

**Policing and Society (LS 102)**  
**Legal Studies Program**  
**University of California, Berkeley**

**05/23/11 – 07/01/11**

**Professor Michael Musheno**  
**GSI Nicole Lindahl**

**Lectures: 136 Barrows**  
**Monday -Thursdays, 10am-Noon**

**Sections: 109 Wheeler**  
**Tuesdays: 12-2pm**  
**Wednesdays, 2-4pm**

**Professor's Office Hours:**  
**T, W: 1-2pm; 2240 Piedmont**

**Course Syllabus**

**Course Description**

This course examines the American social institution of policing with particular emphasis on urban law enforcement. It explores the social, economic and cultural forces that pull policing in the direction of state legal authority and power as well as those that are a counter-weight to the concentration of policing powers in the state. Special attention is given to how policing shapes and is shaped by the urban landscape, legal to cultural.

Topics include exploration of: what is policing and who are the police; growing reliance on surveillance, technologies of social control and the privatization of policing, including corporate policing; the forces that shape why policing agencies and personnel do what they do; changing styles of urban law enforcement since the 1800s; how policing shapes the urban landscape; use of informants and interrogation practices; police abuse of state authority, including issues of racial profiling; democratizing forces at work inside and outside urban law enforcement; and the militarization and globalization of American policing.

**Required Readings (Books at University Bookstore; Reader at Copy Central on Bancroft)**

John Gilliom, *Overseers of the Poor: Surveillance, Resistance and the Limits of Privacy*, 2001.

Katherine Beckett and Steve Herbert, *Banished: The New Social Control in Urban America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Steven Maynard-Moody and Michael Musheno, *Cops, Teachers, Counselors: Stories from the Front Lines of Public Service*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2003.

Policing and Society Reader (Copy Central, Bancroft)

**Schedule of Topics and Readings**  
**Books (B); Reader (R)**

<b>Week #</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Readings</b>
1	(a) What is Policing, Who are the Police; (b) Policing the Individual	Gilliom (B) Monahan (R) Eberhardt, et.al. (R) Kassin, et. al. (R)
2	Professional to Community Policing	Sklansky (R) Gau and Brunson (R) Beckett and Herbert (B)
3	Why Law Enforcement Agencies and Personnel Do What They Do	Maynard-Moody/Musheno (B)
4	Getting the Bad Guys: Informants to Interrogation Practices	Leo (R)
5	Police Abuse, Misconduct and Racial Profiling	Harris (R) Meehan and Ponder (R)
6	Police Democratization and Militarization	Sklansky (R) Thacher (R)

**Grading Policy and Graded Assignments**

Your course grade will be determined by two in-class final examination, one take-home socio-legal essay, and section performance (which includes keeping a field journal). Out of concern for fairness to all students, **there will be neither make-up exams nor any extensions given to the due dates of take-home essays** except in the case of documented extreme illness. **The first in-class exam will take place on Tuesday, June 14, and the second on Thursday, June 30. The take home essay will be due on Thursday, June 23.** Please mark your calendar now with the due dates of the in-class exams and the take-home. If you cannot take the exams and complete the take-home on these dates, you should not take the course this summer term. All grades determined by the GSI are final. The professor will **not** re-grade the take-home essays or the final examination. If you have a disability that may require accommodations, please speak to your GSI *early* in the summer term (i.e., in the first two weeks) to make arrangements.

**Examinations (2): 100 Points Each**

Two in-class final examinations are required. Each examination is worth 100 points and consists of four parts: short essay response to a question (20 points); writing paragraphs about paired concepts (50 points); writing sentences defining key concepts

(20 points); and fill in the blanks (10 points). The purpose of the examination is not to surprise you but to give you an opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the course material. Therefore, study guides will be distributed in a timely manner leading up to each examination.

### **Take-Home Essay (1): 60 Points**

The take-home essay is an exercise wherein you respond to a written scenario and questions, demonstrating your knowledge of the classroom material, including required readings, and critical reasoning abilities. We will provide you with the assignment at least one week in advance of its due date. Your essay must be word-processed, double-spaced, use standard (one inch) margins, use 12 point font, and be no longer than 6 pages.

### **Section Performance: 60 Points**

Section performance is determined by attendance and participation in section. Participation includes discussions during section and the writing of a field journal. For the field journal, students are expected to conduct observations, both in the field and in cyberspace. A set of weekly assignments will be provided that are keyed to the topics identified above. Students are expected to draw upon the readings to contextualize their observations and to use their observations to challenge the readings. A field journal will be kept related to each assignment and turned in for grading.

### **Grading Criteria**

Grading criteria are as follows: clarity of your writing (using proper grammar, punctuation, spelling, legibility and organization); accuracy and comprehensiveness of your responses (defining all relevant terms/concepts, illustrating the terms/concepts, and including all key points); and creativity of your responses (demonstrating in your own words or with your own examples that you understand the terms, concepts and questions and reason critically).

### **Grading (320 Points Total)**

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Point Value</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Grade</u>
Exams (2)	200	62 %
Take Home Essay	60	19%
Section	60	19%