

Las Positas College  
3000 Campus Hill Drive  
Livermore, CA 94551-7650  
(925) 424-1000  
(925) 443-0742 (Fax)

## Course Outline for AJ 74

### GANGS AND DRUGS

Effective: Spring 2018

#### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

AJ 74 — GANGS AND DRUGS — 3.00 units

Definition of a gang and gang activity. Historical, cultural and ethnic/racial aspects. Interrelationships among local, national, and international gangs, including prison gangs. Gang activity in relation to drug trafficking

3.00 Units Lecture

#### Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

#### Discipline:

- Administration of Justice

	<u>MIN</u>
<b>Lecture Hours:</b>	54.00
<b>Total Hours:</b>	54.00

#### II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

#### III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

#### IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

**Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

- Discuss the historical background and identification of various kinds of gangs
- Recognize the central issues and strategies in the law related to gang prevention and enforcement
- Describe the Constitutional and legal restrictions dealing with gangs and gang members
- Recognize the major components of gangs, including recruitment organization, hierarchy, symbols and rituals, and relationships with other gangs
- List the most important local, national and international gangs
- Recognize the relationship between ethnicity or race and gang membership
- Describe the relation between major prison gangs and street gangs
- Explain the relationship of gang activity to drug trafficking
- Develop strategies for crime prevention in gang-related areas

#### V. CONTENT:

- Introduction and historical background
  - A gang defined
  - Historical background
    - Cultural influences
    - Family dynamics
    - Socio-economic factors
    - Peer pressure
  - Traditional versus non-traditional gangs
  - Social impact on neighborhoods
  - Political response to gang problems
- Types of gangs
  - Street gangs by local area
  - Prison gangs
    - Mexican Mafia
    - Nuestra Familia
    - Black Guerilla Family
    - CRIPS
    - Aryan Brotherhood
    - Texas Syndicate
  - Motorcycle gangs, including Hell's Angels
  - National and international organizations
    - La Cosa Nostra
    - Aryan Nation
    - Yakuza
    - Korean Killers
    - Cuban Marelitos

- f. Satanists
    - g. Tongs
  - 5. Ethnic gangs
    - a. Skinheads
    - b. African-American gangs
    - c. Hispanic gangs
    - d. Asian gangs, including Pacific Islanders, Southeast Asians, Samoans and others
- C. Gang structure
  - 1. Code of ethics
  - 2. Hierarchy
  - 3. Status, recognition, and roles
- D. Money-making ventures
  - 1. Drug importation and distribution
  - 2. Drug manufacture and distribution
  - 3. Money laundering
  - 4. Robbery
  - 5. Extortion
  - 6. Prostitution
- E. Law enforcement, legal and community efforts to combat gangs
  - 1. Legal
    - a. Constitutional considerations
    - b. Laws dealing with gang membership and activity
  - 2. Law enforcement
    - a. Surveillance and monitoring
    - b. Arrest and prosecution
    - c. Corrections
    - d. Gang suppression units
    - e. Rehabilitation programs
  - 3. Community based organizations
    - a. Self-help programs
    - b. Youth centers and sports programs
    - c. Counseling and vocational training

#### VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** -
- B. **Discussion** -
- C. Role-playing activities
- D. **Guest Lecturers** -
- E. **Audio-visual Activity** -

#### VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Complete a short research paper on gang prevention based on current and historical data on gangs
- B. Collect current newspaper articles on gang activities, focusing on involvement with crime and drugs, and give a short oral presentation
- C. Submit written answers to questions at the end of textbook chapters

#### VIII. EVALUATION:

##### A. **Methods**

- 1. Exams/Tests
- 2. Quizzes
- 3. Research Projects
- 4. Oral Presentation

##### B. **Frequency**

- 1. Exams/Tests - one midterm and one final exam.
- 2. Quizzes - at discretion of the instructor
- 3. Research Projects - minimum of one
- 4. Oral Presentation - several throughout the semester

#### IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Dempsey, John, and Linda Forst. *An Introduction to Policing*. 8th ed., Cengage Learning, 2016.
- 2. Barker, Thomas. *Biker Gangs and Transnational Organized Crime*. 2nd ed., Anderson Publishing, 2014.
- 3. U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency. *2015 National Drug Threat Assessment Summary*. 1st ed., U.S. Department of Justice, 2017.

#### X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: