

Justice Studies Department 102, Fall Semester 2004

**Police and Society
Course Syllabus**

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2015-2045
Or by appointment

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Class meeting time: Thursday 1730-2015
MacQuarrie Hall 520

1. Course Description

The purpose of this course to enhance the students' knowledge of the role of American law enforcement in our society. The course will cover a wide area of topics including the history of modern law enforcement in the United States; theories of policing; the organization of police agencies and current issues related to American law enforcement. The topics of community policing, diversity in the workforce, force, corruption and mechanisms for managing police abuse will be discussed.

Required Text

Roy Roberg, John Crank and Jack Kuykendall, *Police and Society*, 2nd Edition (2000). The book is available at the SJSU bookstore and online (i.e. Amazon.com).

Selected readings from *Rampart Area Corruption Incident, Executive Summary*
(Available On-Line) http://www.lapdonline.org/pdf_files/pc/exec_summary.pdf

Selected readings from the Office of the Independent Police Auditor (Available On-Line)
<http://www.ci.san-jose.ca.us/ipa/reports/03MY.pdf>

2. Class Participation and Grading

- A. **Participation:** Each student is solely responsible for all of the assigned reading and being prepared to discuss the material in class. The class format will not be one where the instructor does all of the talking to the students. Rather, the information flow will go two ways. The instructor will lead the topics of discussion with the class member actively participating and contributing to the topic. At the end of the semester **15%** of your final grade will be attributed to class participation.

Naturally, if you choose not to attend class you will not be able to successfully obtain that **15%** of your grade. Your opinions, experiences and questions are important and your active participation will contribute substantially to your final grade.

- B. **Exam:** Everyone worries about the exams. Don't! If you attend class on a regular basis and do the assigned reading you will not have a problem with the exams. Some of the material for the exams will be found in the assigned reading. Some of the material will be discussed during class lectures. Therefore it is imperative that you attend class and pay attention to what is being discussed. If the need arise for you to miss a class please contact me or a classmate to acquire any missed material. If you think you might miss an exam you must contact the instructor ahead of time and make arrangement to take a makeup exam.

The course will consist to two exams. A midterm and a final exam. The exams will be "scantron" and you should bring a "scantron" device to class.

- C. **Oral Presentations :** Public speaking is a valuable tool in the real world. Therefore, students are going to be required to give a short presentation on a topic of their choice. The presentations will be graded on content, presentation and organization. Topics should be based on materials related to the course. All topics must be approved by the instructor prior to the set deadline.

3. **Grades:** The grades will be determined based on the following calculations;

Exams

Midterm	30%
Final Exam	35%
Oral Presentation	20%
Class Participation	15%

Your final grade will then be determined	100-90	A
	89-80	B
	79-70	C
	69-60	D
	59 or Less	F

(For example if a student was to get 85% on the midterm and 92% on the final exam, 88% on the Oral Presentation and 90 % on class participation. The final grade would be a score of 88.8 "B.")

In accordance with University policies students caught cheating will also receive an "F" grade.

4. **Extra Credit:** Depending on the needs on an individual student extra credit work can be requested. Extra Credit will not be sufficient make up for a failed exam or total lack of class participation. Extra credit assignment will be in the form of a typed written paper. The topic of the papers will be assigned by the instructor and will be written in compliance with acceptable university formats (double spaced, one inch margins). Extra credit assignment will be given an assigned due date at the time of issuance. Papers received late will NOT be accepted.

5. **Safety Considerations:** Any student with special needs should contact the instructor the first day of class. Classroom safety instructions will be discussed the first day of class.

Course Outline, Reading Assignments and Exams

- Week 1. Thursday August 26th Introduction to Course. No Reading Assignment
- Week 2. Thursday September 2nd –**Chapter 1** Police in Democracy, **Chapter 2** History of American Law Enforcement
- Week 3. Thursday September 9th –**Chapter 12** Cultural Diversity, **Chapter 3** Community Policing

Police Organizations

Democracy and the police. Diversifying police work and changes in law enforcement (community policing)

- Week 4. Thursday September 16th –**Chapter 4** Police Administration
- Week 5. Thursday September 23rd –**Chapter 7** Patrol Functions
- Week 6. Thursday October 7th –**Chapter 13** Stress and Officer Safety
- Week 7. Thursday October 14th –**Midterm Exam**. Due date for oral presentation topics

Police Operations:

The problems of Force, coercion, corruption in law enforcement. Recruitment, training and mechanisms of controlling the police

- Week 8. Thursday October 21st Video LAPD, Rampart corruption study, **Executive Summary (available on-line)**
- Week 9. Thursday October 28th –**Chapter 9** Force and Coercion
- Week 10. Thursday November 4th –**Chapter 6** Selection and Development, FTO video and training exercise
- Week 11. Thursday November 11th –**Chapter 8** Police Behavior
- Week 12. Thursday November 18th –**Chapter 10** Managing Police Behavior, **Selected Readings from the IPA**
- Week 13. Thursday November 25th –Thanksgiving Break No Class
- Week 14. Thursday December 2nd –Oral Presentations
- Week 15. Thursday December 9th – Last day of instruction. Oral Presentations and Review for Final Exam
- Week 16. Thursday December 16th – **Final Exam Last**