George Mason University
Graduate Course Approval/Inventory Form

Please complete this form and attach a copy of the syllabus for new courses. Forward it as an email attachment to the Secretary of the Graduate Council. A printed copy of the form with signatures should be brought to the Graduate Council Meeting. Complete the Coordinator Form on page 2, if changes in this course will affect other units.

Please indicate:  

____ NEW  

____ MODIFY  

____ DELETE

Local Unit:  Public & International Affairs/ADJ  

Graduate Council Approval Date:

Course Abbreviation:  JLCP  

Course Number:  723

Full Course Title:  Law and Social Control

Abbreviated Course Title (24 characters max.):  Law and Social Control

Credit hours:  3  

Program of Record: Justice, Law, and Crime Policy

Repeatable for Credit?  

D=Yes, not within same term  

T=Yes, within the same term  

N=Cannot be repeated for credit

Activity Code (please indicate):  

Lecture (LEC)  

Lab (LAB)  

Recitation (RCT)  

Studio (STU)  

Internship (INT)  

Independent Study (IND)  

Seminar (SEM)

Catalog Credit Format  3:3:0  

Course Level:  GF(500-600)  

GA(700+)  

Maximum Enrollment:  20

For NEW courses, first term to be offered:  Fall 2005

Prerequisites or corequisites:  JLCP 720/GOVT 728 or instructor’s permission.

Catalog Description (35 words or less)  

Please use catalog format and attach a copy of the syllabus for new courses.:  

JLCP 723 Law and Social Control (3:3:0). Prerequisite JLCP 720/GOVT 728 or instructor’s permission. Competing conceptions of law, political systems, and social control. Intellectual traditions behind social control, its definitions, and mechanisms for regulating public and private behavior, by both individuals and organizations in society.

For MODIFIED or DELETED courses as appropriate:

Last term offered:  

Previous Course Abbreviation:  

Previous number:  

Description of modification:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

Submitted by:  

email: smastrof@gmu.edu

Department/Program:  

Date:  

College Committee:  

Date:  

Graduate Council Representative:  

Date:  
**Approval from other units:**

Please list those units outside of your own who may be affected by this new, modified, or deleted course. Each of these units must approve this change prior to its being submitted to the Graduate Council for approval.

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Graduate Council approval: ______________________________  Date: __________

Graduate Council representative: __________________________  Date: __________

Provost Office representative: _____________________________  Date: __________
George Mason University  
Graduate Course Approval/Inventory Form

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Please indicate:  ___X___ NEW  ___ MODIFY  ___ DELETE

Local Unit: Public & International Affairs  
Graduate Council Approval Date: ________________

Course Abbreviation: GOVT  
Course Number: 708

Full Course Title: Law and Social Control

Abbreviated Course Title (24 characters max.): Law and Social Control

Credit hours: 3  
Program of Record: Political Science, MA

Repeatable for Credit?  ___ D=Yes, not within same term  Up to hours ___ T=Yes, within the same term  Up to hours ___ N=Cannot be repeated for credit

Activity Code (please indicate):  ___ Lecture (LEC)  ___ Lab (LAB)  ___ Recitation (RCT)  ___ Studio (STU)  ___ Internship (INT)  ___ Independent Study (IND)  ___X_ Seminar (SEM)

Catalog Credit Format 3:3:0  
Course Level: GF(500-600) ___ GA(700+) ___

Maximum Enrollment: 20  
For NEW courses, first term to be offered: Fall 2005

Prerequisites or corequisites: JLCP 720/GOVT 728 or instructor’s permission.

Catalog Description (35 words or less) Please use catalog format and attach a copy of the syllabus for new courses. GOVT 708 Law and Social Control (3:3:0). Prerequisite JLCP 720/GOVT 728 or instructor’s permission. Competing conceptions of law, political systems, and social control. Intellectual traditions behind social control, its definitions, and mechanisms for regulating public and private behavior, by both individuals and organizations in society.

For MODIFIED or DELETED courses as appropriate:

Last term offered: ________________  
Previous Course Abbreviation: ________________  
Previous number: ________________

Description of modification:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

Submitted by: ________________________________ email: smastrof@gmu.edu

Department/Program: ________________________________ Date: ________________

College Committee: ________________________________ Date: ________________

Graduate Council Representative: ________________________________ Date: ________________
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
Course Coordination Form

**Approval from other units:**

Please list those units outside of your own who may be affected by this new, modified, or deleted course. Each of these units must approve this change prior to its being submitted to the Graduate Council for approval.

