

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2023	Instructor Name:	Michelle Velovich
Course Title & #:	Concepts of Criminal Law AJ-102	Email:	Michelle.velovich@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20356	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	Rm 3212	Office #:	Rm 3207
Class Dates:	02-14-22 to 06-08-22	Office Hours:	Monday-Thursday 5pm to 6pm
Class Days:	T/R	Office Phone #:	760-335-6340
Class Times:	1300-1425	Emergency Contact:	760-335-6300
Units:	3	Class Format:	In-person

Course Description

The course covers the historical development of law and constitutional provision, definitions and the classification of crime, the application of crimes to the system of administration of justice, legal research, the study of case law, methodology, and concepts of law as a social force is presented. Crimes against persons, property, government, and organized crime are discussed. (CSU, UC)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

- Identify the difference between criminal law and civil law (IL01, IL02, IL04).
- Identify liability and how liability is determined. (IL01, IL02, IL04, IL05).
- Demonstrate understanding of various crime groups to include: Crimes against People, Crimes against Property, and Crimes against the Government. (IL01, IL02, IL04).

Course Objectives

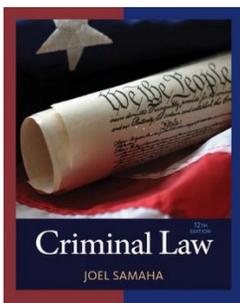
Upon satisfactory completion of the course, the student will be able to:

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 of the value of case study and legal research as a means of interpreting court decisions concerning written statute.
5. Demonstrate basic knowledge and application of specific criminal violations.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Author: Joel Samaha
Textbook: Criminal Law, 12th edition
Publisher: Cengage Learning, 2014
Student Edition ISBN: 978-1-305-57738-1



**All other course materials can be accessed through Canvas.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Course Format:

Weekly Learning Units

The class is divided into 16 Weekly Learning Modules

Each Module contains various activities and tasks.

All modules are accessible from the course menu located on the left side of any course page under “Module.”

- Each unit lasts approximately one week. The weekly Module typically opens on Sundays at 0800. It is open for one week and closes the following Sunday at midnight after the assignment for the week is due.
- Students should start each Module by reading the material in the “Module Overview and To-do List” tab. This material summarizes the weekly activities and directs the student to the various tasks and activities for the week.
- Please note that PowerPoint presentations for each chapter of the text will be presented in class. These presentations are never required reading. They are made available to the student for further study. They will be available for the student at the conclusion of the week, under the PowerPoint link in the Module.
- **On the due date** of each unit, the projects, discussions, quizzes, and any other materials required in the Module will **close and cease to be accessible**, so don’t get behind!



Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Weekly Units

This class is divided into 14 weekly units. Each unit contains various activities and tasks. All the units are accessible on Canvas from the Course home page and on the Course Menu, located on the left side of any course page, under the "Modules" link. Each unit lasts approximately one week.

The Weekly Units typically open on Sundays at 0800 am, are open for 10 days, and close on Tuesday at midnight, when the last assignments for the week are due.

(Please note that the Introduction Weekly Learning Unit will open at 12am, Monday, February 13, and close at Midnight on Sunday, February 19.)

Please start each unit by reading the material in the "Module Overview and To-Do List" link for the week. This material is a summary of the weekly activities and directs you to the various tasks and activities for the week.

On the due date(s) of each unit, the projects, discussions, quizzes, and/or any other materials required in that module will close and cease to be accessible, so don't get behind. Students who get behind in their coursework often end up failing or dropping an online course as a result.

Assignments not submitted by the due date will have a 10% deduction for each day late. Assignments **WILL NOT** be accepted after 3 days.

Assignments- 20 points each

There will be 12 weekly learning unit assignments. The assignments are introduced in the weekly learning units and the specific assignment for each project can be accessed in the weekly units. Assignments can also be found under the "Assignments" link on the Course Menu. The assignments are based on the material covered during the week. Most assignments require preparation activities before the assignment can be completed, so it is highly recommended that you begin the project as early as possible in the week.

