court structure and processes for juvenile delinquency, status offenses and dependency (child abuse and neglect) cases. Under delinquency we discuss the various court hearings, constitutional issues, transfers to adult court, and correctional issues (including the death penalty for juveniles). Under status offenders we discuss problems with legal definitions and dispositions. Under dependency, we discuss types of cases and roles of professions, child victims in court and expert syndrome testimony, and emerging issues. The role of minors in other court settings, such as family, criminal, and civil courts are included, along with important Supreme Court cases. Emphasis is on current legal and social policy issues related to juvenile justice.

**Course Objectives**

- 1) Enable the student to understand the history, philosophy and theories of juvenile justice
- 2) Enable the student to understand the structure, the processes, and the tasks of Juvenile Court and its relationship to other courts, Juvenile Probation, Department of Social Services, schools and juvenile facilities
- 3) Enable the student to know the law in California related to juvenile delinquency, status offenders and abused and neglected children
- 4) Enable the student to discuss and understand current trends and controversies in the law and social policy related to juvenile justice.

**Readings**

**Required books:**

Course Reader, AJ 206 (fall, 2003)  
Sagatun, I.J., & Edwards, L. P. (1995). *Child abuse and the legal system*. Chicago, Ill.: Nelson Hall Publishers.

**Recommended books:**

Howell, James C. (2003). *Preventing and reducing juvenile delinquency: A comprehensive framework*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.  
Snyder, H., & Sickmund, M. (1999). *Juvenile offenders and victims: 1999 National report*. Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (Also available on disk).

## Course Requirements

### 1) Class Participation

Students are expected to attend class and participate actively and constructively in class discussions. Assigned materials should be read prior to each class meeting. Discussion should indicate knowledge of the subject matter, familiarity with the readings and ability to ask and answer probing questions. Students are encouraged to keep informed about current issues, and bring such issues to the class discussion. Grading on class participation will depend on how well the student participates in class discussions. Obviously, attendance is necessary to receive credit for participation. Attendance and participation will be recorded for each class meeting. Students should call in or send an email with an explanation if they are unable to attend a class meeting, preferably prior to the class meeting.

### 2) Class presentations

Each student must make an oral presentation, lead a class discussion, and turn in a written report on one of the assigned class topics. Students may select a sub-area within an assigned topic and must base the report on five outside professional sources (from 1995 or more recent). The report is not intended to be a rehash of the regularly assigned materials, but rather an interesting augmentation of outside materials. You may include news-articles as references in addition to the five professional sources. The brief written report must be typed (12 font), double-spaced, and turned in on the day of the presentation (4 pages average; min.3, max. 5, excluding references.). The report will be downgraded ½ grade for each late day.

In addition, each student must make a brief oral presentation of the term paper project towards the end of the semester. The term paper and the oral presentation must be on different topics.

### 3) Term Paper

Each student must prepare a term paper on a self-selected, but approved topic within the subject areas of the course. The paper must include a review of the relevant literature, law and cases, summarize and analyze the state of knowledge in the area, discuss problems and make a social policy proposal to meet future needs. Papers will be graded equally on the literature/legal/discussion and the social policy proposal, and on clarity, coherence and creativity. A simple literature review is not adequate. The paper must be typed, double-spaced, with an average of 15 pages, maximum 20 pages, minimum 12 pages.

The paper must be written specifically for this class, and based on materials/issues discussed in AJ 206. All paper topics must be approved by the instructor, and students must provide an outline and references by Nov. 30. The paper must contain at least 10 professional references outside of class readings, (of these 8 must be from 1995 or more recent). The paper is due on Dec.11, and will be downgraded ½ grade for each late date. Papers must conform to the APA standards, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.

The following standards apply to the term paper:

- Typewritten and double-spaced
- Correct punctuation, spelling and mechanics
- Properly footnoted or end-noted

- Appendices where appropriate
- American Psychological Association (APA) reference format, 5<sup>th</sup> ed.

### **Grade Evaluation**

The course grade will be assigned according to the following weight distribution:

Class Participation:	1/3
Class Presentations/Written Short Report:	1/3
Term Paper:	1/3

### **AJ 206, Fall 2003 COURSE SCHEDULE**

- Aug. 28            **Course Introduction**  
 Overview of Course Outline  
 Presentation of Course Outline and Subject Matter  
 Explanation of Course Requirements  
 Schedule for Student Presentations
- Sept 4            **I. Introduction to the Juvenile Justice System**  
                     A.    History of the Juvenile Justice System  
                             Sagatun and Edwards, ch. 1;  
                             *Course Reader*: Fox, S. (1998). A contribution to the history of the American Juvenile Court, *Juvenile and family court journal*, 49(4), 7-16; Scott, E. (2002). The legal construction of childhood; Tanenhaus, D. (2002). The evolution of juvenile courts in the early twentieth century: Beyond the myth of immaculate construction; Zimring, F. (2002). The common thread: Diversion in the jurisprudence of juvenile courts. All in Rosenheim, M., Zimring, F., Tanenbaum, D, & Dorhn, B. (2002). *A century of juvenile justice*. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago.
- B.    The Modern Juvenile Justice System  
                             West: W & I code, sect. 200-202; 300 (overview), 601, 602.  
                             Sagatun & Edwards, ch. 5, p. 67-71;  
                             *Course Reader*: Rubin, T. (1996). The nature of the court today. *The future of children: The juvenile court*, 6(3); Edelman, P. (2002). American government and the politics of youth. In Rosenheim et al; Hurst, H. (1998). The death of optimism. *Juvenile and family court journal*, 49(4), 39-53.
- Sept. 11        **II. Delinquency Cases**  
                     A.    Overview of Juvenile Justice structure, Court Hearings and Case Processing  
                             W & I code, sects. 625-630.1, 202, 207.1;  
                             *Course Reader*:

