

**SYLLABUS**  
**CJ-261. 07: Introduction to the Criminal Justice System**  
**Fall 2007**

**Instructor: Hyunseok Jang**

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**Class Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 8:00a.m. – 9:20a.m.**

**Classroom: CJC A-201**

**Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00a.m. -12:00p.m. (or by appointment)**

**REQUARED TEXTBOOK:**

Schmallegger, Frank (2007). Criminal Justice: A Brief Introduction (7<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to provide a systematic overview of American criminal justice systems including the law, police, courts, corrections and juvenile justice. Through this course, students will be able to acquire a comprehensive understanding of crime, justice, functions, and the complexity of the criminal justice system in the U.S.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

By the end of Semester students will be able to:

- ✓ Understand and discuss in America including: (1) the inner workings of the American criminal justice system, (2) official measurements of the crime problem, and (3) laws prohibiting criminal activity.
- ✓ Understand and discuss policing including: (1) the history and structure of police agencies, (2) police agency organization and management, (3) legal aspects of policing; and (4) issues and challenges facing police agencies.
- ✓ Understand and discuss the adjudication process including: (1) the structure of courts and the participants within, (2) pretrial activities and the criminal trial, and (3) the sentencing of convicted offenders.
- ✓ Understand and discuss the American correctional system including: (1) probation, parole, and community corrections, (2) prisons and jails, and (3) prison life.
- ✓ Understand and discuss the American juvenile justice system including: (1) juvenile justice history, (2) legal aspect of juvenile justice, (3) current process of juvenile justice.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Class attendance requirements will be followed in accordance with Academic Policy Statement

800401. Students are expected to attend all class sessions and actively participate in the class. If a student is not able to attend a class for reasons that approved by the University or the instructor, such as a medical emergency, illness, death in the family, etc, it is expected that he/she will notify the instructor ASAP. Students who do not attend any class sessions without proper notification should be responsible for any burden from that missing (there will be several quizzes & exams).

### **BLACKBOARD:**

All course information, additional resources and your grade can be found on the Blackboard. You can access the Blackboard by going to the following address <http://blackboard.shsu.edu/webapps/login>, or by going to <http://www.shsu.edu> and clicking on Blackboard under the University Fast Links.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

#### **A. Exams (200 points)**

There will be two written examinations as a midterm (100 points) and a final (100 points). Each exam will consist of

- I. True/False & Multiple choice (60)
- II. Short answer questions (40)

#### **B. Quizzes (100 points)**

There will be six quizzes during the semester. Students will take each of them in the beginning of the class (see "Course Schedule" for dates) at the designated day. The quiz consists of 20 questions (true/false, multiple choice, or short answer questions) and each question will be worth 1 points. In the final calculation of quiz score, I will drop the poorest score. Thus, possible total quiz points in the end of semester will be 100 (20 points x 5 quizzes). The total quiz points will be applied toward your final semester grade.

#### **C. Essay (50 points)**

Students are required to submit one essay paper with regard to the current issue of criminal justice system. Students should choose their own topic by the designated due date. First draft of the paper will be graded and returned to students. If students want to improve their writing, they can revise the paper according to the recommendation. Then, the better grade can be given at the second (final) draft.

Minimum number of page is 5 without including cover and reference pages.

APA (American Psychological Association) format should be applied. Please refer to the library website: <http://library.shsu.edu/research/citationguides.php>.

#### **D. Attendance (50 points)**

Attendance will be checked in the beginning of the class. Two absences will be excused without asking reasons. **From the third absence, each absence will result in 5 points deduction from the 50 attendance points. If a student misses more than 7 classes, he/she will receive F automatically.** Emergency & unavoidable conditions can be considered with the appropriate document or explanation.

## E. Grading

Possible highest point: 400

<u>Points</u>	<u>Semester Grade</u>
400 - 360	A
359 - 320	B
319 - 280	C
279 – 240	D
239 or below	F

## F. Make-Up & Late Assignment Policy

### 1) Quizzes

If a student misses quizzes only with a legitimate excuse, he/she is allowed to take a make-up quiz. Legitimacy will be determined by the instructor. A student who wants to take a make-up quiz is required to talk to the instructor regarding time and date. There will be 2 point deduction from the score.

