

Psychology and Law
Fall 1987

Dr. Robert Mauro
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Office Hours: T Th 12:30-1:30
and by appointment

PSY 410G
TLN: 4353
T TH 11:00
142 Straub

This course is an introduction to topics and problems of mutual relevance to psychology and law. Hence, it will be characterized more by breadth than by depth.

The class will meet three times a week for lectures, demonstrations, and discussions. The reading material will not be reviewed during the lectures, but it will often serve as the basis for discussion -- so please try to read it before coming to class (but don't skip class just because you have been negligent in your reading).

If you are taking this class for graduate credit you must 1) take the final, and 2) write a term paper on a topic of your choice which is of mutual interest to psychology and the law. The topic of the paper must be approved by me before November 3, 1987.

If you are taking the course for undergraduate credit you must either 1) take the midterm and the final or 2) take the final and write a term paper on a topic of your choice which is of mutual interest to psychology and the law. The topic of the paper must be approved by me before November 3, 1987. You must decide which option (1 or 2 above) you will take by November 3, 1987.

The examinations will include both essay questions and short-answer / multiple-choice questions.

Course Syllabus

An outline of the course is presented below. It is not written in stone, but we will try not to depart from it too dramatically.

I will be assuming that you know something about psychology, research methods, and the legal system. If you feel the need to review any of these, do so during the first part of the term when the reading load is lighter. A good book on the criminal justice system, Kaplan and Skolnick's Criminal Justice is on reserve at the library.

The course texts are:

Barton, C. Psychology and American Law, Wadsworth, 1983.

Vetter, H.J. and Rieber, R.W. The Psychological Foundations of Criminal Justice, Vol. II: Contemporary Perspectives on Forensic Psychology, John Jay Press, 1980.

and a reading packet (available from Kinko's). all reading materials are on reserve in the library. In the syllabus below B refers to Bartol, and VR refers to Vetter and Rieber. All the other readings are in the reading packet.

9/29 Introduction
B Ch. 1; pp. 84-89

Identity

10/1 Eyewitness Identification
B Ch. 7, 8

10/6 Stanford Prison Study -- Legal Responsibility (at IMC)
Zimbardo "Interpersonal Dynamics in a Simulated Prison"
Milgram "Some Conditions of Obedience and Disobedience to Authority"

10/8 Eyewitness Identification

10/13 Evidence, Interrogation, and Polygraphy
Zimbardo "The Psychology of Police Confessions"
Lykken "Psychology and the Polygraph Industry"
Smith "The Polygraph"

10/15 Profiles -- past & present actors
US vs. Lopez
FBI bulletin "The Lust Murderer"
FBI bulletin "A Psychological Assessment of Crime Profiling"

10/20 Prediction -- future actors
B 100-106
VR 179-271
Federal Parole Guidelines and Barefoot vs. Estelle
Tarasoff vs. Regents of the U of Cal.

10/22 Legal Responsibility and Defenses
B Ch. 5
VR 16-33
Kaplan and Skolnick "Why Punish Crimes?"

10/27 Competence and Insanity
VR 162-178, 65-93, 135-161
Bazelon "Psychiatrists and the Adversary Process"

10/29 Mental Health Law
B 93-99, 107-112, 309-318
Ennis and Siegel excerpts from "The Rights of Mental Patients"

Actions

11/3 Discrimination
B 49-54
Brown vs. Board of Ed.
Furman vs. Georgia
Gross and Mauro excerpts from "Race and death..."

11/5 Obscenity
Miller vs. California
Malamuth and Donnerstein "The Effects of Aggressive Pornographic Mass Media Stimuli"

11/10 MIDTERM

Some Remedies

- 11/12 Crime and Criminals
VR 5-15
B Ch. 10
- 11/17 Specific Deterrence and Rehabilitation
B 290-308
VR 335-354
Robison and Smith "The Effectiveness of Correctional Programs"
Galegher and Carroll "Voluntary Sentencing Guidelines"
- 11/19 General Deterrence
Kelling et al. "The Kansas City Preventive Patrol Expt."
Newman "Architectural Design for Crime Prevention"
Campbell "The Connecticut Crackdown on Speeding"
Wilson "If every criminal knew he would be punished..."
Chambliss "Types of Deviance and the Effectiveness of Legal Sanctions"
- 11/24 Capital Punishment
Sellin "The Death Penalty Relative to Deterrence and Police Safety"
Kaplan and Skolnick "Capital Punishment"
- 12/1 Child Custody and Juvenile Justice
Hazard "The Jurisprudence of Juvenile Justice"
In re Gault
Clingempeel and Reppucci "Joint Custody After Divorce"
Wald "State Intervention on Behalf of 'Neglected Children'"

Legal Procedures

- 12/3 Decision-making
B Ch. 9
Saks and Kidd "Human Information Processing and Adjudication"
Tribe "Trial by Mathematics"
- 12/8 Jury Selection
B Ch. 6
Saks and Hastie "Jury Behavior: Composition"
- 12/10 Jury Behavior
Saks and Hastie "Jury Behavior: Structure, Process, Outcome"
- 12/14 FINAL 3:15 PM

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Articles

- Zimbardo: "The Psychology of Police Confessions" 1-6
- Lykken: "Psychology and the Polygraph Industry" 7-21
- Smith: "The Polygraph" 22-29
- US vs. Lopez 30-33
- FBI Bulletin: "The Lust Murderer" 34-38
- FBI Bulletin: "A Psychological Assessment of Crime Profiling" 39-42
- Federal Parole Guidelines and Barefoot vs. Estelle 43-56
- Tarasoff vs. Regents of the U of Cal. 57-61
- Zimbardo: "Interpersonal Dynamics in a Simulated Prison" 62-76
- Milgram: "Some Conditions of Obedience and Disobedience to Authority" 77-88
- Kaplan & Skolnick: "Why Punish Crimes?" 89-128
- Bazelon: "Psychiatrists and the Adversary Process" 129-134
- Ennis & Siegel excerpts from "The Rights of Mental Patients" 135-146
- Brown vs. Board of Ed. 147-155
- Furman vs. Georgia 156-168
- Gross & Mauro excerpts from "Race and death..." 169-195
- Miller vs. California 196-205
- Malamuth & Donnerstein: "The Effects of Aggressive Pornographic Mass Media Stimuli" 206-239
- Robison & Smith: "The Effectiveness of Correctional Programs" 240-251
- Galegher & Carroll: "Voluntary Sentencing Guidelines" 252-269
- Kelling et al. "The Kansas City Preventive Patrol Expt." 270-272
- Campbell: "The Connecticut Crackdown on Speeding" 273-283

Newman: "Architectural Design for Crime Prevention" 284-293

Wilson: "If every criminal knew he would be punished..." 294-299

Chambliss: "Types of Deviance and the Effectiveness of Legal Sanctions"
300-316

Sellin: "The Death Penalty Relative to Deterrence and Police Safety" 317-327

Kaplan & Skolnick "Capital Punishment" 328-339

Hazard: "The Jurisprudence of Juvenile Justice" 340-356

In re Gault 357-377

Clingempeel & Reppucci: "Joint Custody After Divorce" 378-403

Wald: "State Intervention on Behalf of 'Neglected Children'" 404-436

Saks & Kidd: "Human Information Processing and Adjudication" 437-474

Tribe: "Trial by Mathematics" 475-478

Saks & Hastie: "Jury Behavior: Composition" 479-491

Saks & Hastie: "Jury Behavior: Structure, Process, Outcome" 492-505