

San José State University
Fall 2012 Semester
Justice Studies 151-2 (Course Code 47905)
Criminological Theory
Dr. Chris Hebert
Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 – 11:45 in MQH 520

Instructor: Dr. Hebert
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 9:45 – 10:15 and 1:15 – 3:00

Tuesday only: 8:15 PM until done. Primarily for JS 156 students, I will stay as late as necessary to accommodate drop-in students. Realize this also means that if there are no students waiting, I'll likely leave ASAP.

Monday: Selected Monday's by appointment.

On Burglary:

The owners! Shoot, this is country folk. These people don't believe in calling the cops. You in their yard stealing something; they coming out with shot-guns. You don't know who's land you're on. You don't know who or what they are capable of doing. People shoot you around here and bury you in their backyard and no one will ever miss you ... Think about it, if you in their yard stealing you ain't telling no one you was going to steal this.

(A young thief in response to whether he feared the police or property owners more.)
From "Managing Fear to Commit Theft," Hochstetler and Copes in "In Their Own Words: Criminals on Crime." Paul Cromwell (ed.).

On Crime and Law Enforcement

Crime is eternal—as eternal as society. So far as we know, human fallibility has manifested itself in all types and forms of human organization. Everywhere some human beings have fallen outside the pattern of permitted conduct. It is best to face the fact that crime cannot be abolished except in a nonexistent utopia.

Frank Tannenbaum (1949).

Prerequisite: Upper-division standing and completion of an approved 100W course.

Catalog Description: Analysis of the nature and extent of crime, including causation and prevention. Descriptions of offenses, criminal typologies and victim surveys. Evaluation of various control and prevention strategies.

Note: To be accepted for credit towards a degree in Justice Studies, a grade of "C" or better in this course is required.

Section Specific Description and Student Learning Objectives: There are four major themes to the course: 1) Why are some harmful behaviors defined as criminal and others are not? 2) What are common measures of criminality and how do they influence our perception of the “kind of person” that commits harmful behavior? 3) The social and physical organization of crime and victimization. 4) Theoretical explanations of criminal behavior.

Required Readings: There is one required textbook for the course.

1) Conklin, John, “*Criminology*, 11th Edition,” Allyn and Bacon. Available at Spartan Bookstore and Robert’s Books. This edition is a major rewrite of the textbook and earlier editions will be inadequate for the course.

The source materials for the “Crime Portfolio” are *newspaper articles*. By “newspaper” I mean “news” and “paper.” The old “dead tree” kind of newspaper, not a newspaper in electronic form. It is strongly recommended that you arrange for regular (daily is best) access to a *newspaper* that can be cut into pieces without incurring the wrath of family members, roommates or librarians.

Academic Integrity: Six out of ten of Americans your age do not have the opportunity to attend college. Don’t blow yours. In the long run, academic dishonesty hurts you, your friends, your children (current or future) and siblings. Academic dishonesty can also cause pain in the short run, see Academic Senate Policy S07-2: <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>. Other publications concerning student rights and responsibilities can be found at: http://sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html.

Disabilities: “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 that students with disabilities register with DRC to establish a record of their disability (from Academic Senate Policy F06-2).”

Course Requirements: Course grades are based on quizzes, exams, written assignments, the Crime Portfolio and class participation. The “chapters” in reference to quizzes and exams are the textbook chapters and any material presented in class or assigned during the class period to which the textbook chapter was assigned. Quizzes and exams are largely multiple-choice with a couple of short-answer questions. Bring a Scantron 882-ES, one or two sharp #2 pencils and a blue or black pen to quizzes and exams. A Scantron is not complete unless it has your name, course name or number and section number (or meeting time), exam title and date. If an excessively rumped, curved, dirty or otherwise abused Scantron jams the reader and must be manually graded, 20% will be deducted from the exam grade. You do not need a bluebook as space is provided on the exam for the short question answers. Any unauthorized use of an electronic device is prohibited. Unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor, all devices shall be powered down and stored out of sight for the duration of the exam. Violations of this rule are presumptively regarded as evidence of academic dishonesty.

