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Office: MH 512 Office Hours:

JS 10
Introduction to Justice Studies

Course Description

The class is structured around the historical and development of administration of justice and the relationship between theory and practice. The course content centers on the description, analysis, evaluation, and policy implications relating to the justice system and related agencies.

Course Objectives

1. To provide an introduction of the characteristics, structure, and processes of justice system operations in the United States.
2. To explain criminology, criminal law, criminal statistics, and constitutional criminal procedure as it relates to practices within the justice system.
3. To describe and discuss the purpose, functions, critical issues, and societal interactions of the three major components of the justice system, which includes the police, courts, and corrections.

Texts

J. Senna and L. Siegel, *Essentials of Criminal Justice*., 5th ed., West/Wadsworth, 2003.

Study Guide to Essentials., 5th ed., West/Wadsworth, 2003.

Evaluation

Two major examinations covering approximately one-half of the text and lecture materials will be given; text-lecture breakdown will be about 60%-40%. Exam I will make up 50% of the final grade and Exam II will make up 50% of the final grade. However, ***testing improvement*** on Exam II WILL be used to improve one's final grade.

The Study Guide is considered to be an important instructional tool in this class; consequently, 10% to 15% of the test questions will be taken ***directly*** from this source. Thus, an appropriate amount of time should be spent with the study guide in preparing for exams. In addition, questions taken from the text will be similar in nature to those in the SG.

The final grade will be determined by a class curve, based on a two-exam average. The final exam will be given during the ***designated final exam schedule*** (consult class schedule); there are ***no exceptions*** to this date. Note that exams may not be taken ***10 minutes after*** an exam has started; the exam will be re-scheduled as a make-up to be taken directly following the final exam. Please be on time!

Class Policies

* ***Cheating*** on exams will constitute an F grade in the ***course.*** This is a department policy. In addition, your name will be turned into the ***Judicial Affairs Office*** for possible further action.

* ***Make-up exams*** are given only for ***excused absences*** (e.g., instructor notified ahead of time) which are ***documented*** (e.g., a Doctor's note); "I overslept" or "forgot what day it was" are **not** excused absences.

* You must also obtain ***written permission from the instructor*** in order to take a make-up exam.

* A make-up exam for the mid-term will be given ***directly following*** the final exam, during the scheduled final exam time. Please note that there will be no make-up for the final exam until the ***following semester***.

* Use of class drops, "I" and "W" grades will adhere ***strictly to University policy*** (Website).

* Please turn ***cell phones OFF*** in class.

* Please ***no recording devices*** in class.

* Lap tops may only be ***used for class purposes***

* ***Class etiquette*** suggests respect for other students and Professors during class time, especially with respect to "chatting," eating, reading (please do these outside of class), and late entrance (please come in the back door). Please note that if you are ***disrupting the class***, you will be asked to leave.

Course Content

	Text Material	Lecture Material
EXAM I	Senna/Siegel: Chaps. 1 through 7 Study Guide-Same chapters	Sections I-IV
EXAM II	Senna/Siegel: Chaps. 8 through 15 Study Guide-Same chapters	Sections V-VIII

Course Outline

SECTION I: CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN THE UNITED STATES

A. Process of Criminal Justice in U.S.
B. What Is Law/Justice/ Freedom?
C. What Is Crime?

SECTION II: THE POLICE

A. English Precedents
B. American Policing
C. Problem Oriented/Community Policing

SECTION III: ISSUES IN POLICING

A. Higher Education and the Police
B. Use of Force (Film)
C. Corruption (Film)

SECTION IV: CRIME MEASURES

A. Measurements of Crime
B. Crime Trends

SECTION V: CRIMINAL LAW & THE CONSTITUTION

A. Basic Elements of Crime/Crime Classifications
B. The Bill of Rights (especially amends. 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8)
C. Major Landmark Decisions (Handout)

SECTION VI: THE ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

A. From Incident to Arraignment (Handout)
B. From Trial of Judgment (Film)
C. Appeal Process

SECTION VII: THE COURTS

A. Structure and Role of the Federal Courts
B. Structure and Role of State/Local Courts
C. Sentencing Structures

SECTION VIII: CORRECTIONS

A. Juvenile Justice/Critical Cases
B. Models of Incarceration
C. Contemporary Issues

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

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

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

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