



AJ 102: Concepts of Criminal Law

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2025	Instructor Name:	Joe Arambula
Course Title & #:	Concepts of Criminal Law AJ 102	Email:	Joe.arambula@imperial.edu
CRN #:	21098	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	3211	Office #:	N/A
Class Dates:	February 10 through June 06	Office Hours:	In person Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 AM-10:15 AM/ Online-Tuesdays 4:30 PM-6:00 PM
Class Days:	Mondays and Wednesdays	Office Phone #:	N/A
Class Times:	6:00 PM-7:25 PM	Emergency Contact:	N/A
Units:	3.0	Class Format/Modality:	Lecture/Face to Face

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. (C-ID: AJ 120) (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:

1. Understand the fundamental nature of law.
2. Understand general legal principles.
3. Understand the historical development of criminal law and its function in American society today.

Course Objectives

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

1. Describe the nature and history of criminal law.
2. Describe criminal liability and the essence of crime.
3. Explain the concepts of causation and the body of crime.
4. Explain the beginning phase of offenses and criminal liability.

5. Explain legal and factual defenses to a criminal charge.
6. Describe the elements of homicide, assault, battery, and other crimes against persons.
7. Describe the elements of property and computer crimes.
8. Describe offenses against the administration of government.
9. Describe offenses against public morality.
10. Describe terrorism and human trafficking
11. Summarize victims' rights and services.
12. Describe Punishment and sentencing.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Frank Schmallegger (2022), Criminal Law Today (7th Ed.) Pearson ISBN: 10013597038-5

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

1. Demonstration
2. Discussion
3. Group Activity
4. Lecture
5. Simulation/Case Study
6. Audio Visual
7. Computer Assisted Instruction
8. Assessments

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grading Procedure: Total Points 500

Quizzes: 4 @ 25 total points each

Written assignments: 2 @ 50 total points each

Mid-Term: 150 total points

Final Exam: 150 total points

A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F=0-59%

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.



Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance.

We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

Course Policies

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the importance 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.

Other Course Information

Class schedule may change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Financial Aid

Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Making SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.

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



Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 February 10-12	Syllabus & Introduction Chapter 1	Lecture/Discussion
Week 2 February 19	February 17 is a Holiday Chapter 2	Lecture/Discussion
Week 3 February 24-26	Chapter 3	Lecture/Discussion Quiz # 1
Week 4 March 3-5	Chapter 4	Lecture/Discussion
Week 5 March 10-12	Chapter 5	Lecture/Discussion
Week 6 March 17-19	Chapter 6	Written Assignment #1 due Lecture/Discussion Quiz #2
Week 7 March 24-26	Chapter 7	Lecture/Discussion
Week 8 March 31-April 2	Chapter 8	Lecture/Discussion Mid-Term Exam
Week 9 April 7-9	Chapter 9	Lecture/Discussion
Week 10 April 14-16	Chapter 10	Lecture/Discussion Quiz # 3
April 21-23	Spring Recess (Campus closed)	Recess
Week 11 April 28-30	Chapter 11	Lecture/Discussion Written Assignment # 2 due
Week 12 May 5-7	Chapter 12	Lecture/Discussion
Week 13 May 12-14	Chapter 13	Lecture/Discussion
Week 14 May 19-21	Chapter 14	Lecture/Discussion Quiz # 4
Week 15 May 28	May 26 is a Holiday Review	Lecture/Discussion
Week 16 June 2-4	Final Exam	Final Exam

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