- 1) Quizzes (10 * 5% = 50%): There are eleven quizzes, each covering 1 chapter. I may throw in a short answer or a multiple-choice question or two based on a previous material. Ten of these quizzes will be used to calculate the course grade and are chosen as follows: The lowest score of the first six and the lowest score of the last six quizzes will be excluded from the course

grade calculation. A quiz not taken is assigned a score of zero and thus becomes the low score for the purpose of exclusion. Approximately 30 minutes will be allocated for quizzes.

- 2) Mid-Term Exam (10%): All material assigned or presented in class prior to the Mid-Term exam being distributed to the class.
- 3) Final Exam (15%): Predominately material covered since the mid-term, though course material from any part of the course may be included.
- 4) Crime Portfolio (10%): Distributed via e-mail.
- 5) Assignments (1 * 5% = 5%): Distributed via e-mail.
- 6) Participation (10%): You are expected too, indeed, are required to demonstrate that you have done the readings on time by asking questions, answering questions, sharing crime articles, and participating in discussions. The major instrument used to determine the participation grade is FaroQ. Full instructions will be given in class, it suffices to say here that between six and ten students are randomly chosen, as often as on a daily basis, to answer questions from the assigned reading.

To summarize: Over two thirds (70%) of your course grade is determined by examination. 20% of your course grade is largely dependent on your initiative (the Crime Portfolio and Participation). The remainder of your course grade is from a pair of take-home assignments. The table on the following page presents the weight of each assessment instrument towards your course grade. Strictly for your own benefit, it is also set up so that you can easily track how you are doing in the class. I've included example calculations at the top.

Grades:

I usually apply a curve to exams and the posted scores reflect any curving that I have done (I only curve up, never down). If a curve is applied, approximately 20 to 25 percent of the class will receive an A- or better on that exam. All assessment materials are graded on a percentage basis, and correspond to the following letter grades.

Percent to Letter Grade Correspondence											
A+	96%	A	93%	A-	90%	B+	86%	B	83%	B-	80%
C+	76%	C	73%	C-	70%	D+	66%	D	63%	D-	60%
F	Less Than 60%										

Grade Calculator:

On the following page is a course grade calculator for your use. It is surprisingly simple to use. I will do a run-through in class.

Grade Calculator

(A) Assignment	(B) Assignment Weight	(C) Grade	(D) Assignment Weight times Grade	(E) Your Cumulative Points*	(F) Your Cumulative Grade**	(G) Divisor
EXAMPLE A	5%	93	465	465	93 (%)	5
EXAMPLE B	10%	84	840	1305	87 (%)	15
				87% is a "B+" grade.		
Quiz 1						
Quiz 2						
Quiz 3						
Quiz 4						
Quiz 5						
Quiz 6						
Add your 5 highest scores and enter the sum in "grade" column in the Quizzes 1-6 row below.						
Quizzes 1-6	5%					25
Assignment #1	5%					30
Mid-Term	10%					40
Crime Portfolio	10%					50
Quiz 7						
Quiz 8						
Quiz 9						
Quiz 10						
Quiz 11						
Quiz 12						
Add your 5 highest scores and enter the sum in "grade" column in the Quizzes 6 -- 12 row.						
Quizzes 6 -- 12	5%					75
Participation	10%					85
Final Exam	15%					100

* "Your Cumulative Points" is the sum of scores in the "Assignment Weight Times Grade" column in and above the current row.

** Divide "Your Cumulative Points" by "Divisor." The resulting figure is your fully weighed course grade based on completed and graded course material. See "Grades" above for percent/letter correspondence.

Posting ID: Quiz and Exam scores are posted outside my office in MQH. Grades will be posted using a synthetic number called a “Posting ID.” To create your posting ID number, multiply the first five digits of your SJSU student ID number by the last four digits of your SJSU student ID number. The last four digits of the product is the posting ID number.

EXAMPLE: SJSU ID number is 004199408

First five digits are: 00419

Last four digits are: 9408

Multiply = 3941952

The last four digits, 1952, is the Posting ID number.

Late Test and Assignment Policy: No to full credit depending on circumstance. The possible combinations of circumstance are damn near infinite and thus an attempt to assign specific penalty weights a truly Herculean task. Instead, the following are the factors I consider, along with examples of good, OK, and bad excuses.

