

Justice Studies 10  
Introduction To Justice Studies  
Spring 2008

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### **Course Description**

This course is an introductory course that overviews the historical and philosophical developments of the criminal justice system. This course will cover the description, analysis and evaluation of the components of the criminal justice system including: police, courts and corrections. The course will look at how the system functions, the relationship between theory and practice, and individual rights in a democratic society.

### **Course Objectives**

1. To provide an understanding of the nature of crime in the U.S.
2. To provide knowledge and understanding of the structure, processes and goals of the criminal justice system.
3. To provide an understanding of the relationship between the agencies which make up the criminal justice system.

### **Text**

Inciardi: **Criminal Justice** (required, 8<sup>th</sup> edition)

Inciardi: **Criminal Justice Student Study Guide** (recommended)

**Method of Instruction** Lectures, guest speakers, video presentations, field observation and class discussion.

**Evaluation** Grades for JS10 will be determined as follows:

Unit Exams (4) each	75 points (Total= 300 points)
Class Readings & Writings	100 points
Observations (2) each	50 points (Total=100 points)
Total Possible Points	500 points

- ❖ A+ grades are received by students who receive full credit for 97-100% of the objective questions on the examinations, and whose analytical written work are exceptional, providing evidence of conceptual skills and depth of analysis beyond what the instructor has provided in class.
- ❖ A grades are received by students who have 93-96% correct answers on the objective exam questions and whose written work is excellent, mastering the depth of analysis of what the instructor has provided to the class.
- ❖ A- grades are warranted for those with 90-92% correct answers on the objective exams and where written work is generally excellent, but might have one area of weakness.
- ❖ B+ grades are for those with 87-89% correct answers on objective exams, and where written work is very good but is either weak in one or two areas or tends to be too general, lacking specificity.
- ❖ B grades are for those with 83-86% correct answers on the objective exams, and the written work is good but has two-three points of weakness, or lacks depth or specificity.
- ❖ B- grades are for those with 80-82% correct answers on objective exams, and written work has three-four weaknesses or lacks depth/specificity.
- ❖ C+ grades are for 77-79% correct answers on objective exams, and written work has two-three errors and lacks depth, specificity, and clarity.
- ❖ C grades are for 73-76% correct answers on objective exams, and written work that is flawed with four or more errors and lacks depth, specificity, and clarity.
- ❖ C- grades are for 70-72% correct answers and written work that is sufficient to pass the course but is flawed by basic misunderstandings of the material and gaps in knowledge.
- ❖ D+ (67-69% correct answers), D (63-66% correct answers), and D- (60-62% correct answers), and written assignments that are completed but flawed by numerous errors and gaps in knowledge.
- ❖ F is given to students that do not complete examinations or the written assignments, who receive less than 60% on the objective exams, and who pass in written work, that shows little or no knowledge gleaned from lectures or readings, or show no attempt to correctly address the questions in the assignments.

All assignments must be completed on time. **Late papers will not be accepted.** Consideration for missed assignments and/or exams will only be given in the event of a verifiable medical **emergency**.

**Class Participation** is encouraged and expected. You will be evaluated based upon your contributions to the class.

## **Exams/Quizzes**

Exams and quizzes will be a combination of multiple choice, fill-in, T/F, and short answer questions. **Make up exams** will be essay style and must be made up as soon as possible after the exam. You must arrange for the make up exam prior to missing the exam.

## **Field Observations and write up**

Field observations must be done according to format provided. Your write up must be typed, double-spaced, and well written. Grammar, punctuation, and spelling will be graded. Your write up should be 1-2 pages based on a 2-4 hour ride-along or observation. You will be required to complete one ride-along and one court observation. Those students under 18 years of age will have to complete two court observations.

## **Academic Integrity Statement**

Academic integrity is essential to the mission of San Jose 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 sources. 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 degrees it offers. We all share the obligation to maintain an environment that 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 Jose State University. The policy on academic integrity can be found at [http://sa.sjsu.edu/student\\_conduct](http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct) .

## 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 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](http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct).

### JS10 Class Schedule

#### The Justice System

#### Unit One

Jan 24	Criminal Justice in America	Chapter One
Jan 29	Crime & The Nature of Law	Chapter Two
Jan 31	Legal & Behavioral Aspects of Crime	Chapter Three
Feb 05	Legal & Behavioral Aspects of Crime	Chapter Three
Feb 07	Criminal Statistics/Extent of Crime	Chapter Four
Feb 12	Process of Justice	Chapter Five
Feb 14	Process of Justice	Chapter Five
<b>Feb 19</b>	<b>Unit One Exam</b>	<b>Chapters 1-5</b>

#### The Police

#### Unit Two

Feb 21	Police Systems/U.S.	Chapter Six
Feb 26	Enforcing Law/Keeping Peace	Chapter Seven
Feb 28	Enforcing Law/Keeping Peace	Chapter Seven
Mar 04	Laws of arrest/search/seizure	Chapter Eight
Mar 06	Laws of arrest/search/seizure	Chapter Eight
Mar 11	Police Corruption/Brutality	Chapter Nine
Mar 13	Police Corruption/Brutality	Chapter Nine
Mar 18	Juvenile Law	Chapter Eighteen
<b>Mar 20</b>	<b>Unit Two Exam</b>	<b>Chapters 6-9 &amp; 18</b>

**The Courts**

**Unit Three**

April 01	American Courts	Chapter Ten
April 03	Court Participants	Chapter Eleven
April 08	First Appearance/Trial	Chapter Twelve
April 10	First Appearance/Trial	Chapter Twelve
April 15	Sentencing/Appeal/Death Sentence	Chapter Thirteen
April 17	Sentencing/Appeal/Death Sentence	Chapter Thirteen
<i>April 22</i>	<i>Unit Three Exam</i>	<i>Chapters 10-13</i>

**Corrections**

**Unit Four**

April 24	American Prisons	Chapter Fourteen
April 29	American Prisons	Chapter Fourteen
May 01	Inside Prisons	Chapter Fifteen
May 06	Prison Conditions	Chapter Sixteen
May 08	Probation/Parole	Chapter Seventeen
May 13	Probation/Parole	Chapter Seventeen
<i>May 15</i>	<i>Unit Four Final Exam</i>	<i>Chapters 14-17</i>

**Police Ride-Along**  
**Court Observation**

**Due March 20**  
**Due April 22**