

STEPHANIE STROUD
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Sam Houston State University
College of Criminal Justice
Classroom: A201

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Office Hours: 5-6pm Mon/Wed
or by Appointment

Law and Society
CJ 430
Summer I 2008
(Monday and Wednesday 6-9pm)

A course in the nature and function of the laws of our society and how those laws are created, applied, and changed. Particular emphasis will be on the criminal justice system and how society views the rules of that system as well as how those rules are applied to different elements within society.

Course Objective: To study modern societal issues such as race and gender to determine how those issues affect the administration of the criminal justice system.

Textbook: *Law, Justice and Society*, (Walsh and Hemmens, 2008).

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 5:00-6:00pm or by appointment

- **Grading Policy –**

Grades will be determined using the following formula:

Test I	25%
Test II	25%
Group Project	30%
Current Events	10%
Class Participation	10%

Individual instructions for the group project and current events will be provided during class and posted on Blackboard.

- **Make-up Exams –**

Make-up exams will be scheduled by appointment. Make-up exams will only be given for students who notify me in advance of anticipated absence on exam day or for students who provide documentation detailing the reason for absence by the beginning of the next class session.

- **Academic Honesty –**
This course will be conducted pursuant to the University rules regarding academic honesty which can be read at the following web address:
<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

- **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. Please refer to the following website for additional information:
<http://www.shsu.edu/~counsel/sswd.html>

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

- **Attendance Policy –**
Attendance will be recorded pursuant to University policy. More than two absences will result in failure of the course. This rule applies to all absences, excused and unexcused. It is the responsibility of the student to sign the roll sheet. Failure to sign the roll sheet will be considered as an absence. Falsely signing the roll sheet will in automatic failure of the course.

- **Religious Holiday Policy -** see the following website:
<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html#holyday>

DATE	TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENT	ASSIGNMENT DUE	NOTES
June 4	Introduction: What are we doing here? How does society effect law?			
June 9	Prosecutors and Defense Attorneys: The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly Judges and Juries: Where does the real power lie?	Blackboard	Current Event #1	
June 11	The Death Penalty: The Pros and Cons	Blackboard	Current Event #2 Project Proposals Due	
June 16	Men vs. Women: Are the Rules Really Different Exam I	Blackboard	Revised Proposals Due	
June 18	Library Day – Group Project			
June 23	Race: Does It Really Matter	Blackboard	Current Event #3	
June 25	As Society Changes – So Do The Rules Abortion, Euthanasia, Sexual Predators, Adoption	Blackboard	Written portion of presentation due	
June 30	Group Presentations		Current Event #4	
July 1	Final Exam			