

SPRING 2006  
JS 105, section 2  
T Th 9:00 - 10:15  
MacQuarrie Hall Rm. 520  
Website: <http://sjsu.edu/faculty/hart>  
PHONE CONTACT BEST, NO E-MAIL PLEASE.

Dr. Cynthia Baroody-Hart  
Office: MacQuarrie Hall 511  
Phone: 924 - 2944\*\*  
Office Hours:  
TuTh: 7:30 - 8:30, 10:30 - 11:30  
Wed : 4:30 - 5:30  
OR BY APPOINTMENT

JS 105

### JUSTICE SYSTEMS RESEARCH

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Justice Systems Research explores the interaction of theory, research and practice in the justice process; purpose and limits of research; introduction to basic research design and methods of inquiry, social statistics, sampling and ethical issues in preparation of research reports.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To introduce the student to the principles of research.
2. To introduce the student to research design.
3. To introduce the student to a variety of research methods.
4. To explore the advantages and disadvantages of various methods of research.
5. To identify various data sources for developing answers to questions relevant to the criminal justice system.
6. To introduce the student to the basics of quantitative analysis of data.

This course is a general survey course of research methods. The course introduces the student to basic research designs, methods of inquiry, sampling, and statistics. It is separated into three, SEEMINGLY distinct, but interrelated parts.

The first part of the course will deal with a brief overview of the research process and a study of the initial stages of the process: choosing a problem, developing hypotheses, and formulating a design.

The second part of the course involves the study of various data collection methods: survey and non-survey research (e.g. document research, observation, physical evidence and experimentation).

The third section of the course concerns the study of data reduction techniques, data analysis and presentation. The focus of this section (as does contemporary research analysis) will be quantitative analysis. A brief discussion of computer usage and the use of the statistical package SPSS will be included.

TEXTS:

Discussion of research methods IS RELEVANT to the study of the criminal justice system. As illustration of this, examples of research in criminal justice will be used throughout the course. There are two texts:

Jack D. Fitzgerald and Steven M. Cox (2002) Research Methods in Criminal Justice: An Introduction 3rd ed. Chicago: Nelson-Hall. REQUIRED

Kenneth D. Bailey (1994) Methods of Social Research. New York: Free Press. SUGGESTED

Both books are available in the Spartan Bookstore as well as Robert's Bookstore.

GRADING:

The basic requirements for the course consist of adequate performance (in line with the university requirements) on three examinations and completion of homework assignments (# TBA.)

The format of the exams will be a combination of multiple choice, true/false, fill-ins, short answer essays, and problem solving questions. The examinations will reflect (1) required readings (2) lectures (3) class discussion and (4) films used in class. Each examination is worth 100 points and represents 30% of the final grade, the homework assignments represent 10% of the final grade.

EXAM #1	=	30%
EXAM #2	=	30%
EXAM #3	=	30%
HOMEWORK	=	10%
		100%

Each student is also required to conference with the instructor, at least three times during the course of the semester. This is a MINIMUM requirement. I would like to see students on a regular basis - my door is always open to you, don't hesitate to come by. PLEASE COME FOR AN INITIAL CONFERENCE EARLY IN THE SEMESTER. If your schedule does not fit well with my office hours, please call for an appointment. I am frequently around at times other than scheduled office hours. You are welcome to come by any time.

ATTENDANCE:

REGULAR ATTENDANCE IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE FOR THIS CLASS. The nature of the material is cumulative. Attendance is not required but is suggested, STRONGLY. Pop quizzes, in-class writings, group discussions etc are possible.

CLASS PARTICIPATION IS ALSO ENCOURAGED! While there is no clear formula for class participation, in cases where a final grade is between two grades attendance and class participation may help to enhance your grade. I will be keeping close track of class participation, tallying class participation and lack of participation. I reserve the right to increase a student's final grade based on class participation.

#### MAKE-UP POLICY:

The departmental policy will be followed regarding make-up examinations. The make-up exam will be given after and within the time-frame of the last scheduled examination. Make-ups are given in EXTREME CASES and only when APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION is provided. It is your responsibility to appropriately arrange work, family and travel schedules to NOT conflict with your responsibilities for class!!!!

#### Add/Drop Policy:

For information regarding adding and dropping a course, please refer to the Spring 2006 Schedule of Instructions, Policies, and Procedures:

<http://info.sjsu.edu/cgi-bin/socfiles?command=ftok&arg=soc-spring-narrative>

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 do so. **It is the student's responsibility to make sure classes are dropped.**

#### Academic Integrity Statement:

"Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University, and the University's Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs. The policy on academic integrity can be found at <http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.pdf>

In accordance with University policy this course strives to uphold academic honesty. Page 40 of the University catalogue clearly details University policies regarding cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes copying, submitting work previously graded in another course or submitting work simultaneously in two courses (unless otherwise approved), altering or interfering with grades, and use of surrogates for examinations. Plagiarism involves "representing the work of another as one's own without appropriate credit." (S98-1, p2). If a student is suspected of academic dishonesty, the student will be instructed to meet for a mandatory conference with the instructor. Further academic and administrative sanctions will be considered based on the infraction. Academic honesty is taken very seriously and any violations of university policy will not be tolerated.

#### Americans with Disabilities Act

Campus Policy in compliance with the Americans 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 my office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires students with disabilities register with DRC to establish a record of their disability."

## Tentative Class Schedule

Students are expected to HAVE THE MATERIAL READ FOR CLASS!!!!!!

1st week	1/26	Research and Criminal Justice	(F & C)* Chapter 1
2nd week	1/31	The Research Process	WEB SITE READING* (B) Chap 1
3rd week	2/7	Perspectives and Research	(F & C) Chapter 2
4th week	2/14	Methodology and Design	(F & C) Chapter 3
5th week	2/21	Measurement	WEB SITE READING* (B) Chap 4
<b>EXAM 1</b>	<b>2/23</b>		
6th week	2/28	Survey Research & Sampling	(F & C) Chapter 4 WEB SITE READING* (B) Chap 5
7th week	3/7	Questionnaire Construction	(F & C) Chapter 5 WEB SITE READING* (B) Chapter 6
8th week	3/14	Interviewing	(F & C) Chapter 5 WEB SITE READING* (B) Chapter 8
9th week	3/21	Nonsurvey Techniques	(F & C) Chapter 6
<b>SPRING BREAK 3/27 - 3/31</b>			
11th week	4/4	Nonsurvey Techniques	
12th week	4/11	EXAM REVIEW	
<b>EXAM 2</b>	<b>4/13</b>		
13th week	4/18	Descriptive Statistics	(F & C) Chapter 7, 8, 9
14th week	4/25	Central Tendency	(F & C) Ch 7
15th week	5/2	Dispersion	(F & C) Ch 7 & 8
16th week	5/9	Bivariate Relationship Intro.	(F & C) Ch 8,9
17th week	5/16	Inferential Statistics	(F & C) Chapter 10 & 11
LAST DAY	5/16	Summary & Conclusion	(F & C) Chapter 12-14
<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>5/19</b>	<b>7: 15AM</b>	

HAVE A GOOD SUMMER!!!

(F & C) - denotes Fitzgerald & Cox

(B) - denotes Bailey