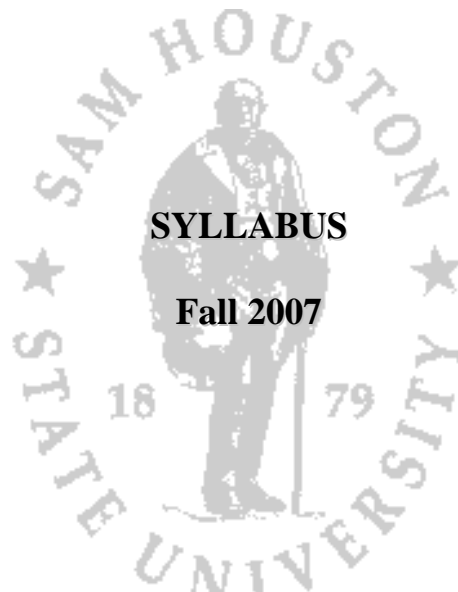


**College of Criminal Justice  
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

**CJ 361  
COMPARATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS**



**SYLLABUS**

**Fall 2007**

**M,W,Fr 8:00 am – 8:50 am  
C104**

**Ahmet Ekici**

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**Office Hours: M,W,Fr, 9:00 am – 10:00 am  
Any other time by appointment.**

**TEXTBOOK(S):**

Reichel, P. L. (2005). Comparative criminal justice systems (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

\*Supplemental handouts will also be provided throughout the semester when deemed useful in accordance with course objectives.

\*\* Guest speakers will make presentations.

\*\*\* Dates of topics in Syllabus are subject to change based on guest speakers' availability and any new material that will be added thought to be useful and related to the course.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Comparative Criminal Justice Systems course will provide students with a comparative overview of justice systems in different cultures and countries. The course will focus on historical, political and social factors, and explain their influence on justice systems. Emphasis will be on social, political and global influences on the development and implementation of criminal justice practice and policy. The course will provide students with an understanding of differences in Common, Civil, Socialist and Islamic legal systems. The course will then focus on how a variety of different countries around the world interpret and approach such issues as policing, the court system, corrections and juvenile justice.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the different methodologies in comparative research.
- Understand criminal justice agencies and the way they operate in a comparative context.
- Get an overall picture of the World's different criminal justice systems by touching on sample country examples.
- Expand knowledge and develop a better understanding of other countries and their cultures.
- Identify and explain the differences and similarities of their own and other criminal justice systems.
- Recognize that every legal and criminal justice system is the product of different intertwining and interacting historical, socioeconomic and cultural factors.
- Understand the role of police, criminal court systems, correctional systems, purposes of punishment, and international forms of justice in a modern society.

## **ANNOTATED COURSE OUTLINE:**

### Week 1: August

- 8/20 Course introduction
- 8/22 Discussion of syllabus.
- 8/24 Video (David Bayley) The Worldwide Frontier of Policing

- Week 2: 8/27 Ch 1 An International Perspective, Rationale: Studying Legal  
8/29 Ch 1 Systems of Other Countries Approach,  
8/31 Ch 1 Strategies, and the Need for Classification

### Week 3: September

- 9/5 Ch 2 Crime, Transnational Crime and Justice,
- 9/7 Ch 2 the Crime Problem
- 9/10 Ch 2 Comparing Crime Rates Crime Trends and Theories

- Week 4: 9/12 Ch3 An American Perspective on  
9/14 Ch3 Criminal Law  
9/17 Ch3 Substantive/Procedural law

- Week 5: 9/19 Ch4 Legal Systems and Traditions  
9/21 Ch4 Four Legal Traditions  
9/24 Ch4 Comparing Legal Traditions

- Week 6: 9/26 Ch5 Substantive/Procedural  
7/28 Ch5 Law in the Four  
10/1 Ch5 Legal Traditions

### Week 7: October

- 10/3 Ch Midterm review
- 10/5 Ch Library Study Hour
- 10/8 Ch MIDTERM EXAM

- Week 8: 10/10 Ch6 International Perspectives:  
10/12 Ch6 Policing, Classifying Police Structures  
10/15 Ch6 Police Issues: Police Misconduct and Global Cooperation

