Course Description
This course examines the social organization of law and social control in the United States and elsewhere. After a brief examination of the core concepts in law and social control we will examine the major themes in American jurisprudence and the various theoretical strategies employed in explaining and predicting patterns of law and social control. Here we will discuss a number of perspectives including, critical legal studies, critical race theory, feminist jurisprudence, and legal behavioralism. With reference to empirical studies of legal phenomena, we will then explore the relationships between law and social structure. Specifically we will study the effects of social stratification, morphology, culture, and organization on the use and application of law. We will then begin an analysis of major legal institutions: the legal profession, the police, the civil and criminal courts, and corrections. As we examine these institutions we will revisit the relationship between legal variation and the socio-economic statuses of legal actors. In the last part of the course we will move beyond law to informal social control and conflict management without invoking the law. This section will include topics such as alternative dispute resolution, vigilantism, and violence as social control.

Learning Objectives
The learning objectives of this course contribute to the following broader learning objectives developed by the department of Sociology:

- Appreciation for the discipline of Sociology and its role in contributing to our understanding of social reality.
- Understanding of the historical context of the development of sociological theories.
- Knowledge of major classical and contemporary theoretical paradigms.
- Ability to apply and evaluate various theoretical paradigms to particular social phenomena.
- Understanding of research design, data analysis and drawing informed conclusions from quantitative and qualitative research.
- Ability to define and demonstrate the relevance of core sociological concepts.
- Ability to think critically about the social world.
- Ability to identify and think critically about one’s own position and the positions of others on social justice issues and the ways in which they are pursued in the community through social action.

Required Readings
All required readings are available for viewing, printing, and downloading from the WWW at http://cas.loyno.edu/sociology/marcus/law/readings.html. They are listed by author and year of publication in the same order as they appear on the reading schedule. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader (http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readermain.html) in order to read, download, or print the readings. For copyright considerations, the readings can only be accessed from the Loyola University server. All readings should be completed by the assigned dates.

Course Requirements
Regular and timely attendance at lectures is expected and required. The course will be examined by:

- Two midterm exams.
- A final exam.

The midterm and final exams will consist of short answer and essay formats. The final will be partially comprehensive.

The exam schedule and grade distribution is as follows:
- Midterm 1 (2/22): 30%
- Midterm 2 (4/5): 30%
- Final Exam (5/10): 40%

At the end of the semester your final grade corresponds to the following numerical points:
A Reminder About the Office of Academic Enrichment
A number of useful services such as academic counseling, special needs assessment, and peer tutoring are offered by the Office of Academic Enrichment in Monroe Hall 405 (865-2990). Additionally, if you require any particular accommodations or assistance relating to a learning disability, please speak with me at the start of the term so that arrangements can be made.

Policies Regarding Attendance and Missed Exams
Regular attendance at lectures is critical to doing well in this course. At the risk of appearing to be a little authoritarian, here is an added incentive to come to class: every unexcused absence will result in your course grade being reduced by one point. Make-up exams will be given to students who experience a serious illness or a sudden family emergency. If you know that you will miss an exam please get in touch with me before the time of the exam.

Course Schedule in Brief

- Core Concepts
  - Social Control, Laws, Legal Systems, Functions and Dysfunctions of Law

- Theoretical Perspectives I:
  - American Jurisprudence, Classical Sociology
  - Critical Legal Studies
    - Feminist Jurisprudence
    - Critical Race Theory

- Theoretical Perspectives II:
  - Sociological Jurisprudence
  - Legal Behavioralism: The Behavior of Law and Social Control

- Law and Social Structure:
  - Stratification: Class, Race, Gender
  - Morphology, Culture, and Organization

MIDTERM I (2/22)

- Legal Institutions I: The Legal Profession
- Legal Institutions II: Police
- Legal Institutions III: Courts (Civil and Criminal)
- Legal Institutions IV: Corrections

MIDTERM II (4/5)

- Beyond Law I: Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Beyond Law II: Violence and Crime as Social Control
- Legal Evolution and Social Change

FINAL EXAM (5/10 7.00-9.00)

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING SCHEDULE
1/11 INTRODUCTION & ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

1/18 CORE CONCEPTS
Readings:
Abel, Richard  

Sumner, William Graham  

1/25 THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES I:
Readings:
Holmes, Oliver Wendell  

Turk, Austin T.  

MacKinnon, Catherine A.  

Crenshaw, Kimberle  

Freeman, Alan  

2/1 THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES II:
Readings:
Black, Donald  

Black, Donald  

Daly, Kathleen  

Lundsgaarde, Henry P.

2/8 No class (Mardi Gras Holiday)

2/15 LAW AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE : STRATIFICATION, MORPHOLOGY, CULTURE, AND ORGANIZATION
Readings:
Galanter, Marc  

Radelet, Michael L. and Glenn L. Pierce  
2/22  MIDTERM EXAM I

3/1 LEGAL INSTITUTIONS I: THE LEGAL PROFESSION
Readings:
Kennedy, Duncan
Frank, Jerome
Luban, David

3/15 LEGAL INSTITUTIONS III: COURTS
Readings:
Feeley, Malcolm
Merry, Sally Engle

3/22 No class (Easter Holiday)

3/29 LEGAL INSTITUTIONS IV: CORRECTIONS
Readings:
Currie, Elliot
Blecker, Robert

4/5 MIDTERM EXAM II
4/12 BEYOND LAW I: ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION
Readings:
Merry, Sally Engle
Hofrichter, Richard

4/19 BEYOND LAW II: VIOLENCE AND CRIME AS SOCIAL CONTROL
Readings:
Black, Donald
Baumgartner, M. P.
Senechal de la Roche, Roberta
Cooney, Mark

4/26 LEGAL EVOLUTION AND SOCIAL CHANGE
Readings:
Galanter, Marc
1998 “Reading the landscape of disputes: what we know and don’t know (and think we know) about our allegedly contentious and litigious society.” Pages 485-490 in Before The Law, edited by John Bonsignore et al. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Company
Black, Donald
Baumgartner, M. P.

5/3 Review

5/10 FINAL EXAM (7.00-9.00pm)