

# Criminal Justice 201<sup>90</sup> Foundations in Criminology

**Chaminade University -- Spring Evening 2000**

**Instructor:** Clay W. Valverde, J.D.

## Course Description

This course is an introduction to the criminal justice system and the social, political, economical environments in which crime flourishes. Students will examine the nature and types of crimes, theories of crime, statistics on crime, criminal law, the victim, the offender, punishment and corrections. There is an emphasis on contemporary criminological research and the functioning and interaction of the various components of the system Open to non-criminal justice majors.

## Course Objective

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- assess the criminal justice system's relationship to society;
- do critical analyses of its strengths and weaknesses;
- evaluate and prioritize theoretical perspectives;
- pursue the development of crime, criminology, and social problems.

## Required text and materials

Adler, et al. 3rd ed. (1997). New York: McGraw-Hill, Inc.

On-line readings and handouts.

## Communications

On-line communication with the instructor will be through email at my address of

. I expect students to maintain regular (at least once a week) contact with me by sending assignments, questions, or comments about the course.

Communication and class discussion with your fellow students should be through the C

Please visit the CJ201 web board to familiarize yourself with its operation and post a brief (50-words or less) introduction (Post #1). You will need to choose a permanent username and password to access the web board. There will be several web board topics on which you will be required to answer a question and possibly respond to other student answers. This requirement is in the hopes of fostering class discussions, and I may change the system as needed. Please note, however, that your communications (or lack thereof) with myself and the other students will count as a significant portion of your grade (See Requirements and grading, below).

## Requirements and grading

### Quizzes

8 quizzes based on class readings. 5 points each. Total -- 40 points.

## Writing assignments

4 writing assignments based on class readings, contemporary events, media sources (print, film, on-line etc.), and your own ideas. 15 points each paper. Total: 60 points.

## Communication

Web board participation and email communication with instructor. 20 points each. Total: 40 points.

## Final exam

Comprehensive exam based on readings and quizzes, to be given at Chaminade main campus during finals week. 60 points.

Total possible points: 200

Grading scale: 180+=A, 160+=B, 140+=C, 120+=D, <120=F

## Schedule (tentative)

(Schedule is based on nine (9) week term beginning April 9, 2000, and ending June 10, 2000)

Week 1 -- April 9-15

Reading: Adler, Chapters 1 and 3

Week 2 -- April 16-22

Reading: Adler Ch. 4-5

Week 3 -- April 23-29

Reading: Adler Ch. 6-7

Writing Assignment #1 due Saturday April 29,

Week 4 -- **April** 30-May 6

Reading: Adler Ch. 8-9

Week 5 -- May 7-13

**Reading:** Adler Ch. 10-11

Writing Assignment #2 due Saturday, May 13

Week 6 -- May 14-20

**Reading:** Adler Ch. 12-13

Week 7 -- May 21-27

Reading: Adler Chapters 14 and 16

Writing Assignment #2 due Saturday, May 13

Week 8 -- May **28-June** 3

**Reading:** Adler Ch. 17-18

Week 9 -- June 4-10

Writing Assignment #4 due Saturday June 10

Final Exam at **Chaminade** main campus -- Saturday June 10, 2000