Dimension	Good	OK	Bad
Notification:	Notification delivered in class at least one class meeting prior to absence	Note in mailbox / e-mail day of exam.	Five weeks after assignment due date.
Reason:	Work-related travel. Getting married, personal illness, serious illness of a close relative, death of a close relative.	Too much coursework/job stress. Relationship troubles, ceremonial participation.	Hung over, forgot, getting married more than once, weekly participation in ceremonies of death or other.
What Missed:		Quizzes and Mid-Term Exam.	Assignment, Crime Portfolio, Final Exam.
Documentation:	Newspaper, Dr./Clinic appointment, receipt for automotive repair, court summons	Note from Mom.	Insultingly bad forgery.
Made up by:	Next Class Meeting or Prior to Due Date.	Two Class Meetings	Final Exam Week.
Attendance:	I can match name to face.	Pretty sure that you are, or were, in one of my classes.	Couldn't pick you out of a lineup for a \$1,000,000.

It is your responsibility to notify me of your need to take a make-up exam or quiz and to arrange a time that accommodates my schedule. Except under extraordinary circumstances, if an exam has not been taken within two weeks or a quiz within one week, of its administration to the class, you will forfeit that quiz/exam and receive a zero.

Communication / Interaction: I'm very available outside of my office hours. If you need to talk and see me in the hallway or outside the buildings, or in my office, just walk up and say hi. If my office door is closed, go ahead and knock. 95%+ of the time I'll be more than happy to talk to you

about just about anything. Once in a great while, I'll be too tired, cranky, distracted, or busy to chat, and I'll just tell you that straight-out.

If the conversation is institution-related (course advising, graduation requirements, etc.) I'll be able to help you much more efficiently if you take the time to do a little prep work. If you need course advising, I need to know what courses you have taken, where taken, if you are a transfer student, and the grades you received. If you get an incomprehensible bureaucratese letter, bring it and any documents that relate to the letter.

My general rule on servicing students is first-come, first-served. Having notified me of intent to stop by and being a current rather than a former student are used as tie breakers. That said, I will sometimes engage in a form of triage, serving students who arrive later before others who have been waiting in line. A common example is a student coming by to pick up a paper who arrived after a student seeking an academic advising session.

e-mail: I just am not a fan of using e-mail to communicate with students. If you have a course-procedural or course-content question, it should be brought up in the class as it's a good bet that other students have the same or similar questions. If further clarification is needed, then see me outside of class. Matters that are to remain confidential should be communicated in-person. Finally, students are expected to, though are not required to attend scheduled class meetings. (University Policy F69-24: <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/f69-24.htm>). Except in the most unusual of circumstances, I will not send course material out by e-mail, nor will I accept e-mailed assignments for grading, though, with appropriate documentation / explanation, an e-mailed assignment may be used as proof of timely completion of the material. About the only other use for e-mail in this course is emergency notification of missing an exam or being unable to turn in an assignment in class (see above).

Now, if you find something that you think I'd find interesting or amusing, by all means, send me an-email. Or if you would like my judgment on whether a particular website has solid information or not, feel free to e-mail me.

Phone Good for contacting me on Tuesday or Thursday. I'm much more likely to answer if I'm not teaching a course at the time. If you leave a message, it's best to follow it with an e-mail.

Recording and Distribution of Course Material: The following is reproduced from SJSU Policy S12-7.

Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.

- It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor's process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
- In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.

Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.

So, talk to me if you need to make a recording in class. Just as a reminder “Audio recording without consent in private settings is prohibited by California Penal code 630-635 (SJSU Policy S12-7).

Miscellaneous (but not trivial):

Assignments are distributed by e-mail. Be sure that MySJSU has your current e-mail address.

In brief, you are responsible for yourself. If you miss an exam or quiz, you must contact me in order to arrange a time to make it up. If you are absent or arrive late on a day when I am returning assignments, you will have to come by my office to pick it up. If you didn't receive an assignment that means you were either absent or late when I distributed the assignment. Check with your classmates or ask me at the beginning of class if an assignment had been distributed the previous class meeting.

For multiple-choice exams, bring a Scantron 882-E form and a #2 pencil. For written exams, I will notify the class if a blue, er, greenbook is required.

