

FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY I

FALL 2005

SCHEDULE: TUESDAYS, 9:00-12:00 P.M., RM 19
 INSTRUCTOR: KIM GORGENS, PH.D.
drkim@pcisys.net, 303-618-7864 or x 14160

TEXTS: **REQUIRED:**
 WALKER, L.A. & SHAPIRO, D.L. (2003). INTRODUCTION TO FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY: CLINICAL AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES. NEW YORK, NY: KLUWER ACADEMIC/PLENUM.
 BARTOL, C.R. & BARTOL, A.M. (2004). *PSYCHOLOGY AND LAW: THEORY, RESEARCH, AND APPLICATION, 3RD ED.* BELMONT, CA: WADSWORTH/THOMPSON LEARNING.

READINGS: READING LIST AT ALPHAGRAPHS (303-691-0626)

COURSE OUTLINE

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
9/13	INTRODUCTION TO FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY	W&S 1 READINGS 1
9/17	<i>LAST DAY TO REGISTER</i>	
9/20	LEGAL SYSTEM OVERVIEW	B&B 3, W&S 2 READINGS 2
9/27	PSYCHOLOGICAL DOMAINS OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY: COMPETENCY TO STAND TRIAL, DIMINISHED CAPACITY/SPECIFIC INTENT, FITNESS TO BE EXECUTED, SELF-DEFENSE AND SYNDROME DEFENSES ANN ENGLAND, ESQ., FORMERLY FEDERAL PD OFFICE, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SCHOOL OF LAW PROFESSOR, SPEAKER	W&S 4-6 B&B 4 READINGS 3
10/4	EXPERT OPINION; RULES OF EVIDENCE; LEGAL TESTIMONY & PRAGMATIC FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY SCOTT BAROWAY, ESQ. & DR. SHEILA PORTER, SPEAKERS	W&S 3, 21-22 B&B 8-9 READINGS 4
10/11	TECHNOLOGIES: POLYGRAPH & PLETHYSMOGRAPH TESTING CHRIS SCHAEFER, COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION/CBI, MAJOR CRIMES DIVISION, SPEAKER	B&B 9 READINGS 5

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
10/18	JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM; FAMILY LAW; CHILD ABUSE & CHILD CUSTODY ISSUES; CIVIL LIBERTIES DISPARITIES IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM; PROFESSIONAL ISSUES MICHAEL KARSON, PH.D., J.D., SPEAKER	W&S 10-13, 15, 17 B&B 11-12 READINGS 6-7
10/22	<i>LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW</i>	
10/25	APPLICATION: TRIAL CONSULTATION & JURY SELECTION KEN BRODA-BAHM, PH.D., HOLLAND & HART, LITIGATION CONSULTING, SPEAKER	W&S 20 B&B 6-7 READINGS 8
11/1	EXAM	
11/8	PRESENTATIONS	
11/15	PRESENTATIONS	

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES:

THIS COURSE IS THE FIRST IN A YEARLONG SERIES OF THREE CLASSES (FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY I, II, AND III) DESIGNED TO PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE PRACTICE OF CLINICAL FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY. THE SERIES OF COURSES ADDRESS PSYCHOLOGICAL THEORY, RESEARCH AND CLINICAL PRACTICE AS APPLIED WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF AMERICAN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEMS (WITH AN EMPHASIS ON COLORADO LAW). THE COURSES ARE DESIGNED TO COMBINE AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE LAW WITH THE PERTINENT CLINICAL INFORMATION TO ENABLE A PRACTITIONER TO WORK AND COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE LEGAL ARENA.

FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY I ADDRESSES THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF THE AMERICAN COURT SYSTEM, BOTH CIVIL AND CRIMINAL. THE PERTINENT RULES OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL PROCEDURE, THE APPLICABLE RULES OF EVIDENCE AS WELL AS OTHER LEGAL/ PSYCHOLOGICAL CONCEPTS SUCH AS COMPETENCE, CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER DEFENSES (INSANITY, SYNDROME, ETC.) ARE COVERED. OTHER SUBSTANTIVE AREAS OF STUDY INCLUDE POLYGRAPH/PLETHYSMOGRAPH TESTING, TRIAL CONSULTATION AND INEQUITIES WITHIN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM. THIS COURSE IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH A WORKING UNDERSTANDING OF THE CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEMS AS WELL AS AN APPRECIATION OF THE INTERFACE BETWEEN PSYCHOLOGY AND THE LAW.

