

WF '03

**CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU**

**COURSE TITLE & NUMBER:** CJ 375<sup>30</sup>: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES  
**DAY/HOUR:** Winter 2003, Friday 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Alysa K. Makahanaloa  
**Telephone:** 341-8677 (cell) or 541-3041 (office)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will allow the student to explore contemporary legal issues in American society. Through group work, research and class discussions, the student will effectively argue their point of view on the issues that reflect our society.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:** Upon completion of the course, the student will know the importance of researching legal issues, gain knowledge of the American legal system, be exposed to legal resources and improve their verbal presentation skills by discussing their perception of current legal issues.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:** 1) Katsh, Ethan M. and Rose, William, Taking Sides: Legal Issues, (Tenth edition, 2002)

2) Weinreb, Lloyd L., Leading Constitutional Cases on Criminal Justice, Foundation Press 2002.

**ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:** Class participation is an expected and essential requirement of the course. A student's participation in each class is considered important to the learning process and group cohesion. Missing a class is not an excuse for not being prepared for the next class. This class is based on group presentations and attendance is a very important part to the presentation process. **Attendance will be taken daily. A student's absence from or late arrivals to class will impact the student's grade\*.**

**READING ASSIGNMENTS:** All reading assignments must be completed prior to class or the student will not be prepared to participate meaningfully in class presentations, discussions and group work.

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

Group presentations.....	200 total points
Midterm.....	50 points
Results/reaction papers.....	80 total points
Final project.....	<u>120 points</u>
Total	450 points

NOTE: Any student in need of extra credit may present any issue to the class. The issue must be cleared with the instructor before the presentation commences.

GRADING: A=90% of the possible total of 450 points  
B=80% of the possible total points  
C=70% of the possible total points  
D=60% of the possible total points  
F=less than 60% of the possible total points

\* Please note: Student Deficiency Notices will be mailed out when a student fails to attend classes regularly or if the student's grade falls below a satisfactory percentage. These notices will inform the student of his/her deficiency and occasionally recommend withdrawal from the course.