

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for AJ 9965

INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS

Effective: Spring 2019

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

AJ 9965 — INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS — 1.50 units

Designed to teach the student the proper investigative techniques into alleged misconduct by California peace officers, correctional officers and others in the employ of any California agency that employs peace officers. The student will learn the legal, ethical, moral and technical standards by which these investigations shall be conducted under state law and the discipline that may result from the outcome. This class is designed for POST certified peace officers who hold a minimum of a basic POST certificate or civilian police employees who have been designated by their respective agency as an IA investigator.

1.50 Units Lecture

Grading Methods:

Pass/No Pass

Discipline:

- Administration of Justice

	<u>MIN</u>
Lecture Hours:	27.00
Expected Outside of Class Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	81.00

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 evolution of IA investigations
- Explain legal, moral and ethical complexities of such an investigation
- Identify the legal limitations to such investigations under the Peace Officer Bill of Rights
- Explain the rights of the accused officer and the public at large during an investigation
- Compare the legal rights of an accused officer, complainant and witnesses in an investigation
- Demonstrate and apply the investigative process in an internal affairs investigation
- Identify the different types of internal affair investigation

V. CONTENT:

- Introduction and historical background
 - Internal Affairs investigations defined
 - Historical background
 - Administrative misconduct in IA investigations before 1977
 - Legal mandate to investigate alleged misconduct per Penal Code §832.5, et al
 - Agency influences
 - Legal influences
 - Peace Officer Bill of Rights – California Government Code §3300, et al
 - Ethical considerations in an investigation
 - Law Enforcement Code of Conduct
 - Agency code of conduct
 - Internal policies and procedures/general orders
- Law enforcement efforts to investigate police misconduct
 - Investigations of Peace Officers
 - Administrative violations
 - Criminal violations
 - Officer involved shootings
 - Legal/association representation during an interview
 - Time/day of interviews of peace officers
 - Impact on the Agency
 - Morale of officers involved
 - Morale of the agency

- c. Rule changes as a result of an investigation
- 3. Investigations of civilians in the employ of a law enforcement agency
 - a. Employee rights that differ from the Peace Officer Bill of Rights
- 4. Legal
 - a. Constitutional considerations
 - b. Labor/employee laws concerning employee/employer relationship
 - c. Discipline arising from an IA investigation
- 5. Confidentiality of Peace Officer Records Penal Code §832.7 and 832.8
 - a. Copley News Service Decision

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** -
- B. **Discussion** -
- C. **Audio-visual Activity** -
- D. **Guest Lecturers** -

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Complete a short research paper (3-5 pages) on a case study of an internal affair investigation
- B. Collect current newspaper articles about police misconduct
- C. Group role-play exercises
- D. Tests

VIII. EVALUATION:

Methods/Frequency

- A. Class Participation
 - Daily participation in discussions
- B. Class Work
 - Participate in class scenarios based on case studies.
- C. Home Work
 - Collect historical and contemporary articles on police misconduct for each day.

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. California Commission on POST. Internal Affairs Investigations. POST Commission , 2017.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: