

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2015	Instructor Name:	George Chavarria
Course Title & #:	AJ102: Concepts of Criminal Law	Email:	george.chavarria@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20683	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	3211	Office #:	Room 809
Class Dates:	02/17/15 thru 06/12/15	Office Hours:	By Appointment
Class Days:	Tuesday	Office Phone #:	760-355-6280
Class Times:	6:30pm-9:40pm (1830-2140)	Emergency Contact:	Rhonda Ruiz @ 760-355-6280
Units:	3		

Course Description

This 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. (CSU, UC)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

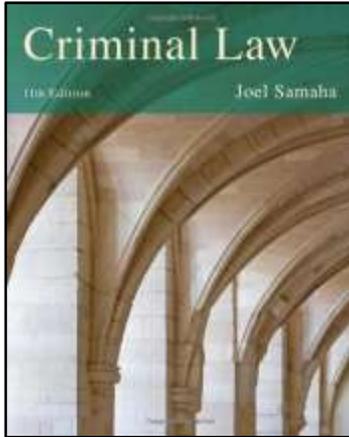
1. Identify the difference between criminal law and civil law. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4).
2. Identify liability and how liability is determined. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5).
3. Demonstrate understanding of various crime groups to include: Crimes against People, Crimes against Property, and Crimes against the Government. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Synthesize the historical development of the law and philosophy of the law.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the United States Constitution and constitutional legal issues through assigned writings and case studies.
3. Restate and explain basic legal definitions and concepts.
4. Formulate an appreciation for the value of case study and legal research as a means of interpreting court decisions in relation to written statute.
5. Demonstrate a basic knowledge and application of specific criminal violations.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links



Criminal Law, 11th Edition

Joel Samaha University of Minnesota

ISBN-10: 1285061918 | **ISBN-13:** 9781285061917

576 Pages

© 2014 | Published by Cengage Learning

Textbook Information and Resources:

<http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/search/9781285061917>

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

The class will involve lectures, presentations, group assignments and guest speakers to enhance information and materials from the textbook. There will be a research paper due at the end of the semester on any topic from the current textbook and one field trip during class hours to Imperial County Juvenile Hall and Jail. The tour will give students a realistic first hand view of our correctional system, which is subsequent to our judicial system. Students not being able to attend the field trip will have an alternate assignment in order to make up for those points earned during the field trip.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Quizzes	100 points
Mid-Term	100 points
Research Paper	100 points
Final	100 points
Total	400 points

100-90% A

89-80% B

79-70% C

69-60% D

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another

person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- [Blackboard Support Site](#). The Blackboard Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- [Learning Services](#). There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- [Library Services](#). There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

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. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have the following counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee:

- [Student Health Center](#). A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Center provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6310 in Room 2109 for more information.
- [Mental Health Counseling Services](#). Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar ***Tentative, subject to change without prior notice***		
Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Readings/Deadlines/Tests
Week 1 February 16	Syllabus Review & Introduction	
Week 2 February 24	Chapter 1: Criminal Law and Punishment: An Overview	Read Chapter 1
Week 3 March 3	Chapter 2: Constitutional Limits on Criminal Law Quiz #1	Reading Chapter 2 Quiz #1
Week 4 March 10	Chapter 3: The General Principles of Criminal Liability: Actus Rea	Read Chapter 3
Week 5 March 17	Chapter 4: The General Principles of Criminal Liability: Mens Rea, Concurrence, and Causation Quiz #2	Read Chapter 4 Quiz #2
Week 6 March 24	Chapter 5: Defenses to Criminal Liability: Justifications	Read Chapter 5
Week 7 March 31	Chapter 6: Defenses to Criminal Liability: Excuses	Read Chapter 6
Week 8 April 7	NO CLASS: Spring Break	
Week 9 April 14	Chapter 7: Parties to Crime and Vicarious Liability Mid-term Exam	Read Chapter 7 Mid-Term Exam
Week 10 April 21	Chapter 8: Inchoate Crimes, Attempt, Conspiracy, and Solicitation	Read Chapter 8
Week 11 April 28	Chapter 9: Crimes Against Persons I: Criminal Homicide Quiz #3	Read Chapter 9 Quiz #3
Week 12 May 5	Chapter 10: Crimes Against Persons II: Criminal Sexual Conduct, Bodily Injury, and Personal Restraint	Read Chapter 10
Week 13 May 12	Chapter 11: Crimes Against Property Quiz #4	Read Chapter 11 Quiz #4
Week 14 May 19	Chapter 12: Crimes Against Public Order and Morals	Read Chapter 12
Week 15 May 26	Chapter 13: Crimes Against the State Quiz #5	Read Chapter 13 Quiz #5
Week 16 June 2	Tour of Imperial County Jail and Juvenile Hall	
Week 17 June 9	FINAL EXAM	Final Exam