



PSYC 488B: Psychology and Law  
Winter, 2004  
In-Kyeong Kim & Paul Mallery

Class meets in Psychology 119, Tuesdays & Thursdays 3-4:50pm.

Instructors:

In-Kyeong Kim, Ph.D. (PS 107, x-2542, [ikim@lasierra.edu](mailto:ikim@lasierra.edu))  
Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30 - 2:30pm

Paul Mallery, Ph.D. (PS 114A, x-2528, [pmallery@lasierra.edu](mailto:pmallery@lasierra.edu))  
Office hours: Mondays 5-5:50pm<sup>1</sup>, Tuesdays 12:30-1:20pm

Guest instructors, including Mark Costanzo, Suzanne Mallery, and Sherry Skidmore.

Course Overview

An introduction to the application of psychological topics to law, including the legal process; trials and juries; eyewitness testimony; presentation of scientific evidence; and the use of social science in the legal system.

Instructional Materials

Required Books and Readings:

Costanzo, M. (2004). *Psychology applied to law*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

Selected readings on child witnesses

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<sup>1</sup> Paul will miss this office hour on 1/12, 2/9, and 3/8.

## Course Format and Requirements

Item	Details	% of Grade	Due Date
Final Exam	Will include multiple-choice and short essay questions. Approximately 1/3 of the questions will cover material before the midterm exam, or spanning before and after the midterm.	30%	3/17
Midterm Exam	Will include multiple-choice and short essay questions.	20%	2/5
Term Paper	Approximately 10-12 page review of literature of a particular topic in psychology and law (using APA, Bluebook and Chicago, or ALWD and Chicago style). Turning in a topic and a bibliography several weeks before the paper is due will make up a portion of the grade.	20%	3/12
Mock Trial Participation and Assignments	Each student will take a role in a mock trial (e.g., defendant, judge, juror, psychological consultant, etc.) and participate in a mock trial. In addition to preparing for and participating in the mock trial, you will write a short (approximately 3-5 page) research paper (drawing from your text and library resources) describing and applying psychological topics to your character, and a short (approximately 2-4 page) paper analyzing your character's role in the mock trial after it has been completed. You may be asked to present information orally from your analysis paper during debriefing.	15%	Throughout the quarter
Quizzes	Approximately 6 unannounced multiple-choice or short essay quizzes; the lowest score will be dropped.	10%	(unannounced)
Oral Presentation	Approximately 5-minute presentation based on term paper topic.	5%	3/9

## Grading Scale

Class Percentage	Grade
93%+	A
90-92.9%	A-
87-89.9%	B+
83-86.9%	B
80-82.9%	B-
77-79.9%	C+
73-76.9%	C
70-72.9%	C-
67-69.9%	D+
60-66.9%	D
0-59.9%	F

A syllabus is a form of legal contract. Here's the "fine print":