Attendance is strongly encouraged, as some of the material on the exams will be presented only in class. Turn off your cellphones, smartphones, dumbphones, PDAs, PMDs, beepers, and heart monitors. Just kidding about the last one.

All assignments will be distributed via e-mail. I will try to remember to tell the class when I have sent out an assignment, but if I forgot, remind me, please.

As a courtesy to your classmates, do not munch during class. Liquids are OK, as long as you dispose of the container properly. In fact, treat the classroom as if it were a wilderness area: Pack in, pack out.

Papers and greenbooks are returned in class when I have finished grading and recording them. I'll only bring each set of papers to class once, so if you are late or miss the day that I hand them back, it's your responsibility to come to my office and pick them up.

If a substantial change in due dates or assignments is required, I will distribute a new schedule in class. A quiz may be postponed for one day without my creating a new schedule.

More on Academic Integrity: Most cases of academic dishonesty can be classified as instances of forgery or counterfeiting. The essence of these offenses is that they involve attempting to pass off something false as true. Unless specifically indicated by the instructor, the assumption is that any work – be it an exam, research paper, term paper, or field notes – turned in by you is an original creation of your own making. As a result, when substantive copying occurs without indicating the source (e.g., citing) a fraud has occurred because what you claim is true (the assumption that you created the work) is false (you didn't create the work).

That said, there are few absolute guidelines for determining when original research becomes unoriginal plagiarism. If you have any doubt about whether a citation is needed for a paper or don't understand the difference between working together on an assignment (usually allowed) and reciprocal copying of an assignment (almost never allowed), in this or any other class, please do not hesitate to talk to me about it.

This Greensheet, like all Greensheets, is subject to revision.

Justice Studies 151-2

Fall 2012 Schedule

Date	Readings (From Criminology)	Assignments, Exams, Etc.
August 23		First Day of Class
August 28	Bring <i>Assignment #1 Part A</i> to class.	
August 30	Bring <i>Crime Portfolio Assignment</i> to class.	
September 4	Bring <i>Assignment #1 Part B</i> to class.	<i>Assignment #1 Part A accepted.</i>
September 6	Chapter 1: The Study of Crime	Quiz Ch. 1 and <i>Assignment #1 Part A accepted.</i>
September 11		
September 13	Chapter 2: Measuring Crime	Quiz Ch. 2 and <i>Assignment #1 Part A due!</i>
September 18		<i>Assignment #1 Part B accepted.</i>
September 20		<i>Assignment #1 Part B accepted.</i>
September 25	Chapter 3: Crime And Its Costs	Quiz Ch. 3 and <i>Assignment #1 Part B accepted.</i>
September 27		
October 2	Chapter 4: Dimensions Of Crime	Quiz Chapter 4 and <i>Assignment #1 Part B due!</i>
October 4		
October 9		Quiz Pseudo-Chapter 5
October 11	Chapter 6: Social, Cultural and Economic Sources of Crime	Quiz Chapter 6
October 16		
October 18	<i>Mid-Term Exam!</i>	<i>Mid-Term Exam!</i>

Date(s)	Readings		Assignments, Exams, Etc.
October 23	Chapter 7: Social Control and Commitment To Law		Quiz Chapter 7 <i>and Crime Portfolio Check</i>
October 25			<i>Crime Portfolio Check</i>
October 30	Chapter 8: Learning To Commit Crime		Quiz Chapter 8
November 1			
November 6	Chapter 9: Opportunities and Facilitating Factors		Quiz Chapter 9
November 8			
November 13	Chapter 10: Criminal Careers and Career Criminals		Quiz Chapter 10
November 15			
November 20			<i>Crime Portfolio Due</i>
November 22	Thanksgiving Break		
November 27	Chapter 11: Organization of Criminal Behavior		Quiz Chapter 11
November 29			
December 4	Chapter 15: Reducing Crime		Quiz Chapter 15
December 6	Last Day of Class		Last Day of Class
December 17 (Monday)	Final Exam 9:45 – 12:00!		I know, the dates look odd, but they are correct.
December 19 (Wednesday)	Final Exam Overload Day.	Contact instructor at least three weeks prior to the last day of regular classes (S06-4)	