

COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Sam Houston State University
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CJ267 Police Systems and Practices

Professor: Dr. Jihong Solomon Zhao

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Semester/Year: Spring, 2008

Class Day/Time: MWF 11:00am to 11:50am

Class Location: A 209

Credit Hours: 3

Phone: 936-294-4940

Office: C205

Office Hours: MW 10:00am to 10:50am

Course Description:

This is an introductory course on the role and function of the police in the criminal justice system and the broader society. Emphasis is placed on the development of policing and the roles of the police in contemporary America. Course content will emphasize issues and conflicts inherent in policing a democratic society. As a survey course, it examines the history of the police and the social values and value conflicts that underlay contemporary law enforcement. Moreover, the course includes an examination of important issues and topics.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be familiar with both the practical and philosophical components of the American police force.

Class sessions will consist of lectures and class participation. Reading assignments are listed in the course outline (see the next page), and you should read the day's assignment before the class session.

Objectives:

This course has two primary objectives: 1. Introduce students to the organization of American police agencies, particularly at local level; 2. provide students with the knowledge of the operation of daily police practices (How police departments across the country function in certain ways); 3. give a overall review of the external and internal environments of police departments.

Readings:

1. Required Textbook: *Policing in America: A Balance of Forces*. By Robert Langworthy & Lawrence Travis, 3rd edition, 2003, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Attendance: Students are referred to the Sam Houston State University Undergraduate Catalog, 2005-2007 for the official university policy on class attendance. Students are expected to attend course lectures on a regular basis. Excessive absences will probably adversely affect a student's grade because some test material will be presented through lectures that are not in the textbooks.

Academic Honesty: All students at this University are expected to engage in academic pursuits on their own with complete honesty and integrity. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. 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 (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 Services. (Reference Section 5.3 of the SHSU Student Guidelines).

Disability Student Policy: http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html

Services for Disabled Students: <http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

Student Absences on Religious Holy Day Policy:
<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.htm#holyday>

Withdrawals: Students wishing to withdraw are cautioned to follow formal procedures outlined by the University. Consult the Sam Houston State University Undergraduate Catalog, 2005-2007 for official policies under "tuition and fees refund policy" and "dropping courses."

Incompletes: Except for the gravest of emergencies, a grade of "incomplete" will not be allowed for this course. Any missing grades, whether for examination or assignments, will be assumed to be zeros and will be averaged as such.

Reading Assignments: Each student is expected to have completed the reading assignments before each class session. Reading the assignments before each class session will enhance the student's understanding of daily lectures.

Grading Scale:

Percentage	Letter Grade
90% - 100%	A
80% - 89%	B
70% - 79%	C

60% - 69%
Below 60%

D
F

Evaluation:

Grades for this course will be comprised three in-class exams and they are weighted equally (33.3%):

Exams cover both reading assignments and lecture material. Exams consist of short-answer or essay questions. A short review of the materials covered will be given before each of the exams. Giving a make-up exam is at instructor's discretion with valid excuse provided by students. If your absence from an exam is not excusable, your grade for that exam will be zero.

Course Outline (weekly)

Week	Dates	Topic
1	1/16	Chapter 1 - Understanding the police
2-3	1/23-30	Chapter 2 - Early history of policing Chapter 3 - The English roots
3	2/1-8	Chapter 3 - The English roots (continued) Chapter 4 - The evolution of policing
4	2/11-15	Chapter 5 - Federal and state police Review
5	2/18	FIRST EXAM and Special topic
6	2/20-25	Chapter 6 - Private law enforcement Chapter 7 – Municipal and local police
7	2/27-3/5	Chapter 8 - Police organizations Chapter 9 - Individuals in policing
8	3/7-19	Chapter 9 – Individual in policing (Continued) Chapter 10 - Police officers
9	3/11-14	Spring break: No class
10	3/24	Chapter 11 - Police and community Review

11	3/31	SECOND EXAM and special topic
11	3/26-28	Chapter 12 - Law enforcement and police Chapter 13 - Service and police
12	4/2 to 4/7	Chapter 13 - Service and police (continued) Chapter 14 - Order and police
13	4/9-14	Chapter 15 - Community policing
14	4/16-23	Chapter 16 - Controlling the police: Corruption, misuse of force and civil liability
15	4/25-30	Chapter 16 - Controlling the police: Corruption, misuse of force and civil liability (continued) Special topic: Police union and collective bargaining
16	5/2-8	Chapter 17 - Current trends and future issues in policing Review
17	5/14	(Wednesday 14, 11:00 to 1:00pm) FINAL EXAM

* Schedule is subject to change as necessary.