Assignments are typically worth **20 points each**. Grading rubrics are included with each project.

Assignments are typically due each week by Sunday night at midnight. (Please note that the Introductory Project is due Sunday, February 19 by midnight. Please see the Introduction Weekly Learning Unit for details.)

Assignments not submitted by the due date will have a 10% deduction for each day late. Assignments **WILL NOT** be accepted after 3 days.

Obviously, you will be writing throughout this class. Remember, this is a college class, and you should take care to present college-level work. This includes checking your spelling and grammar. (By the way, spell check alone is not enough. You must also proofread because spell check does not and cannot catch many different types of errors.) If your writings contain a lot of grammar and spelling mistakes, points will be deducted.

Mid-Term Presentation: 100 points

Your mid-term presentation will be a presentation on a Case Study. The presentation will consist of a 3–5-page written report, with at least 3 references. You will also be required to include a PowerPoint presentation consisting of 5-7 slides, with notes.

You may pick any of the cases listed from these [Famous Trial](#) cases. ****If none of these cases interest you, please meet with me first.**

****You will present your project in a 3–5-minute video presentation or an in-class presentation.**

Quizzes – 10 points each

Along with the readings, projects and discussion activities, there is a Quiz each week. The quizzes are introduced in the weekly learning units and the specific quiz for each week can be accessed in the weekly units. Quizzes can also be found under both the “Quizzes” link, and the “Assignments” link on the Course Menu located on the left side of any course page.

The quizzes are based on the material covered during the week. Each Chapter Quiz consists of ten randomly selected multiple-choice questions and is worth **10 points**. Each quiz may be taken up to three times and only the highest score counts. **There is 30-minute time limit for the quizzes.**

Quizzes are typically due each week by Sunday at midnight. (The Introductory Quiz is due Sunday night, February 20 by midnight. Please see the Introduction Weekly Learning Unit for details.) All quizzes must be submitted before the posted deadline. **The quizzes cannot be taken past the posted due date.**

Exam – 100 points

There will be a cumulative final exam in this course. **The final exam will be in class.** The exam is worth 100 points and will consist of fifty multiple-choice questions, True/False, which are worth two points each. Each essay question is worth up to 5 points.

The exam will be taken in-person and **you will have the entire class period to complete the exam.** There is no make-up examination. The Final Exam will be cumulative and cover Chapters 1-16. The final exam will be held during Finals week. **There are no make-up exams and exams must be completed by the due date.**

Course Policies

The semester is 16 weeks and there are 14 Weekly Learning Units in this course. The grades are totaled as follows:

Assessments	Point Value	Maximum Points
Quizzes	14 quizzes @ 10 points	140
Assignments	Introduction Assignment	10
	12 Assignments @ 20 points	240
	Mid-Term Presentation	100
	Mid-Point Survey	10



Exams	Final Exam	100
Total Points		600

Course Grade: The course grade is based on total points accumulated during the semester. Grades are determined by dividing the total points you earn by the total points available (575-600).

I will use the “Grades” link in Canvas to keep track of grades, but it is always a good idea to keep your own records to compare with your instructor's records.

Final grades will be based on the following percentages:

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

Other Course Information

IVC Attendance Policy

A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a 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. **After the first week’s drops for nonattendance and 6 nonparticipations, 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. However, as noted above, it is ultimately the student’s responsibility to drop a class.

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 Drinks 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, only students enrolled in the class may attend; children are not allowed.

Academic Honesty

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

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Week	Chapter
1	Introduction
2	Chapter 1
3	Chapter 2
4	Chapter 3
5	Chapter 4
6	Chapter 5
7	Chapter 6
8	Chapter 7
9	Chapter 8 Mid Term Presentations
10	Mid Term Presentations
11	Chapter 9
12	Chapter 10
13	Chapter 11
14	Chapter 12
15	Final Exam

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****