

San José State University
Justice Studies 156 – 1 (Course Code 47838)
Gangs, Criminal Syndicates, and Justice

Dr. Hebert

Fall 2012

Tuesdays 5:30 – 8:15 in 520 MacQuarrie Hall

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.

Prerequisite: Upper division standing; Restricted to JS majors and minors or with Departmental consent.

Catalog Description: A socio/historical examination of the emergence, evolution, persistence, activities and social structure of gangs and mobs, the effects of social factors, e.g., politics, law, technology and the economy, and consequences for communities and social institutions.

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: Students will learn, through both individually directed and collaborative learning endeavors, to recognize, describe, and lucidly illustrate historical, contemporary and emergent types of recognized gain-oriented non-legitimized organizations.

Required Readings:

- 1) The Fence: In the Shadow of Two Worlds. 1986 Steffensmeier, Darrell. Rowman and Littlefield.
- 2) Gangs in America's Communities 2012 Howell, James C. Sage Publications Los Angeles, London
- 3) TBD on Adult Organized Crime Groups

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 hurt 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: The course grade is based on a variety of assessment modalities. The three exams total 35% of the course grade; four writing assignments, the lowest of which is removed from course grade calculation collectively total 35%; a group project is 20% and course participation is 10%.

Exams: Exams will be a combination of multiple-choice and short answer / essay. Bring a Scantron 882-ES, a greenbook, a #2 pencil and a pen for the 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 ruffled, curved, dirty or otherwise abused Scantron jams the reader and must be manually graded, 20% will be deducted from the exam grade.

RQAs (Reading Question and Answers): RQAs are due at the beginning of the class. Instructions will be e-mailed.

Group Presentation: The overall grade for the group presentation is based on: i) the final presentation; ii) the preliminary presentation and; iii) a short, individually prepared paper. Groups may vary in size from three to five persons. The final presentation must be between eight and twelve minutes in length. Further instructions will be e-mailed and discussed in class.

Participation: Participation is evaluated separately from the group presentation. All students will be given at least one opportunity to share their insights with the class.

Assignment Weights

Mid Term #1	10%
Mid Term #2	10%
Final Exam	15%
RQAs	35%
Group Presentation	20%
Participation:	10%

Grades:

Graded material returned to you will have a score based either on 100% or a raw score. If the latter, verbal instructions will be given in class to allow for conversion to percent score.

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%										

Course Grade Calculator

Assignment	Assignment Weight	Grade	Assignment Weight times Grade	Your Cumulative Points*	Your Cumulative Grade**	Cumulative Divider
(a)	(b)	(c)	[(b) * (c) = (d)]	(e)	[(e) / (g)] = (f)	(g)
EXAMPLE A	5%	93	465	465	93 (%)	5
EXAMPLE B	10%	84	840	1305	87 (%)	15
				87% is a "B+" grade.		
				0		
RQA #1	11.7%					11.7
RQA #2	11.7%					23.4
Mid-Term #1	10%					33.4
RQA #3	11.6%					45
Mid-Term #2	10%					55
Presentation	20%					75
RQA #4	11.6%					86.6
On the next line record your lowest RQA grade and then <u>subtract</u> column (d) from RQA #4 column (e).						
Low RQA	<11.6%>					75
Participation	10%					85
Final Exam	15%					100

* To calculate "Your Cumulative Points" take the number in column (e) one row above the current assignment and add to it column (d).

** Divide "Your Cumulative Points (e)" by "Cumulative Divider (g)." The resulting figure is the percent of course grade earned based on your performance so far in the course. See "Grades" above for percent/letter correspondence.

Late Test and Assignment Policy: It is your responsibility to notify me in a timely manner of your needing to take a make-up exam or that an assignment is being turned in late. I think, in fact I know, I am far more willing to accept late work than the majority of my colleagues, nonetheless I reserve the right to disallow the submission of late work and if accepted, apply a late penalty of my choosing.

Late penalties range from zero to one hundred percent. When deciding whether and if so, how large of a late penalty to assign, I consider the dimensions listed in the following table and their intensity of lameness.

Table of Excuse Dimensions by Intensity of Lameness

Dimension	Lameness		
	Very Little	Moderate	Brighter than the sun.
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:	No such thing	Reading Set, Quiz.	Mid-Term, Paper, Final.
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 Scheduled Date.	Two Class Meetings	Final Exam Week.
Participation:	I can recall something you said in class.	Pretty sure that you are in one of my classes.	Couldn't pick you out of a lineup.

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 arrives 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 under exceptional and appropriately documented circumstances, e-mailed assignments will not be graded. E-mailed assignments may be accepted as proof of timely completion of the material with appropriate documentation or notification. A paper copy of e-mailed material must be turned in by the next practical class meeting. 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).

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, the most likely cause is that the MYSJSU has an incorrect e-mail address for you or you haven't checked that address. Please do not ask me to resend an assignment. Make friends with a classmate or three, which will prove its value over time.

Attendance is strongly encouraged, as some of the material on the exams will be presented only in class. Turn off your cellphones, PDAs, PMDs, beepers, and heart monitors. Just kidding about the last one. As a courtesy to your classmates, do not eat during class. Liquids are OK, as long as you dispose of the container properly. In fact, treat the classroom as you should a wilderness area, pack-in, pack-out.

A one class meeting changes in the date of an assignment or exam will usually be announced in class only or should be obvious without an announcement. (If I'm sick on an exam day, we can't bloody well have the exam that day, so expect it to occur the next class meeting.) Multiple due-date changes will be detailed in a revised schedule.

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, its your responsibility to come to my office and pick them up.

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 156-1

Fall 2012 Schedule

Date	Readings, Lecture, and Miscellaneous	Assignments, Exams, Etc.
August 28	First Day of Class	
September 4		
September 11	The Fence: Chapters 1, 2, 3, and Appendix.	
September 18	The Fence: Chapters 4, 5, and 6	RQA #1 The Fence Ch. 2
September 25	The Fence: Chapters 7, 8, and 9	
October 2	The Fence: Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 13	
October 9		Mid-Term #1 and RQA # 2 The Fence Ch. 7
October 16	Gangs: Chapters 1, 2, and 3	
October 23	Gangs: Chapters 4, 5, and 6	
October 30	Gangs: Chapters 7, 8, 9, and 10	1/3 rd of preliminary presentations.
November 6	A busy, busy evening.	Mid-Term #2 and RQA #3: Gangs Ch. 3 and 1/3 rd of preliminary presentations.
November 13	Organized Crime Readings TBD	1/3 rd of preliminary presentations.
November 20	Organized Crime Readings TBD	
November 27	Organized Crime Readings TBD	1/2 of final presentations
December 4	Organized Crime Wrap-Up Last Day of Class	RQA #4: Organized Crime TBD 1/2 of final presentations
December 18 (Tuesday)	Final Exam (5:15 – 7:30)!	I know. Freakin' weird – two weeks from the last day of class to the Final?
December 19 (Wednesday)	Final Exam Overload Day.	Contact instructor at least three weeks prior to the last day of regular classes (S06-4)