

## **CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS**

**COURSE TITLE & NUMBER:** CJ 375: Contemporary Issues.

**SEMESTER:** 2002 Spring Day Semester.

**DAY/ TIME/PLACE:** M/W/F 9:00-9:50 a.m./ Eiben 201.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Collin K. C. Lau, J. D.

**TELEPHONE:** 735-4882 or CJ office 735-4703 (Michelle).

**E-MAIL:** [clau@chaminade.edu](mailto:clau@chaminade.edu)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (7:30a.m.-9:00a.m.), Tuesdays (9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.) Before or after class or by appointment. My office is located at Behavioral Science Bldg 110, upper main campus.

**BIOGRAPHY:** Mr. Lau is a full-time Lecturer in the Criminology and Criminal Justice department at Chaminade University. He received a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Hawaii and a Juris Doctorate from the Richardson School of Law. Mr. Lau has worked as a law clerk for the Hawaii Supreme Court, a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, a Deputy Corporation Counsel and in the private practice of law. Mr. Lau also worked two terms as an Independent Counsel to the Oahu Grand Jury.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

An examination of issues currently faced by the criminal justice system focusing upon contemporary issues which are projected to have a major impact upon the quality of life for the community and the ability of the criminal justice system to provide services to the community.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Upon completion of the course, the student will:

- > have been exposed to pressing issues in today's criminal justice system,
- > appreciate the impact that politics has upon the criminal justice system,
- > have been exposed to modern criminal enterprises,
- > learn about the role that race may have within the criminal justice system,
- > develop an understanding of the importance of diversity within the criminal justice system.

**REQUIRED TEXT:** None. Course materials will be distributed in class.

**ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION:** Class participation is an expected and essential requirement of the course. A student's participation in each session is considered important to the learning process. Missing a session is not an excuse for not being prepared for the next session. A student's absence from or chronic late arrivals to a session will impact the student's grade. In general, there is no make-up procedure for missed examinations or assignments. Students who have advanced knowledge that

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they will miss an session or deadline should contact the instructor to make arrangements to take the examination at another time. The decision to allow a make-up assignment under these circumstances rests with the instructor and will be made on a case-by-case basis. If a student did not have advanced notice that s/he would miss a session or assignment deadline, s/he must contact the instructor within 24 hours. A message may be left by the student on voice mail at any time. A student who misses an session or deadline and is allowed by the instructor to take do a make-up must be prepared to take it immediately (usually within 48 hours).

**READING ASSIGNMENTS:** All assignments must be completed prior to class or the student **will** not be prepared to participate meaningfully in class discussions. Classes are prepared on the assumption and expectation that the student has read the assigned materials and completed any required assignments. It is particularly important that the assignments are prepared by stated deadlines.

**WRITING REQUIREMENTS:** All formal writing assignments must seek to adhere to writing standards that are stated in the Chaminade General Catalog for 2001-2002 on page 57.

**COURSE EVALUATIONS:** Final grades are based on the following factors:

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS.....	150 Points
MIDTERM PAPER .....	100 Points
FINAL ASSIGNMENT/ ORAL PRESENTATION..	100 Points
CLASS PARTICIPATION/ ATTENDANCE.....	50 Points

**GRADING:** A = 90% of the possible 400 total points (360+)  
B = 80% of the possible 400 total points. (320+)  
C = 70% of the possible 400 total points. (280+)  
D = 60% of the possible 400 total points. (240+)  
F = less than 60% of the possible points. (<240)  
FA = failure due to excessive unexcused absences (7+)

**Disclaimer:** The instructor reserves the right to make slight modifications to the course syllabus if and only if the circumstances warrant or require it. Any modification will be made known to the student.

End of syllabus.