

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY
The Judicial Process
CJ 42540

Mr. David Sandler
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WE '01
Pms

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

This course examines local, state, and federal courts and criminal justice systems. All aspects of the criminal justice process from arrest, trial, sentencing, and parole will be studied. Emerging issues such as those involving the balance between individual rights and the power of the government, sentencing options, and juvenile justice will be discussed. Although many aspects of criminal law will be covered, it will not be covered in great depth since the university offers a separate course in criminal law.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

After successfully completing this course, the student will:

- Be familiar with the structures and operations of local, state, and federal courts and criminal justice systems, and be able to describe the different players and their roles.
- Be able to identify and analyze the major issues in the criminal justice system.
- Understand the development, purposes, and different types of law.
- Understand the operation of the courts, the role of sentencing, and the prison system.
- Understand the procedure from arrest to sentencing.
- Be knowledgeable about the current issues in the criminal justice system and future trends.

III. ORGANIZATION, REQUIREMENTS, AND GRADING

This will not be a lecture style course, and there will be an emphasis on classwork. Consequently, it is essential all reading assignments be timely completed, and students be prepared to discuss the topics assigned. Readings will come from Neubauer, America's Courts and the Criminal Justice System. Additional handouts may be prepared for assigned readings. Furthermore, students must keep current on topics covered by this course which appear in the media.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE/REQUIRED READINGS

Jan 12	Chapter 1 -	Courts, Crime, and Controversy
Jan 19	Chapter 2 -	Law and Crime
Jan 26	Chapter 3 - Chapter 4 -	Federal Courts State Courts
Feb. 2	Chapter 6 - Chapter 7 -	Prosecutors Defense Attorneys Mid-Term Exam - Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
February 9	Chapter 10 - Chapter 11 -	Arrest to Arraignment Bail; Pages 262-273 Only
Feb. 16	Chapter 12 - Chapter 13 -	Disclosing and Suppressing Evidence Negotiated Justice and Guilty Pleas; Pages 308-321 Only
Feb. 23	Chapter 14 -	Trials and Juries
March 2	Chapter 15 -	Sentencing Options
March 9	Chapter 19 -	Juvenile Courts - Term Paper Due
March 16	<i>Independent Study Project - Courtroom Observation and Paper - No Class - Final Exam Due</i>	

V. GRADES

25%	Mid-Term Exam
25%	Final Exam
25%	Term Paper
25%	Classwork, Attendance, Class Participation, Independent Study Project

VL ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance at all classes is required. If you are ill or have an emergency and need to miss a class, you must contact me in advance to make arrangements for a make-up assignment. Unexcused absences for two classes will result in your final average being lowered by ten percentage points. Unexcused absences of more than two classes will result in additional deductions from your final average.

VII. EXAM POLICY

You may use seven pages (single sided) of notes for the mid-term. These notes must be your own and cannot be photocopies from the book or from another student. If you miss an exam due to illness or an emergency, you will be required to write a paper instead. Make up exams will not be permitted.

VIII. CLASS PROTECT

Students will be required to make a classroom **presentation** which will consist of sharing with your classmates something taped from television or arranging for a guest speaker. In addition, students will be required to spend four hours observing courtroom proceedings and writing a minimum three page paper discussing and analyzing your courtroom experience. A term paper is also due on March 9 which must be 7-10 pages in length. Term paper topics are due Jan. 26. Outlines are due Feb. 16.

IX. INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY

All students are encouraged to meet with me at least once during the semester especially in regards to your project. **Office** hours are held after every class. I will also be available to talk to students during breaks, and can be reached at 263-5875.

By university policy, food and drinks are prohibited during class