

DePAUL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL FOR NEW LEARNING

HC 212 CRIMINAL JUSTICE: VIOLENCE IN AMERICA

Spring 2009

Faculty: Jack Moran
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Hours: Tuesday, 3/31 - 6/9/09
6:00 P.M. -9:00 P.M.
Location: Loop Campus

Course Description:

There is an epidemic of crime in America. Increasingly, this crime is alarming because of the

senselessness and viciousness of the offenses. Drugs, guns and gangs seem to be common factors in a

large percentage of violent crime. "Criminal Justice: Violence in America" will examine the criminal justice system and the causes of violent crime.

Instructor Profile:

Judge Moran draws on over two decades of involvement in the Cook County criminal justice system as a prosecutor, defense attorney, and felony trial court judge. He has been appointed to serve on the Chicago Bar Association Blue Ribbon Committee on the Criminal Courts and on Governor Edgar's Task Force on Crime and Corrections. He also serves as a Supervising Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County Criminal Division. Judge Moran has been a member of the SNL visiting faculty since 1979 and was the 1987 Excellence in Teaching Award recipient. His other courses include Law and Values and The Constitution.

Competences Offered:

H-2-A Can evaluate the contributions of social institutions to the welfare of the communities they serve.
Can understand a social problem and can analyze the effectiveness of social institutions in addressing it.

Assessment Criteria:

H-2-A will require the student to learn, in detail, the process a criminal case follows from arrest through possible sanctions. Understanding of this process will enable the student to analyze the effectiveness of the criminal justice system as it contributes to the welfare of our community.

H-1-B Can explain how two or more of the factors of race, ethnicity, Nationality, socioeconomic status, age, gender, sexual orientation, or religion interact to shape communities.

H4 Can analyze power relations among racial, social, cultural or economic groups in the United States.

Assessment Critieria:

H-1-B and H-4 will require students to examine the listed factors and others, which are causes or correlates found in violent criminals and/or their victims.

H-2-G Can evaluate the role and impact of the mass media on society.

Assessment Criteria:

H-2-G will require students to study the mass media (television, music, movies, video games, pornography, etc.) as a possible factor in the causation of criminal violent behavior. Also, the news.media will be examined to analyze its effect on the criminal justice system, (ex. The O.J. Simpson trial) and the rights of the accused.

Credit 4 Quarter Hours

Learning Strategies:

1. Required reading
2. Lectures
3. Viewing telecourse video presentations
4. Group discussions
5. Guest speakers
6. Field trip to the Cook County Criminal Court complex
7. Independent research

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Learning Tools Required:

Inside the Brain
There Are No Children Living Here
Illinois Task Force on Crime and Corrections Final Report
Killing Our Children-Tribune Reprint
The Search For Solutions-Tribune Reprint
Trends and Issues
Selected Articles and Cases

Learning Experience:

In addition to in-class lectures and discussions, each student will be required to complete all reading assignments prior to class discussion of the assigned material. Although class discussion will not be a factor in grading, preparation for class will significantly assist your learning process and allow you to make meaningful contributions to the learning experience of your classmates.

Attendance at all class sessions is required and is not a factor in grading. Absences will be considered in grading and may result in a lower grade. If you anticipate missing more than one class, it would be best for you not enroll in this class.

A class field trip to the Cook County Criminal Court complex is also required. This all day trip will allow students to observe first hand the problems and issues discussed in class. The tour will include presentations by criminal court experts.

Grades will be determined by the following percentages:

- A 90- 100%
- B 80-90%
- C 70-80%
- D 60-70%
- F less than 60%

Assessments and feedback will embody the qualities of clarity, integrity, flexibility, and empathy.

The instructor will review the midterm exams in class and also be available to discuss them individually with students.

Pass/Fail is an SNL option. If any student wishes to take this course Pass/Fail, notification to the instructor must be made by the 3rd week of class.

DePaul University's guidelines on academic integrity as detailed in the Student Handbook will be observed and upheld.

THE CONSTITUTION

TOPICS and ASSIGNMENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
3/31	Introduction	
4/7	American Violence	<u>Crime: Young and Ruthless-Handout There Are No Children Living Here</u>
4/14	American Violence	<u>Killing Our Children</u>
4/21	American Violence	<u>Saving Our Children</u>
4/28	American Violence	<u>Inside the Brain Intro. Ch. 4,6,7,8,9 and Epilogue</u>
5/5	Criminal Court System	<u>CJ Overhead - Handout</u>
5/12	Criminal Court System	<u>Trends & Issues</u>
5/19	Criminal Court System	<u>Illinois Task Force Report</u>
5/26	Criminal Court System	<u>Criminal Justice Project Report</u>
6/2	Criminal Court System	
6/9	FINAL EXAM	