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION:

YOUR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION ARE EXPECTED AND CONTRIBUTE SUBSTANTIALLY TO YOUR FINAL GRADE. NOTE THAT YOU CANNOT EARN AN "A" IN THIS COURSE WITHOUT EARNING PARTICIPATION POINTS. PARTICIPATION ENTAILS: 1) BEING FAMILIAR WITH ASSIGNED READINGS AND PARTICIPATING ACTIVELY IN CLASS DISCUSSION AND 2) WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH YOUR TEAMMATES IN THE PREPARATION AND DELIVERY OF YOUR CLASS PRESENTATION. PARTICIPATION WILL ACCOUNT FOR MORE THAN 10% OF YOUR GRADE.

PRESENTATION:

YOU WILL ASSIGN YOURSELF TO ONE OF SEVERAL AREAS OF INTEREST ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS. THESE 'AREAS OF INTEREST' WILL REFLECT THE CONTEMPORARY APPLICATION OF FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY IN DIFFERENT PRACTICE SETTINGS AVAILABLE TO THE M.A. OR DOCTORATE LEVEL PRACTITIONER. YOUR RESEARCH AND PRESENTATION SHOULD FOCUS ON JOB AVAILABILITY, PREREQUISITE TRAINING, NEEDS ASSESSMENT, AND ANY OTHER MATERIAL RELEVANT TO THE DISCUSSION OF THAT CAREER PATH (CONTACT INFORMATION, ETC.). YOU AND YOUR TEAMMATES WILL HAVE NO MORE THAN 10 MINUTES PER TEAMMATE TO PRESENT AN OVERVIEW OF YOUR RESEARCH. YOUR GRADE WILL REFLECT YOUR USE OF TIME, PRESENTATION OF MATERIAL, FAMILIARITY WITH SUBJECT MATTER, AND THE OVERALL USEFULNESS OF THE PRESENTATION. YOU WILL BE PROVIDED WITH GRADING CRITERIA IN ADVANCE. YOU AND YOUR TEAMMATES WILL SHARE THE SAME GRADE.

EXAM:

THE EXAM WILL TAKE PLACE ON NOVEMBER 1ST AND WILL BE WORTH 100 POSSIBLE POINTS. THE EXAM WILL BE MADE UP OF 'SHORT ANSWER' QUESTIONS. ALL MATERIAL COVERED IN CLASS (INCLUDING ASSIGNED READINGS AND EXPERT GUEST LECTURE MATERIALS WILL BE RELEVANT FOR YOUR PREPARATION).

GRADING (POSSIBLE POINTS):

EXAM	100
TOPIC PRESENTATION	80
PARTICIPATION	20

GRADE SCALE (CUMULATIVE %):

A =	93-100
A- =	90-92
B+ =	87-89
B =	83-86
B- =	80-82
C+ =	77-79
C =	73-76
C- =	70-72
D+ =	67-69
D =	63-66
F =	BELOW 62

READING LIST

READINGS 1—INTRODUCTION TO FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

Committee on Ethical Guidelines for Forensic Psychologists (1991). Specialty guidelines for forensic psychologists. *Law and Human Behavior*, 13 (6), pp. 655-665.

READINGS 2—LEGAL SYSTEMS OVERVIEW

Hancock, B.W. & Sharp, P.M. (Eds.) (2004). *Criminal justice in America*, 3rd Ed. New Jersey: Prentice Hall. Pages 5-15.

READINGS 3—PSYCHOLOGICAL DOMAINS OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY: COMPETENCY TO STAND TRIAL, DIMINISHED CAPACITY/SPECIFIC INTENT, FITNESS TO BE EXECUTED, SELF-DEFENSE AND SYNDROME DEFENSES

Abrams, A.A. (2002). Assessing competency in criminal proceedings. . In B. Van Dorsten (Ed.), *Forensic Psychology: From courtroom to classroom*. New York: Kluwer Academic.