Snyder, H., & Sickmund, M. (1999). Ch. 4: Juvenile justice system structure and process, p. 93-101, and Ch. 6: Juvenile courts and juvenile crime, 141-162. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims, 1999 National Report*, Washington D.C.: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.  
Rosenheim, M. The modern American juvenile court. In Rosenheim.  
Guest Speaker: Judge Hyman

- Sept. 18      B.      Constitutional issues: History and Current Debate  
*Course Reader:*  
*In re Gault*, 387 U.S., 1 (1966). W & I code sects. 675.67, 676. 56.  
Snyder, H. & Sickmund, ch. 3 (ibid), 86-93. (Review previous articles on important cases); Cohen, C. (1998). Role of the U.S. in drafting the convention on the rights of the child: Creating a new world for children. *Loyola poverty law journal*, (4), 9-46).  
**Student Presentations**
- Sept. 25      **Tour of Juvenile Hall/Library Assignment to work on paper outline**
- Oct. 2        C.      Sentencing and Correctional Issues  
*Course Reader:*  
Lerman, P. (2002). Twentieth-century developments in America's Institutional systems for youth in trouble (75-109); Farrington, D., & Loeber, R. (2002). Serious and violent offenders (207-236), both in Rosenheim et al; United States of America rights for all: Betraying the young (1998). Amnesty International; ch. 7: What doesn't work in preventing and reducing juvenile delinquency, Howell (2003);  
**Student Presentations**
- Oct. 9        D.      Transfers (Waivers) to Adult Court  
West: W & I Code, sects. 707,707.01, 707.1.  
*Course reader:*  
Ch. 8 : Transfer of juveniles to the criminal justice System. Howell (2003). Steiner, B., & Hemmens, C. Juvenile Waiver 2003: Where are we now? *Juvenile and Family Court journal*, 54, 1-24; Burrell, S. (2000). Proposition 21 materials  
**Student Presentations**
- Oct. 16      E.      The Death Penalty for Juveniles  
*Course Reader:*  
Cothorn, L. (2000). Juveniles and the death penalty. *Coordinating council on juvenile justice and delinquency prevention*. Washington D.C.: OJJDP.  
*Thompson v. Oklahoma*, 101 L Ed. 2d 707 (1988).

*Stanford v. Kentucky*, 492v.s.361 (1989).  
Seis, M. and Elbe (1991). The death penalty for juveniles. *Justice Quarterly*, 8(4), 465-485;  
United Nations Convention on Children; materials from NCJCFIJ  
**Student Presentations**

- Oct. 23     **III.     Status Offender Cases**  
          A.     Legal Definitions and Current Issues  
                  West: W & I code, sect. 601-601.4  
                  *Course Reader:*  
                  Steinhart, G. (1996). Status offenders. *The future of children: The juvenile court*, 6 (3); Teitelbaum, L. (2002). Status offenses and status offenders (158-174); Dohrn, B. The School, the child, the court, (267-309), both in Rosenheim et al.  
**Student Presentations**
- Oct. 30     **IV.     Dependency Cases: Abused and Neglected Children and Emerging Issues**  
          A.     Types of Cases, Roles of Professionals and Emerging Issues  
                  West :. W & I codes, sect. 300, CRCC 1439-1469;  
                  Sagatun & Edwards, Ch. 2,3,4,14, 15  
                  Barth, R. (1996). The juvenile court and dependency cases. *The future of children*, 6(3);  
                  Medaris, M., & Girouard, C. (2002). Protecting children in cyberspace. *Juvenile justice bulletin*, Washington D.C.: OJJDP.  
**Student Presentations**
- Nov. 6     B.     Abuse and Neglect Cases in Juvenile (dependency) court, Domestic relations (family) court, Criminal court, Civil court  
                  Sagatun & Edwards: Ch: 5,6,7,8,9  
                  *Course Reader:*  
                  Hardin, M. (1996). Responsibilities and effectiveness of the juvenile court in handling dependency cases. *The future of children*, 6(3).  
                  Guest Speaker: Judge Leonard Edwards  
**Student Presentations**  
**Paper Outlines (typed) with 10 APA Style References are due**
- Nov. 13     C.     **Children in Court and Controversial Issues**  
                  Sagatun & Edwards: ch. 10,11,12,13  
**Student Presentations**  
**Paper outlines are returned**
- Nov. 20     **ASC Conference/ Library Assignment to work on Term Paper**  
Nov. 27     **Thanksgiving Holiday**

Dec. 4      V.      **Future of the Juvenile Court and a Comparative Perspective**  
*Course Reader:*  
Edwards, L. (1996). Promising new directions. *The future of Children: The Juvenile Court*, 6, 131-140.  
Sagatun and Edwards, Conclusion.  
Feld, B. (1999). Criminalizing the American juvenile court (356-367), and Rosenberg, I. (1999). Leaving bad enough alone; A response to the juvenile court abolitionists (367-371), both in Feld, B. (1999). *Readings in juvenile justice administration*. New York: Oxford University Press.  
Doeck, J. (2002). Modern juvenile justice in Europe. In Rosenheim et al.

**Student Presentations**

Dec. 11      **Brief Student Presentations of Term Papers**  
**PAPERS ARE DUE !!!!**

Have a good Holiday