- ▲ Late assignments: Papers are due at the beginning of class. Anything that is late gets 10 % taken off for being late on the date it was due, and an additional 10 % taken off for each school day after that. If you choose to delay a scheduled oral presentation, the same 10% per day policy will apply until you make your presentation.
- ▲ Make-up activities or quizzes: There are no make-up quizzes or in-class activities. (Save your dropped quizzes for when you get sick.)
- ▲ Make-up exams: Make-up exams are only allowed with appropriate documentation for a medical excuse (i.e., a note signed by a doctor or nurse) or bereavement excuse (e.g., documentation of a death in the family) and you must notify me BEFORE the beginning of the exam. They are proctored at the Learning Support Center, and any applicable fees apply. The final exam must be taken at the scheduled time unless approval from the College of Arts and Sciences Dean is obtained.
- ▲ Attendance: Attendance will be taken at least once each class period, either through an attendance sheet, through completing the in-class activities or quizzes, or done by the instructor. If you miss more than 20% of class time, you will not pass the class (as per University policy). Also, remember that if you are not in class when we do an activity you will not receive those points.
- ▲ Honesty: I expect total and complete honesty in your academic behavior in general and in pursuing this course in particular. The following statement is taken from the La Sierra University Student Handbook:
  - "Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following:
    - a. cheating on assignments or examinations, including cheat sheets or other unauthorized materials
    - b. copying from peers, or knowingly and willingly permitting or assisting others to copy from one's own exam or other assigned work
    - c. plagiarizing, which includes the undocumented use of quotations, ideas, or the paraphrasing of the ideas of others and presenting them as one's own
    - d. the submission of research papers that are not the product of the student's own efforts..."
  - The penalties for academic dishonesty are severe. The penalties outlined by in the student handbook will be followed.
- ▲ Sharing papers: You should not publish your papers on the web (including, but not limited to, paper-sharing sites), and should use extreme caution in sharing your paper with others in any form. This is important because if you or someone else posts your paper on the web, it may appear that you have plagiarized. If you suspect that some or all of your paper has been stolen, please inform your professor immediately.
- ▲ Submitting papers: All of your papers must be submitted on paper, and electronically; instructions for how to do this will be provided with your first assignment. If you submit an assignment on paper but not electronically, or electronically but not on paper, it will not be graded; you must submit both ways to receive credit for the paper. For purposes of determining whether a paper is on-time, the time that the hardcopy (ink on paper) version was submitted is used.
  - One exception: If you submit your paper electronically in PDF (Adobe Acrobat) format, you don't need to submit a hardcopy version.
- ▲ Students with disabilities: If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please contact Mrs. Valerie Smith at the Learning Center (785-2453). Bring the form she will give you with the recommended accommodation and we will discuss how to best do so.

- ▲ If you are having problems in class: It is important for me that you will do well in this class. Please contact me if you are having difficulty in this class. DO NOT WAIT until it is so late in the quarter that there are no options left.
- ▲ Extra credit: There is little “extra credit” in this class. There is plenty of work assigned already; focus on doing that work well, and you won’t have time to worry about extra work for additional credit.
- ▲ Classroom etiquette: I assume you are an adult, and try to treat you as such. So if you’re sleeping, reading for another class, or writing notes to a friend, that doesn’t bother me—you will reap your just rewards at the exam. But, if you are doing things that distract me or your classmates (who are paying up to \$43/hour to be in class), such as talking, letting cell phones ring, or eating loud or aromatic foods, you will be asked to stop. If I have to ask again, you’ll be asked to leave.
- ▲ Interpersonal Sensitivity: Because the subject matter of this course is sometimes sensitive or controversial, you are asked to treat each other with respect and sensitivity both inside and outside the classroom. You are further asked to respect other students' right to privacy and confidentiality both inside and outside the classroom.
- ▲ It is possible that the contents of this syllabus will change due to extenuating circumstances. If that is the case, an announcement will be made and the changes will be passed out in written form.

<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>To Read Before Class</i>	<i>Due/Practice For</i>
Tuesday	1/6	Mechanics; introduction to Psychology of Law		
Thursday	1/8	Introduction to Psychology; Introduction to Law; points of intersection	Costanzo chapter 1 & pp. 311-319	
Tuesday	1/13	Confessions and Lie Detection	Costanzo chapter 2	
Thursday	1/15	*Profiles and Syndromes; Mock Trial: Survey	Costanzo chapter 3	
Tuesday	1/20	*Expert Witness: Criminal Law; Mock Trial: Character Assignments, small homework assignments		
Thursday	1/22	*Expert Witness: Civil Law		Mock Trial small homework assignments
Tuesday	1/27	Competence & Insanity; International Perspectives on Law; Mock Trial: Discovery & Pre-Trial Conferences	Costanzo chapter 4	Mock Trial research papers
Thursday	1/29	Juries and Judges	Costanzo chapter 5	
Tuesday	2/3	*Mock Trial: Jury Selection; Review; The Viewpoints of Psychology and Law		Mock Trial jury selection
Thursday	2/5	Midterm exam		Midterm Exam
Tuesday	2/10	Mock Trial: Opening Statements, Evidence, Examination, Motions, Closing Arguments		Mock Trial opening statements through closing arguments; Term Paper title and short (at most one paragraph) description
Thursday	2/12	Mock Trial: Instructions to the Jury, Jury Deliberations, Verdict, Sentencing; Memory as Evidence I	Costanzo chapter 6	Mock Trial jury deliberations and sentencing
Tuesday	2/17	Memory as Evidence II		Mock Trial analysis papers
Thursday	2/19	Child Witnesses	Articles to be assigned	
Tuesday	2/24	*Risk Assessment	Costanzo pp. 209-225	Term Paper bibliography
Thursday, 3-5:50pm	2/26	*Interrogation, Sentencing, and Death Penalty	Costanzo chapters 2 (review), 9	
Tuesday	3/3	Workplace Law	Costanzo chapter 8	
Thursday	3/5	*Child Custody Decisions; Mock Trial: Debriefing	Costanzo pp. 225-238	
Tuesday	3/9	Oral Presentations		Oral Presentations
Thursday	3/11	Conclusions & review		
Friday, noon	3/12	Term paper due		Term paper
Wednesday, 2pm	3/17	Final Exam		Final Exam