*Borum, R. & Fulero, S.M. (1999). Empirical research on the insanity defense and attempted reforms: Evidence toward informed policy. *Law and Human Behavior*, 23 (1), pp. 117-135.

*Schlesinger, L.B. (2003). A case study involving competency to stand trial: Incompetent defendant, incompetent examiner, or “malingering by proxy”? *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 9 (3/4), pp. 381-399.

Wrightsmann, L.S. & Fulero, S.M. (2005). *Forensic psychology*, 2nd Ed. U.S.: Wadsworth. Pages 139-169.

READINGS 4—EXPERT OPINION; RULES OF EVIDENCE; LEGAL TESTIMONY AND PRAGMATIC FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

*Brodsky, S.L., Caputo, A.A., Domino, M.L. (2002). The mental health professional in court: Legal issues, research foundations, and effective testimony. In B. Van Dorsten (Ed.), *Forensic Psychology: From courtroom to classroom*. New York: Kluwer Academic.

*Faust, D. & Ziskin, J. (1988). The expert witness in psychology and psychiatry. *Science*, 241 (4861), pp. 31-36.

*Heilbrun, K. DeMatteo, D. & Marczyk, G. (2004). Pragmatic psychology, forensic mental health assessment, and the case of Thomas Johnson: Applying principles to promote quality. *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 10 (1/2), pp. 31-70.

READINGS 4—CONTINUED

- *Slobogin, C. (1003). Pragmatic forensic psychology: A means of “scientizing” expert testimony from mental health professionals? *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 9 (3/4), pp. 275-300.
- Strier, F. (1999). Whither trial consulting? Issues and projections. *Law and Human Behavior*, 23 (1), pp. 93-115.

READINGS 5—TECHNOLOGIES: POLYGRAPH AND PLETHYSMOGRAPH TESTING; FORENSIC HYPNOSIS

- *Bashore, T.R. & Rapp, P.E. (1993). Are there alternatives to traditional polygraph procedures? *Psychological Bulletin*, 113 (1), pp. 3-22.
- Faigman, D.L., Fienberg, S.E. & Stern, P.C. (2003). The limits of the polygraph: The time has come to be truthful about its reliability and usefulness. *Issues in Science and Technology*, 20 (1), pp. 40-47.

READINGS 6—JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM; FAMILY LAW: CHILD ABUSE & CHILD CUSTODY ISSUES; CIVIL LIBERTIES

- *Bergsmann, I.R. (2004). The forgotten few: Juvenile female offenders. In B.W. Hancock, & P.M. Sharp (Eds.) *Criminal justice in America*, 3rd Ed. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.
- Kalichman, S. (2002). Child abuse. In B. Van Dorsten (Ed.), *Forensic Psychology: From courtroom to classroom*. New York: Kluwer Academic.
- *Quinn, K.M. & Weiner, B.A. (1993). Legal rights of children. In B.A. Weiner & Wettstein, R.M. (Eds.), *Legal issues in mental health care*. New York: Plenum Press.
- *Stahl, P.M. (2002). Child custody evaluations. In B. Van Dorsten (Ed.), *Forensic Psychology: From courtroom to classroom*. New York: Kluwer Academic.
- *U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, (July 2004). *Juvenile Justice Bulletin*.

READINGS 7—DISPARITIES AND INEQUITIES IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM; PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

- *Harris, D. (2003). The reality of racial disparity in criminal justice: The significance of data collection. (The political geography of race data in the criminal justice system). *Law and Contemporary Problems*, 66 (3), pp. 71-97.

READINGS 8—APPLICATION: TRIAL CONSULTATION & JURY SELECTION

- Wrightsmann, L.S. & Fulero, S.M. (2005). *Forensic psychology*, 2nd Ed. U.S.: Wadsworth. Pages 260-290.

NOTE: Readings with an (*) will be highlighted during class lecture but are NOT required reading for the class. The references are provided here for supplemental review by interested persons