

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO  
Division of Criminal Justice

Criminal Justice 143  
Interviewing and Detection of Deception  
Sections 1 & 2

Spring, 2009  
Lecturer: Owen Cater  
[cater@csus.edu](mailto:cater@csus.edu)

**SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Principles and techniques of interviewing and detection of deception studied from communication, physiological, and psycho-social points of view. Introduction to the use of polygraph; laws pertaining to confessions and admissions

**TEXT**

Zullalwski, David E. and Wicklander, Douglas E. **Practical Aspects of Interview and Interrogation**, Second Edition, CRC Press, 2002. ISBN 0-8493-1153-5.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE**

The objective of this course is to provide a greater understanding of the principles and techniques of interviewing and interrogation. It is designed to create an awareness of the complexity of these functions. It is also designed to enable the student to recognize the variety of techniques which may be employed and determine the most useful for a specific situation. The course provides a greater understanding of the legal guidelines for the admissibility of information gained through interviewing and interrogation in court.

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

The course will be presented in a combination of lecture, video tapes, active class participation and discussion of current events.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

In order to achieve a passing grade in this course, you are required to attend class on time. Attendance will be taken. If there are 3 or more unexcused absences, a student's grade may be reduced 1 grade. If there are 5 or more, the student should consider dropping the course. In event of 6 or more unexcused absences, the student may be dropped or receive an "F" for the course.

Students must also complete assigned readings, participate in class discussions and achieve passing scores on the writing assignment, midterms and final examination.



Criminal Justice 143  
Sections 1 & 2

*Course Schedule*

This schedule is tentative. Every effort will be made to follow it, however circumstances may arise which necessitate deviation from it. Students will be notified of any deviation at the earliest opportunity.

Week 1	January 26 January 28	Introduction, review syllabus and course expectations . Chapter 1
Week 2	February 2 February 4	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
Week 3	February 9 February 11	Chapter 3 Chapter 4
Week 4	February 16 February 18	Chapter 4 Chapter 5
Week 5	February 23 February 25	Chapter 5 Chapter 5 & Discussion of first midterm
Week 6	March 2 March 4	<b>First midterm</b> Chapter 6
Week 7	March 9 March 11	Chapter 6 Chapter 7
Week 8	March 16 March 18	Chapter 7 Chapter 8
Week 9	March 23 March 25	Chapter 9 Chapter 10
<b>March 30 – April 3, 2009</b>		<b>Spring Break</b>
Week 10	April 6 April 8	Chapter 11 Chapter 12
Week 11	April 13 April 15	Chapter 12 & Discussion of second midterm <b>Second midterm</b>

Week 12	April 20 April 22	Chapter 13 Chapter 14	
Week 13	April 27 April 29	Chapter 14 Chapter 15	
Week 14	May 4 May 6	Chapter 16 Chapter 17	
Week 15	May 11 May 13	Polygraph Polygraph – Last Day of Instruction Discussion of final	
Week 16	<b>Final Examination</b>	<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Monday May 18, 2009 12:45 – 2:45 PM</b>
		<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Wednesday May 20, 2009 3:00 – 5:00 PM</b>