

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for AJ 74

GANGS AND DRUGS

Effective: Fall 2007

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:

Discipline:

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

1. discuss the historical background and identification of various kinds of gangs;
2. know the central issues and strategies in the law related to gang prevention and enforcement;
3. describe the Constitutional and legal restrictions dealing with gangs and gang members;
4. understand the major components of gangs, including recruitment organization, hierarchy, symbols and rituals, and relationships with other gangs;
5. list the most important local, national and international gangs;
6. know the relationship between ethnicity or race and gang membership;
7. understand the relation between major prison gangs and street gangs;
8. explain the relationship of gang activity to drug trafficking;
9. develop strategies for crime prevention in gang-related areas.

V. CONTENT:

- A. Introduction and historical background
 1. A gang defined
 2. Historical background
 - a. Cultural influences
 - b. Family dynamics
 - c. Socio-economic factors
 - d. Peer pressure
 3. Traditional versus non-traditional gangs
 4. Social impact on neighborhoods
 5. Political response to gang problems
- B. Types of gangs
 1. Street gangs by local area
 2. Prison gangs
 - a. Mexican Mafia
 - b. Nuestra Familia
 - c. Black Guerilla Family
 - d. CRIPS
 - e. Aryan Brotherhood
 - f. Texas Syndicate
 3. Motorcycle gangs, including Hell's Angels
 4. National and international organizations
 - a. La Cosa Nostra
 - b. Aryan Nation
 - c. Yakuza
 - d. Korean Killers
 - e. 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. **Discussion** -
- B. **Audio-visual Activity** -
- C. **Lecture** -
- D. Role-playing activities
- E. **Guest Lecturers** -

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. Oral Presentation

B. **Frequency**

- 1. Frequency of Evaluation
 - a. Attendance and participation will be evaluated daily.
 - b. Quizzes, oral and written presentations will be evaluated throughout the semester as they occur.
 - c. The midterm and final examination will occur at their usual times at the mid point and end of the semester.

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Valdez, Al *Gangs: A Guide to Understanding Street Gangs.*, LawTech Publishing, 0.
- 2. Stohr and Hemmens *The Inmate Prison Experience.*, Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishers., 0.
- 3. Grennen, Britz, Rush and Parker *Gang: an International Approach.*, Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishers., 0.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: