

# Imperial Valley College

## Administration of Justice

### Course Syllabus

**COURSE NO.**

AJ 102 (CRN 10578)

**COURSE TITLE**

Concepts of Criminal Law

**INSTRUCTOR**

Eddie Madueño - Room 515  
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**TEXTBOOK**

Criminal Law 10<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Joel Samaha; 2011

**TERM**

Fall 2012

**UNITS**

3

**CLASS TIMES**

Wednesday: 6:30 PM – 9:40 PM

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The course covers the historical development of law and constitutional provisions; definitions and the classification of crime and their application to the system of administration of justice; legal research, study of case law, methodology, and concepts of law as a social force are presented. Crimes against persons, property, government, and organized crime are discussed.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES (Student Learning Outcomes)**

Students will be able to:

1. Identify the historical sources of United States criminal laws.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the United States Constitution and other key documents of the criminal justice system.
3. Analyze and explain criminal appellate cases.
4. Compare and contrast the classifications of criminal law.

**GRADING PROCEDURE:** Total Points: 400

**Quizzes:** Three quizzes at 20 points each = 60 points  
**Individual Presentation:** Oral presentation = 50 points  
**Individual Presentation Comments:** 6 points per presentation day = 30  
**Textbook Questions:** 4 questions from textbook = 40 points  
**Research Paper:** Three page paper on a criminal justice topic = 50 points  
**Attendance:** 5 points per day of attendance = 70 points  
**Final Exam** = 100 points

**A = 360-400    B = 320-359    C = 280-319    D = 240-279    F = 0-239**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Assignments are due on the date stated on the syllabus. Late assignments are subject to reduction of points. Make every effort to turn in assignments on time or you may receive a zero for that assignment.

Failure to take an exam will result in a zero for that exam unless prior approval is given by the instructor.

You must communicate to your instructor any problems that you are having with the course.

**ATTENDANCE:** One of the institutional learning outcomes at IVC is personal responsibility. You will be expected to demonstrate personal responsibility by attending class, showing up on time, and not leaving early. You will be allowed two absences from class before the drop deadline. Do not assume you will be dropped for non-attendance. Missing more than half a class session will count as a full absence. *(It remains your responsibility to drop yourself from all courses that you no longer attend, or you risk getting a failing grade on your transcript.)* Refer to the General Catalog for “ATTENDANCE AND AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS”; **you** are Responsible!

**ACADEMIC ETHICS:** Cheating is defined as copying answers from another student on an exam or assignment, allowing another student to copy answers from you, turning in work as your own that someone else did for you, working with another student on an assignment without the instructor’s express consent, or turning in a writing assignment that uses another’s words or ideas without crediting the source of the words or ideas.

**PLAGIRISM will not be tolerated!** If a student uses the words or ideas of another person without giving that person credit, the student is committing an act of plagiarism.

**CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!** Anyone caught cheating will get a zero for the assignment or exam and may be dropped from the class with the grade of **“F”**.

**PARTICIPATION:** Every student is expected to participate in class discussion each week. This includes punctuality, contributions, personal opinions, group efforts if assigned and discussion of issues relating to the current assignment of the class. Newspaper article discussions on how local crime impacts our community, state and federal levels.

**CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:** Any conduct that disrupts the learning process cannot be tolerated. Anyone engaging in such conduct will be asked to leave the classroom. Talking, whispering, and cell phones ringing during class are examples of disruptive behavior because such actions are disrespectful and distracting to the instructor and to other students. Respect your fellow students and instructors at all times. **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT WHILE IN CLASS!**

**NOTICE:** Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP & S) Office as soon as possible. [SDP&S, Health Sciences Building 2100, Phone: (760) 355-6312]

## AJ 102 Concepts of Criminal Law

### **Chapter Quizzes (60 Points)**

Each quiz (3) is twenty questions worth one point per question.

### **Final Exam (100 Points)**

Final exam is 50 questions worth two points per question.