### 2) Assignments & Exams

If students submit assignments and exams after the due date, there will be 5 points reduction from the possible points.

## G. Extra Credits

There will be several video presentations throughout the semester (See the schedule). If students submit a response paper on each video presentation, the instructor can give extra credit up to **5 point** considering the quality of paper.

Also, active class participations will be considered as the extra credits at the final. **Total 10 points of discussion extra credit** can be given to students.

## CLASS ACTIVITIES

**1. Importance of Class Participation:** The instructor will choose 3 students to ask questions about contents from the previous class in the beginning of the class. Students are expected to participate actively during classes. This can influence your final grade. For example, if a student has participated actively during the class throughout the semester and his/her average score is 87-89 points out of 100 at the end of class, I can give an “A” considering the class participation.

**2. Video Presentation & Discussion:** After watching video presentation, students will be assigned into groups. Each group will present its own argument and discuss the topic.

## ACADEMIC HONESTY:

The Faculty of the College of Criminal Justice expects students to conduct their academic work with integrity and honesty. Acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and can result in the failure of a course and dismissal from the University.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, collusion –

the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit, the abuse of resource materials, and misrepresentation of credentials or accomplishments as a member of the college.

The University's policy on academic honesty and appeal procedures can be found in the manual entitled Student Guidelines, distributed by Division of Student Service. (Reference Section 5.3 of the SHSU Student Guidelines).

### **DISABLED STUDENT POLICY**

“Students with a disability which affects their academic performance are expected to arrange for a conference with the instructor in order that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.” The physically impaired may contact the Director of the Counseling Center as chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students by telephone (ext. 1720).

Any student in this class may request special learning assistance by submitting a written statement describing your particular need. If it is necessary, you will be directed to the University's Counseling Center for additional assistance, however, most needs should be able to be accommodated directly through your professor. Please feel free to discuss any particular need you may have with your professor. The University Policy governing special learning needs is available at the attached link:

**SERVICES FOR DISABLED STUDENTS:** <http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

### **Students Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy**

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University Policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy days shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Quiz</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
8/21	Syllabus review Preparation for the class			
8/23	What is Criminal Justice?	Ch 1		
8/28	<b>Video Presentation (Patriot Act)</b>	Ch 1		
8/30	The Crime Picture: UCR & NIBRS	Ch 2		
9/4	NCVS & Special categories of crime	Ch 2		<b>Essay Topic Submission Due</b>
9/6	<b>Library Tour</b>			
9/11	Criminal Law	Ch 3	Ch 1 & 2	
9/13	Types of Defenses	Ch 3		
9/18	Policing: Purpose and Organization	Ch 4		
9/20	<b>Video Presentation (Busted)</b>			
9/25	Policing: Legal Aspects	Ch 5	Ch 3 & 4	
9/27	The Intelligence Function	Ch 5		
10/2	<b>Policing: Issues and Challenges</b>	Ch 6		
10/4	<b>No Class (SWACJ Conference)</b>			
10/9	Racial Profiling & Biased Policing	Ch 6		
10/11	<b>Review for the Midterm</b>		Ch 5 & 6	
10/16	<b>Midterm Exam</b>			
10/18	The Courts	Ch 7		
10/23	Pretrial Activities	Ch 7		
10/25	The Courtroom Work Group and the Criminal Trial	Ch 8		C
10/30	<b>Trial by jury</b>	Ch 8		
11/2	Sentencing	Ch 9	Ch 7 & 8	
11/6	Death: The Ultimate Sanction	Ch 9		<b>1<sup>st</sup> draft of essay</b>
11/8	<b>Video Presentation (death penalty)</b>			
11/13	Probation, Parole, and Community Corrections	Ch 10		
11/15	Prisons and Jails	Ch 11	Ch 9 & 10	
11/20	Prison Life	Ch 12		
11/22	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>			
11/27	Prison Tour I			
11/29	Prison Tour II			
12/4	The Juvenile Justice System	Ch 13	Ch 11 & 12	
12/6	<b>Video presentation (Juvenile)</b>			<b>Final submission of essay</b>
12/11	<b>Review for the Final</b>			
12/13	<b>Final Exam</b>			