

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE & NUMBER: CJ 425: The Judicial Process.

SEMESTER: Fall Semester, 1999 term. Independent Study.

INSTRUCTOR: Collin K. C. Lau, Assistant Professor

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

OFFICE HOURS: M/T/R/F 7:30a.m.-9:30a.m., W 12 -1p.m. or by appointment.

BIOGRAPHY: Mr. Lau is an Assistant Professor in the Criminal Justice department at Chaminade University. He received a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Hawaii and a Juns 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 judicial systems, their functions and operations, their internal and external relationships, and their impact on the community through the study of operations and cases of the U. S. Supreme Court and other courts. Legal research and how to read a case.

Prerequisite: CJ 151.

COURSE OBJECTIVE: Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to: identify the elements of various courts systems operable in the United States. The student will also gain an understanding of the various roles played by the various actors in the criminal justice system. A basic understanding about legal research will also be expected.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS: Neubauer, David, *America's Courts and the Criminal Justice System*, (6th edition, 1999).

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 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 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).

Page two.

READING ASSIGNMENTS: All reading 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.

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

FIRST MID-TERM EXAM..... 100 Points
CLASS ASSIGNMENTS.....100 Points
FINAL EXAM 100 Points

Exams are given after four chapters are completed.

GRADING: A = 90% of the possible 300 total points.
B = 80% of the possible 300 total points.
C = 70% of the possible 300 total points.
D = 60% of the possible 300 total points.
F = less than 60% of the possible points.
FA = failure due to excessive unexcused absences

Note: a grade calculated by the percentage of possible examination points may be reduced to the next lower grade in the event of excessive absences or failure of class participation.

End of syllabus.