\*Guest lecturer for some or all of class period

### Schedule – Instructor’s Edition

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic/Instructor(s)</i>	<i>Students Due/Practice For</i>	<i>To Prepare/Pass Out</i>
1/6	Mechanics (In-Kyeong with Paul); introduction to Psychology of Law (Paul: 30 minutes)		Syllabus
1/8	*?Introduction to Psychology (Paul); Introduction to Law (Paul or possibly a lawyer); points of intersection (Paul and/or Lawyer)		
1/13	Confessions (In-Kyeong: 50 minutes) and Lie Detection (Paul: 50 minutes)		
1/15	* Syndromes (Suzanne: 50 minutes); Mock Trial: Survey (Paul: 10 minutes - )		Mock trial survey; mock trial research paper instructions
1/20	*Expert Witness: Criminal Law (Sherry: 95 minutes); Mock Trial: Character Assignments, small homework assignments (Paul: 5 minutes)		Mock trial character assignments, small homework assignments
1/22	*Expert Witness: Civil Law (Sherry: 100 minutes)	Mock Trial small homework assignments	
1/27	Competence & Insanity (In-Kyeong); International Perspectives on Law (In-Kyeong: ~30 minutes); Mock Trial: Discovery & Pre-Trial Conferences (Paul: 10-20 minutes)	Mock Trial research papers	
1/29	Juries and Judges (Paul)		Return mock trial small homework assignments
2/3	*?Mock Trial: Jury Selection (Paul: 45 minutes); The Viewpoints of Psychology and Law (Possibly panel discussion or group activity: 45 minutes); Review (their questions: 10 minutes)	Mock Trial jury selection	Return mock trial research papers
2/5	Midterm exam	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam; child witnesses article(s); mock trial analysis paper instructions
2/10	Mock Trial: Opening Statements, Evidence, Examination, Motions, Closing Arguments (Paul: 100 minutes)	Mock Trial opening statements through closing arguments	Term paper and bibliography instructions
2/12	Mock Trial: Instructions to the Jury, Jury Deliberations, Verdict, Sentencing (Paul: 50 minutes); Memory as Evidence I (In-Kyeong: 50 minutes)	Mock Trial jury deliberations and sentencing	
2/17	Memory as Evidence II (In-Kyeong)	Mock Trial analysis papers	
2/19	Child Witnesses (In-Kyeong)		

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic/Instructor(s)</i>	<i>Students Due/Practice For</i>	<i>To Prepare/Pass Out</i>
2/24	*Risk Assessment (Sherry: 100 minutes)	Term Paper bibliography	Grade Reports; oral presentation instructions; return mock trial analysis papers
2/26	*Interrogation, Sentencing, and Death Penalty (Costanzo: 150 minutes)		
3/3	Workplace Law (Paul: 100 minutes)		Return term paper bibliographies
3/5	*Child Custody Decisions (Suzanne: 70 minutes); Mock Trial: Debriefing (Paul: 30 minutes)		
3/9	Oral Presentations	Oral Presentations	
3/11	Conclusions & review (Paul & In-Kyeong, student questions, possibly review activities)		
3/12	Term paper due	Term paper	Grade Reports
3/17	Final Exam	Final Exam	Final exam