

## SYLLABUS: Psychology 187A

### Psychology and Law

<i>DAY</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TOPIC/SPEAKERS</i>	<i>READINGS</i>
Fri	Sept 25	Introduction to the course. The interaction between Psychology, Law Enforcement, and the Legal Profession.	PLS: 1, 2
Wed	Sept 30	Roles for Psychologists. Dilemmas in the system.	PLS: 1, 2
Fri	Oct 2	Insanity defense. A study of the Hillside Strangler case.	PLS: 4, 8(pp 230-248)
Wed	Oct 7	Introduction to the criminal justice system (Part 1): From arrest to trial. Lawyer mandates.	PLS: 2, 7
Fri	Oct 9	Introduction to the criminal justice system (Part 2): From trial to sentencing.	PLS: 10
Wed	Oct 14	Miscarriages of justice: When the system fails.	PLS: 5
Fri	Oct 16	Eyewitness psychology – research from the laboratory and the field.	EET: 7
Wed	Oct 21	The use of the polygraph and deception detection.	PLS: 6(162-170)
Fri	Oct 23	The controversy over the forensic use of hypnosis and sodium amytal to enhance witness recall; Geiselman's <i>Cognitive Interview</i> for victims and witnesses of crime.	PLS: 5
Wed	Oct 28	<b>Neal Osherow</b> (LA Public Defender & social psych) – interrogations and confessions: a case study.	PLS: 6(170-181)
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Oct 30</b>	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>	<b>PLS: 1-2, 4-5, 6(162-181), 7, 8(230-248), 10, EET: 7</b>
Wed	Nov 4	Jury decision-making.	PLS: 11, 12
Fri	Nov 6	Psychologists as expert witnesses.	PLS: 5(144-147); EET: all
Wed	Nov 11	Confessions and interrogations.	PLS: 6(170-181)
Fri	Nov 13	Etiology of criminal behavior: "Inside the criminal mind"—I	PLS: 3, 6(155-162)
Wed	Nov 18	Video: FBI Academy/Profiling.	PLS: 6(155-162)
Fri	Nov 20	Etiology of criminal behavior: "Inside the criminal mind" – II	PLS: 3, 6(155-162)

Wed	Nov 25	Background and videos on child abuse – The perpetrator and the victim.	PLS: 14
Fri	Nov 27	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday - no class.</b>	
Wed	Dec 2	Child abuse conclusion, sex crimes.	PLS: 13
Fri	Dec 4	Corrections. Geiselman's reflections on the legal system: Video tour of men's central jail.	PLS: 15
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Dec 11 (8:00-11:00)</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>Not cumulative: PLS: 3, 5(143-147), 6 (155-162, 170-181), 11-15; EET: all</b>

PLS = Wrightsman et al., *Psychology and the Legal System (sixth edition)*  
EET = Geiselman, *Eyewitness Expert Testimony (second edition)*