



AJ 106: Principles and Procedures of the Justice System

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2026	Instructor Name:	Joe Arambula
Course Title & #:	Prin.& Procedures of the Justice System AJ 106	Email:	Joe.arambula@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20365	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	3211	Office #:	N/A
Class Dates:	February 17-April 17	Office Hours:	In person on Wednesdays 9:30 AM-10:30 AM Online-Tuesdays 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
Class Days:	Tuesdays and Thursdays	Office Phone #:	N/A
Class Times:	8:00 AM-11:10 AM	Emergency Contact:	Rhonda Ruiz (760) 355-6280
Units:	3.0	Class Format/Modality:	Lecture/Face to Face

Course Description

The course provides an examination and analysis of due process in criminal proceedings from pre-arrest through trial and appeal utilizing statutory law and state and constitutional law precedents. (C-ID: AJ 122) (CSU)

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. Demonstrate an understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the Amendments with special emphasis on the 6th, 8th, and 14th amendments, including the right to counsel, bail, jury trial, and due process. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
2. Describe the history and application of the exclusionary rule in shaping criminal procedures. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
3. Identify the Criminal Court Trial Procedures, specifically those areas dealing with Witnesses, Evidence, and Presumption of Innocence. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)

Course Objectives

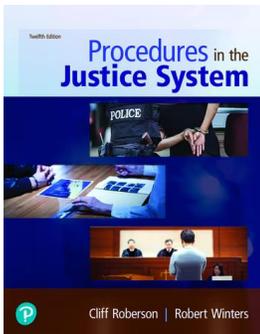
Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and critically analyze the concepts of due process as found in the 6th, 8th, and 14th amendments, including right to counsel, bail, jury trial, and due process.
2. Identify and distinguish the requirements of a lawful arrest and applicable procedures for both misdemeanor and felony arrests.
3. Recognize the legal requirements associated with the defendant's right to an arraignment; pre-trial motions, et cetera.

4. List the types and appropriate uses of pleas listed in the California Penal Code.
5. Explain the role of the judge, attorneys, and other participants in the trial setting.
6. Describe the trial process from motions in limine to the verdict.
7. Describe the history and role of the jury within the Criminal Justice System, the jury selection process, case law, and new statutory changes affecting the jury process.
8. Explain sentencing history, philosophy, and procedures used by the courts.
9. Describe post-trial appeal procedures, remedies, and motions made by the trial participants.
10. Identify the different components of corrections and discuss the purpose and procedures of each.
11. Describe the juvenile justice system, philosophy, and procedures.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Procedures in the Justice System (12 Edition) Cliff Roberson & Robert Winters (2020) **Pearson** ISBN: 978-0-135186275



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: 2 @ 50 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%



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

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

Disrupting the class will not be tolerated, and you may be asked to leave

Excessive tardiness will not be tolerated as it disrupts the class. The instructor may lock the door after the class begins

Generally, cell phone use is not allowed during class as it disrupts learning

Students may be dropped from the course after the third unexcused absence

Updated 01/2026



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 17-19	Syllabus & Introduction / Chapter 1 Chapter 2	Lecture/Discussion
Week 2 February 24-26	Chapter 3 Chapter 4	Lecture/Discussion Quiz # 1
Week 3 March 3-5	Chapter 5 Chapter 6	Lecture/Discussion Written Assignment #1 due
Week 4 March 10-12	Chapter 7 Chapter 8	Lecture/Discussion/ Mid-Term Lecture/Discussion
Week 5 March 17-19	Chapter 9 Chapter 10	Lecture/Discussion Quiz #2
Week 6 March 24-26	Chapter 11 Chapter 12	Written Assignment #2 due Lecture/Discussion
Week 7 March 31 April 2	Chapter 13 Chapter 14	Lecture/Discussion
April 7-9	Spring Recess-Campus Closed	
Week 8 April 14-16	Final Exam Week	Lecture/Discussion Final Exam

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