### **Individual Presentation (50 Points)**

You must make an 8 minute oral presentation on a criminal justice topic of your choosing. You may use powerpoint or any other visual aid if you so desire. You must speak in a loud, clear voice and make eye contact with the class. You may include a short video clip but it will only count for up to 2 minutes of your time.

### **Grading Criteria:**

Topic & Content = 35 points

Time – 4 minutes = 5 points

6 minutes = 10 points

8 minutes = 15 points

### **Individual Presentation Comments (30 Points)**

You must write 2-3 sentences commenting on each of your classmate's individual presentations. Presentations will be made on five separate dates.

### **Grading Criteria**

You will earn 6 points per presentation day. You must comment on all presentations made.

### **Textbook Questions (40 Points)**

I will assign four questions from the textbook throughout the semester.

Due dates are listed in the syllabus.

### **Grading Criteria:**

10 points per question. The questions shall be answered based on the information in the textbook.

### **Research Paper (50 Points)**

You must submit a typed, three page, double spaced paper on a criminal justice topic of your choosing.

The paper must be stapled, typed, 12 font and 1" margins all around.

It cannot be the same topic as your individual presentation.

### **Grading Criteria:**

Topic & Content = 25 points

Spelling/Grammar/Punctuation = 15 points

Following instructions = 10 points

### **Attendance (70 Points)**

You will earn 5 points per day of attendance up to 70 points. I will deduct 3 points per day that you arrive late or leave early.

**AJ 102 Concepts of Criminal Law**  
(Wednesday 6:30 PM – 9:40 PM)

**Class Schedule:**

Wednesday	08/22/12	<u>Introduction, Expectations &amp; Syllabus Review</u>
Wednesday	08/29/12	<u>Chapter 1: Criminal Law and Criminal Punishment: An Overview</u>
Wednesday	09/05/12	<u>Chapter 2: Constitutional Limits on Criminal Law</u>
Wednesday	09/12/12	<u>Chapter 3: The General Principles of Criminal Liability: Actus Reus</u> <b>(Chapter Questions Due)</b>
Wednesday	09/19/12	<u>Chapter 4: The General Principles of Criminal Liability: Mens Rea, Concurrence, Causation, and Ignorance and Mistake</u> <b>Quiz #1 : Chapters 1-4</b>
Wednesday	09/26/12	<u>Chapter 5: Defenses to Criminal Liability: Justifications</u>
Wednesday	10/03/12	<u>Chapter 6: Defenses to Criminal Liability: Excuse</u> <b>(Chapter Questions Due)</b>
Wednesday	10/10/12	<u>Chapter 7: Parties to Crime and Vicarious Liability</u>
Wednesday	10/17/12	<u>Chapter 8: Inchoate Crimes: Attempt, Conspiracy, and Solicitation</u> <b>Quiz #2 : Chapters 5-8</b>
Wednesday	10/24/12	<u>Chapter 9: Crimes Against Persons I: Murder and Manslaughter</u> <b>Individual Presentations &amp; Comments Due (Chapter Questions Due)</b>
Wednesday	10/31/12	<u>Chapter 10: Crimes Against Persons II: Criminal Sexual Conduct, Bodily Injury, and Personal Restraint</u> <b>Individual Presentations &amp; Comments Due</b>
Wednesday	11/07/12	<u>Chapter 11: Crimes Against Property</u> <b>Individual Presentations &amp; Comments Due</b>
Wednesday	11/14/12	<u>Chapter 12: Crimes Against Public Order and Morals</u> <b>Individual Presentations &amp; Comments Due</b> <b>(Research Paper &amp; Chapter Questions Due)</b> <b>Quiz #3 : Chapters 9-12</b>
Wednesday	11/21/12	<u>Chapter 13: Crimes Against the State</u> <b>Individual Presentations &amp; Comments Due</b>
Wednesday	11/28/12	<b>AJ 102 Semester Review</b>
Wednesday	12/05/12	<b>Final Exam – Chapters 1-16</b>