### Week 9: 10/17 Ch7 International Perspective:

- 10/19 Ch7 Courts Professional Actors in the Judiciary
- 10/22 Ch7 Adjudicators Variation in Court Organization

- Week 10: 10/24 Ch8 International Perspective: Corrections Variability  
10/26 Ch8 in Justification Imprisonment as Punishment Corrections in Australia  
10/29 Ch8, Poland, and Japan Corrections Issues: Prison Alternatives

### Week 11: 10/31 Ch9 International Perspective:

- 11/2 Ch9 Juvenile Justice Delinquency as a World Wide Problem
- 11/5 Ch9 Models of Juvenile Justice

Week 12: November

11/7 Ch10 Japan's  
11/9 Ch10 criminal justice  
11/12 Ch10 system

Week 13: 11/14 Ch NO Class ACJS

11/16 Ch NO Class ACJS  
11/19 Ch Library Study Hour

Week 14: 11/26 Term Paper presentations

11/28 Term Paper presentations  
11/30 Term Paper presentations

Week 15: December

12/3 Term Paper presentations  
12/5 Final Exam Review  
12/10 FINAL EXAM

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

- 1- **Reaction papers:** Each student is required to prepare 3 reaction papers covering the readings of the week of his/her choice. The reaction papers are to be two page double space, you are expected to summarize and critic the readings. The reaction papers are due the day before the chapter is going to be covered.
- 2- **Mid term and final exam.** Exams will consist of 40 multiple choice questions. (Format may be changed in class based on class discussion)
- 3- **Term Paper and in class presentation:**  
Each student will prepare a comparative study of justice systems of at least two countries. The study may be focused on policing, corrections, courts, crime statistics, juvenile justice systems, rehabilitation or punishment practices, etc. You are encouraged to discuss your choice of topic prior to start with the instructor. The paper is to be at least 5 pages double spaced, APA style and with proper citation. Use of scholarly sources are required, internet sources may be used but should be as minimum as possible. All students are required to make a presentation of their paper in class. Use of multi media is encouraged. The papers are to be submitted to "Turnit.com" for originality and submitted by email to the instructor. Further instructions about paper will be discussed in class.  
Term paper is due November 25<sup>th</sup> 5pm
- 4- **Class participation and attendance:** See attendance policy. Attendance does not mean only presence in class but active participation as well.

### **Grading**

Mid term	25%
Final Exam	25%
Reaction paper	15%
Term paper	25%
Att/Participation	10%

## Summary of Due Dates

October 8th- Mid term Exam

November 25<sup>th</sup>- Term paper

December 10<sup>th</sup> -Final Exam

**COMMUNICATION:** Will be by email, please use the email provided in the first page of the syllabus. Always welcome during office hours, other than that please let me know in advance so that I can be in the office.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- **Attendance** (See Academic Policy Statement 800401)

### School policy

Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student. Each faculty member will keep a record of student attendance. A student shall not be penalized for three or fewer hours of absences when examinations or other assigned class-work have not been missed; however, a student may be penalized for more than three hours of absences at the discretion of the instructor. Class absences will be recorded and counted only from the actual day of enrollment for the individual student in that specific class.

### My policy

Students will be allowed 6 days (6 Hours) of absences. Each absence in excess of 6 hours will reduce the final grade average by 10 points unless there is a justifiable excuse and the instructor is informed in advance and an approval is obtained. If you can not notify in advance do it ASAP but always with email and provide supporting documents later on. Students with more than 10 days (12 hours) of absences without justifiable excuse will receive a grade of F in the course.

**Make-Up Exams:** An examination should be missed only in the event of illness or other truly extenuating circumstances. The instructor should be informed in advance. A make-up examination will be arranged on a case-by-case basis.

## SHSU Policy Statements

**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. “Turn it in” will be used to check for originality of papers.

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

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

**Student Absences on Religious Holiday:** 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 day(s) 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.

<http://www.shsu.edu/katalog/scholasticrequirements.html#holiday>

**Disabled Student Policy:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities from their instructors, school/department chair, or by contacting the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

For disabled student policy please visit: <http://www.shsu.edu/schedule>

For services for disabled students please visit: <http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>