

Psychology and Law  
Spring 1989

Dr. Robert Mauro  
311 Straub; 686-4917  
Office Hours: T Th 2:00-3:00  
and by appointment

PSY 410G  
TLN: 2222  
T TH 12:30  
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 twice 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 April 27, 1989.

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 April 27, 1989. You must decide which option (1 or 2 above) you will take by April 27, 1989.

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.

3/30 Introduction / Eyewitness Identification  
B Ch. 1; pp. 84-89

### Identity

4/4 Eyewitness Identification  
B Ch. 7, 8

4/6 Eyewitness Identification

4/11 Evidence, Interrogation, and Polygraphy  
Zimbardo "The Psychology of Police Confessions"  
Lykken "Psychology and the Polygraph Industry"  
Smith "The Polygraph"

4/13 Profiles -- past & present actors  
US vs. Lopez  
FBI bulletin "The Lust Murderer"  
FBI bulletin "A Psychological Assessment of Crime Profiling"

4/18 Prediction -- future actors  
B 100-106  
VR 179-271  
Federal Parole Guidelines and Barefoot vs. Estelle  
Tarasoff vs. Regents of the U of Cal.

4/20 Legal Responsibility and Defenses  
B Ch. 5  
VR 16-33  
Kaplan and Skolnick "Why Punish Crimes?"

4/25 Competence and Insanity  
VR 162-178, 65-93, 135-161  
Bazelon "Psychiatrists and the Adversary Process"

4/27 Mental Health Law  
B 93-99, 107-112, 309-318  
Ennis and Siegel excerpts from "The Rights of Mental Patients"

5/2 Consent & Liability  
Saks and Kidd "Human Information Processing and Adjudication"

5/4 MIDTERM EXAM

### Actions & Remedies

5/9 Specific Deterrence and Rehabilitation  
B 290-308, Ch 10  
VR 335-354, 5-15  
Robison and Smith "The Effectiveness of Correctional Programs"

5/11 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"

5/16 Capital Punishment  
Sellin "The Death Penalty Relative to Deterrence and Police Safety"  
Kaplan and Skolnick "Capital Punishment"

5/18      Discrimination  
          B 49-54  
          Brown vs. Board of Ed.  
          Furman vs. Georgia  
          Gross and Mauro excerpts from "Death & Discrimination:  
5/23      Child Custody and Juvenile Justice  
          Hazard "The Jurisprudence of Juvenile Justice"  
          In re Gault  
          Wald "State Intervention on Behalf of 'Neglected Children'"  
5/25      Obscenity  
          Miller vs. California  
          Malamuth and Donnerstein "The Effects of Aggressive  
          Pornographic Mass Media Stimuli"

Legal Procedures

5/30      Decision-making  
          B Ch. 9  
          Tribe "Trial by Mathematics"  
6/1      Jury Selection & Behavior  
          B Ch. 6  
          Saks and Hastie "Jury Behavior: Composition"  
          Saks and Hastie "Jury Behavior: Structure, Process, Outcome"  
6/9      FINAL 8:00 AM