

SPRING 2014 Syllabus
Concepts of Criminal Law
AJ. 102 CRN 20398
Mondays 6:30 to 9:40
Room 201
Jack W. Staton, Instructor
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Course Description and Overview

This introductory course deals with the historical development of criminal law and of the U.S. Constitution; definitions and the classifications of crimes 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, organized crime and terrorism are discussed. Your success in the course will be measured by written examination and quizzes, including pop-quizzes, your participation in classroom discussions, and written homework assignments.

At the conclusion of the course, you should be able to meet the following **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**:

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 Requirements and Grading

1. Attendance and Participation. Attendance is mandatory; you must attend class and participate in classroom discussions. If you are absent for any class period you miss the equivalent of one week since we only meet once a week. **Thus, you may be dropped without warning for two class absences.** You must be on time for the start of class and return promptly from breaks taken during class. You must stay for the entire class period. Early departures will be counted as absences. You may receive written assignments which are due in class. All homework is due at the beginning of class. Tardy assignments will not be accepted.

2. Examinations, Case Study, and Final Exam. There will be four examinations and the final as well as a case study. Your grade will be calculated on only three of the examinations, the final, the case study, homework, and classroom participation. You can drop the lowest grade of the four examinations, except **YOU CANNOT DROP YOUR LOWEST EXAMINATION GRADE IF THAT GRADE IS THE RESULT OF CHEATING.** Since you can drop your lowest examination grade, there will be no make-up examinations. If you miss an examination for any reason whatsoever you will have to treat that “zero grade” as the examination grade you drop.

3. Calculation of Grades:

Examinations	= 60% (20% each)
Final Examination	= 20%
Case Study	= 10%
Participation and Homework	= 10%

90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; Below 60% = F

4. Required Text

Criminal Law (11th Edition) by Joel Samaha

5. Cheating

If you cheat or plagiarize, you will receive a failing grade on the examination or assignment. I will also report you to the college administration for such other discipline as may be imposed.

6. Tardy Assignments

Tardy assignments are not accepted. You will get a 0 grade for any tardy assignment. Assignments are due at the start of class. Thus, assignments cannot be emailed after the class at which the assignment is due.

7. Breaks

Return promptly from all breaks. The Education Code requires that classes meet for the full time listed in the schedule. Break time cannot be used to start or finish the class ahead of time.

8. Leaving class early or not returning from breaks

You will be counted as absent if you do not stay for the whole class period. You will receive a 0 for participation for each day you leave class early or fail to return from a break. Leaving and re-entering class to answer cell phones, talk to friends passing by the classroom, etc. is not permitted. Conduct your personal business at the break.

9. Food, Drinks, and Smoking

College policy forbids food and drinks (except water) in all classrooms and forbids smoking in anywhere on campus. You must follow these policies.

10. Cell phones and other gizmos

Turn them completely off during class or leave them at home. Leaving class to make or receive calls is only permitted at breaks. Otherwise, depart for good and receive a 0 for that day.

11. Drugs, alcohol, and illness.

Do not come to class under the influence of or possessed of drugs or alcohol. I will call the sheriff if you do. If you are sick, stay home to avoid exposing your fellow students to your illness

12. Special Needs and Accommodations

If you have special needs or learning differences I will accommodate your needs. Please use **DSP&S** to make the necessary arrangements.

CLASS SCHEDULE
AJ 102 Spring 2014
Jack W. Staton – Instructor

NOTE: This schedule is a guide or estimate. It will definitely change according to class progress.

Class 1 Introduction and Overview of Course and Legal System

Class 2 Chapter 1

Class 3 Chapter 2

****No Class February 17, 2014****

Class 4 Exam and Chapter 3

Class 5 Chapter 4

Class 6 Chapter 5

Class 7 Exam and Chapter 6

Class 8 Chapter 7

Class 9 Chapters 8

Class 10 Exam and Chapters 9

Class 11 Chapters 10 & 11

*** No class April 21, 2014-- Spring Break Week***

Class 12 Chapters 12 & 13

Class 13 Exam & Catch-up and Review

MAY 12 FINAL EXAM