

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

**CJ 361
COMPARATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS**

SYLLABUS

Spring 2008

**M,W,Fr 8:00 am – 8:50 am
C104**

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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 (5th 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: January

- 1/16 Course introduction
- 1/18 Discussion of syllabus.

Week 2: 1/21 NO CLASS Martin Luther King Day

- 1/23 Video (David Bayley) The Worldwide Frontier of Policing
- 1/25 Continue video and Discussion of Bayley

Week 3: 1/28 Ch1 An International Perspective, Rationale: Studying Legal

- 1/30 Ch1 Systems of Other Countries Approach,
- 2/1 Ch1 Strategies, and the Need for Classification

Week 4: 2/4 Ch2 Crime, Transnational Crime and Justice,

- 2/6 Ch2 the Crime Problem, Comparing Crime Rates Crime Trends and Theories
- 2/8 Guest Speaker Hasan T. Arslan TRANSNATIONAL CRIME

Week 5: 2/11 Ch3 An American Perspective on

- 2/13 Ch3 Criminal Law
- 2/15 Ch3 Substantive/Procedural law

Week 6: 2/18 Ch4 Legal Systems and Traditions

- 2/20 Ch4 Four Legal Traditions
- 2/22 Ch4 Comparing Legal Traditions / Guest speaker Shih-ya Kuo (Connie) CHINA

Week 7: 2/25 Ch5 Substantive/Procedural

- 2/27 Ch5 Law in the Four
- 2/29 Ch5 Legal Traditions

Week 8: 3/3 Ch6 International Perspectives:

- 3/5 Guest Speaker Joe Serio RUSSIA
- 3/7 Guest Speaker Joe Serio RUSSIA

Week 9: 3/17 Ch Midterm review

- 3/19 Library Study Hour
- 3/21 MIDTERM EXAM

Week10:3/24 Ch6 International Perspectives (Cont)

- 3/26 Ch6 Policing, Classifying Police Structures
- 3/28 NO SCHOOL Good Friday

Week11:3/31 Guest Speaker Murat Sever, INTERPOL

- 4/2 Ch7 International Perspective: Courts Professionals
- 4/4 Ch7 Actors in the Judiciary, Adjudicators Variation in Court Organization

Week 12: 4/7 Ch8 An International Perspective on Corrections: Comparative Penology

- 4/9 Ch8 Justification, Forms of Punishment, Prison Alternatives

4/11 Guest Speaker Kyung Yon Jhi (Karl) (S. KOREA)

Week 13: 4/14 Ch9 Int. Perspective on Juvenile Justice: Delinquency as a World Wide Problem
4/16 Ch9 Models of Juvenile Justice
4/18 Ch10 Japan's

Week 14: 4/21 Ch10 criminal justice system
4/23 Term Paper presentations
4/25 Term Paper presentations

Week 15: 4/28 Term Paper presentations
4/30 Term Paper presentations
5/2 Term Paper presentations

Week 16: 5/5 Final Exam Review
5/7 Library study hour
5/12 FINAL EXAM

REQUIREMENTS:

- 1- Reaction papers: Each student is required to prepare 2 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 50 multiple choice questions.
- 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. **(Wikipedia is not a scholarly source, may no be used as a main source)** Use of at least 6 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 4/21/2008 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	30%
Final Exam	30%
Reaction paper	10%
Term paper	20%
Att/Participation	10%

Summary of Due Dates

March 21 st	Mid term Exam
April 21 st	Term paper
May 12 th	Final Exam

COMMUNICATION: Will be by email, PLEASE USE THE EMAIL PROVIDED on 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 (10 hours) of absences without justifiable excuse will receive a grade of F in the course.

Electronic devices: Laptops are welcome to be used for the course purpose, and not surfing or gaming. Cell phones; only in silent mode, and absolutely no text messaging during class hours. and are to be kept in bag or pocket not on table.

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