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Graduate Council approval: _______________________________ Date: __________

Graduate Council representative: _________________________ Date: __________

Provost Office representative: __________________________ Date: __________
Topic Description

To maintain order and prevent chaos every society must find a way to control or limit harmful social behavior, be it by individuals or organizations. Oftentimes we think of social control as involving the criminal law, prohibiting and punishing malevolent acts. Indeed, there is an intellectually well-founded temptation to think about social control as the seamy side of the law – reinforcing inequitable patterns of domination and disciplining deviance. But social control also has more affirmative intellectual roots. According to this way of thinking, law embodies society's basic values, articulates the minimum rules required for harmonious social interaction, and mobilizes and directs resources for collective problem solving.

In this course we will explore these competing conceptions of law, political systems, and social control with a special emphasis on emerging bodies of theoretical and empirical work by social scientists and lawyers. This relatively new literature is both suggestive and insightful, offering ideas for future student research.

This course will require substantial reading and class participation. It is essential that you keep up with the material and come to class prepared to join the discussion. Feel free to email me throughout the course with questions or ideas you have about the readings or class discussions.

Course Prerequisites

JLCP 720/GOVT 728 or instructor’s permission.

Course Objectives and Learning Methods

Students will be expected to learn the intellectual traditions behind social control, its several definitions, and the various mechanisms for regulating public and private behavior, by both individuals and organizations, in society. The course also calls on students to examine the effects of social control and to consider how much “control” is necessary for a society to be ordered while remaining free.

Instruction will be a mix of lecture, discussion, and group projects. The class will be very-much “hands on,” requiring students to take responsibility for leading discussion and examining case studies.

Course Requirements and Grading

- For all but the first week of class I will assign three questions to consider about the reading assignments. Students must select one of the questions and answer in a 1-2 page paper due at the beginning of each class (25% of final grade).
- Students will prepare a 20-30 page research paper involving class themes. Topics will be approved mid-way through the semester, with the final paper due at the end of the term. Sources and research materials must be different than those presented in class (55 % of final grade).
- Students must come to class having read the day’s material and prepared to participate in class discussion. Throughout the term students will take responsibility for leading class discussion (20 % of final grade).

Assigned Texts/Readings

Each week we will consider a separate book, the titles of which are listed below. Books will be placed
on reserve in the Library.

Week One: Introduction and History
   Roscoe Pound, *Social Control Through Law*

Week Two: Why Control in the First Place?
   Nikolas Rose, *Powers of Freedom*

Week Three: Defining Social Control
   Donald Black, *Toward a General Theory of Social Control*

Week Four: Does Social Control Require Legal Intervention?
   Robert Ellickson, *Order Without Law*

Week Five: “Voluntary” Social Control
   Tom Tyler and Yuen Ho, *Trust in the Law: Encouraging Public Cooperation with the Police and Courts*

Week Six: Who Controls the Mechanisms of Social Control?
   Richard Abel, *Politics of Informal Justice*

Week Seven: Social Control and the Family Sphere
   Jacques Donzelot, *The Policing of Families*

Week Eight: Normative Limits of Social Control

Week Nine: The Marginalized and Social Control Policies
   Jonathan Simon, *Poor Discipline: Parole and the Social Control of the Underclass, 1890-1990*

Week Ten: Gender and Social Control Policies
   Alida Merlo and Joycelyn Pollock, *Women, Law, and Social Control*

Week Eleven: Controlling Organizations
   Sally Simpson, *Corporate Crime, Law and Social Control*

Week Twelve: Comparative Examples
   Xin Ren, *Tradition of Law and Law of the Tradition: Law, State, and Social Control in China*

Week Thirteen: Future Work
   ASU, *New Directions in the Study of Justice, Law, and Social Control*

Week Fourteen: The Effects of Social Control
   David Garland, *The Culture of Control*

**Academic Policies**

Although I am sure we will not have to worry about infractions, George Mason University maintains an Honor Code. The code is available in the *University Catalog*. Please make sure that you consult it and understand its terms. You will be held to them.
If you have a disability that requires an accommodation, please consult the University’s Disability Resource Center. I cannot make any accommodations until the Center has authorized them.

If you have not already done so, you will need to activate your GMU email address. Any class announcements will be delivered to that email address.

Catalog Copy:

**JLCP 723/GOVT 708 Law and Social Control (3:3:0).** Prerequisite JLCP 720/GOVT 728 or instructor’s permission. Competing conceptions of law, political systems, and social control. Intellectual traditions behind social control, its definitions, and mechanisms for regulating public and private behavior, by both individuals and organizations in society.