

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO
Criminal Justice Division

Cr.J. 1
Introduction to Criminal Justice & Society

Professor Hernandez
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Office Hrs.
Tue. Thrs.7:30-9:00
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Syllabus – Spring 2009

Course Description

Reviews the problem of crime and the societal response to criminals. Institutions discussed are those intended to discover the crime and the criminal and those designed to deal with the criminal, the victim, and society, once the criminal has been labeled. Finally, the bureaucracy of crime and its measurement as a social phenomenon are discussed.

Learning Objectives

1. Students will be able to present an overview of the criminal justice process. They will understand and be able to discuss crime control and due process as well as the distinctions between criminology and criminal justice.
2. Students will explain crime within causal theories and systems of classification.
3. Students will explain the major sources and limitations of crime data, the emerging patterns of criminal activity and the costs of crime including the research methods, theories and concepts associated with each.
4. Students will be able to discuss the sources of modern law as well as the types of laws, the key principles of the fourth, fifth, sixth, eighth and fourteenth Amendments as they relate to arrest, search, seizure, interrogation, bail and the legal impact upon police.
5. Students will be able to discuss the bureaucracy of crime, the history and structure of policing prisons the courts, probation and parole.
6. Students will be able to explain the diversity in human society and the contributions and perspectives of women and persons from various ethnic and socioeconomic groups regarding the justice system.
7. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the contributions to the development of the US justice system made by women, ethnic and religious minorities, and other minority populations seeking to redefine justice in a modern, diverse society.

Attendance

It is strongly recommended that students read the text as assigned before each exam and attend all classes in order to participate in class projects and accumulate the maximum amount of points.

Students will be called on for their responses to the assigned reading.

Class Participation

Class participation may include: attendance, direct input, daily assignments, questions on the assigned reading, current event and other quizzes, film reviews from in class films, and debate from various media resources on current Criminal Justice events.

Learning Issues

"If you have a documented disability and verification from SSWD, and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible..."

Inappropriate conduct by students is subject to discipline as provided in Sections 41301 through 41304 of Title 5, California Administrative Code. These sections are as follows:

Article 1.1, Title 5, California Administrative Code

41301. Expulsion, Suspension and Probation of Students. Following procedures consonant with due process established pursuant to Section 41304, any student of a campus may be expelled, suspended, placed on probation or given a lesser sanction for one or more of the following causes which must be campus related:

1. Cheating or plagiarism in connection with an academic program at a campus.
2. Forgery, alteration or misuse of campus documents, records, or identification of knowingly furnishing false information to a campus.
3. Obstruction or disruption, on or off campus property, of the campus educational process.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE CLASSROOM

- Only for students with documented disabilities

GRADES

Exams

Examinations will be a combination of short essays and/or multiple choices.

- Form 4521 will be used for all multiple choice examinations.

Requirements for short essay exams:

All examinations will be written in dark blue or black ink.

All papers will have a margin.

All answers will be written in the space provided only.

- Points will be deducted for answers which suffer from: poor spelling, penmanship, sentence structure, and other crimes against the English

language.

- Students who wish to challenge the grading of a question may bring in supporting data prior to the next examination.
- Students may opt to do a paper instead of an examination. This paper will be due prior to the next examination. Students must secure the instructors approval first.
- Students, who are late to an examination, will not be admitted after any person has left the exam room, and will be restricted as to examination **time**.
- The instructor may give pop quizzes during the semester.
- Grading of Exams
 - 100-90% -A
 - 89-80% -B
 - 79-70% -C
 - 69-60% -D

The actual grades may be norm based.

A written “Theory Paper”. May be part of exams.

Grading

Based on points possible for semester. The actual grade may be norm based.

- A 5-10%
- B 10-20%
- C 20-30%
- D 30-40%

Required Text

- Sanyika Shakur, AKA Monster Kody Scott, MONSTER: The Autobiography of an LA Gang Member, New York: Grove Press, 1993
- Gresham, John. An Innocent Man
- Leflowitz, Bernard, Our Guys,
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Grades are based on the following:

Examinations.

Attendance.

Class participation

Tentative Lecture Format

The lecture and assigned materials are meant to reflect different perspectives relevant to the field of Criminal Justice, and/ or “Politically Correct” views of the time.....

The Background of the system (Week 1-5)

Begin: Monster

- Introduction, Syllabus, and Course Requirements
- What is Criminal Justice

- The Crime Picture
- The Search for Causes
- Criminal Law
- **Exam 1 (Thrs. Feb. 26)**

The Institutions of Criminal Justice Week 6-10

Begin: Innocent Man

- Policing
- Courts
- Corrections
- **Exam 2 (Tue. April 11, 2009)**

The Issues in Criminal Justice Week 11-15

Begin: Our Guys

- Gangs
- Juvenile Justice

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Final Exam Tuesday May 21, 10:15-12:15

This is a 3 Unit General Education Area D2 course as it concerns Major Social Issues of the Contemporary Era.