

Criminal Law

Criminal Justice 1330-50, Spring 2015

University Plaza Bldg D, Room 102 D

Day/Time: Wednesday 5:15 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

Instructor: M. Rick Erickson

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SYLLABUS

TEXTBOOK

- 2014 Utah Criminal and Traffic Code, LexisNexis

OTHER READINGS

Other handouts and assignments as provided

COURSE DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVES

Criminal Law and Procedure is intended for students interested in a career in law enforcement, adult or juvenile corrections, law, private or industrial security, counseling or criminology and persons interested in the functioning of the criminal justice system of the United States. This course provides an overview of criminal law and procedures. Covering the history and terminology of the criminal justice system, the elements of specific offenses, and Constitutional Rights. A variety of teaching methods, including lecture, videos, guest lecturers and assigned text study may be employed. This course prepares students for the Criminal Justice associate degree and for bachelors work.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To understand key cases, legal terms, clauses, and chronologies in criminal law
2. To understand the criminal elements of crimes against person, property, order, and state
3. To examine the historical evolution of criminal law maxims, doctrines, and principles
4. To analyze both early and contemporary judicial thinking and legal reasoning
5. To articulate informed opinion over important, controversial issues in criminal law
6. To recognize important considerations dealing with the rights of criminal defendants
7. To appreciate the scholarly study of law and its application

EXPECTATIONS

In addition to respecting the instructor and fellow students, college students in Criminal Justice 1330 are expected to:

1. Attend all classes.
2. Arrive on time, remain for the entire class and be attentive in class;
3. Be prepared – including but not limited to having read the assigned materials, participating intelligently in class discussion, and submitting assignments on time;
4. Bring appropriate textbooks, assignments, and other materials;
5. Maintain politeness and civility toward instructor and fellow students;
6. Refrain from receiving cellular telephone calls or similar electronic interruptions during class;

GRADING

The following items will comprise a final grade:

Midterm examination – 20 Points

Final examination – 40 Points

Research Paper - 40 Points

96-100 Pts: A	75-79 Pts: B-	55-59 Pts: D+
90-95 Pts: A-	70-74 Pts: C+	50-54 Pts: D
85-89 Pts: B +	65-69 Pts: C	
80-84 Pts: B	60-64 Pts: C-	

MIDTERM EXAM

The Midterm exam will be held in class on **February 25th**. It will consist of multiple choice, true/false and possibly essay questions. You will need a scantron and a blue book, please bring your own scantron sheet and blue book.

FINAL EXAM

The final exam will be held in class on **May 6th**. It will consist of multiple choice, true/false and Possibly essay questions. You will need scantron and a blue book, please bring your own scantron sheet and blue book. The final examination will be **comprehensive** covering materials throughout the term.

SCOPE OF EXAMINATIONS:

The student will be responsible for all materials assigned in the book through the date of the examination, lectures, guest lecturer's presentations, any materials distributed in class and/or placed on reserve, as well as the content of any video or other multi-media presentation in class. If you fail to attend a class session please contact a fellow student or the instructor to ascertain what material may have been missed.

RESEARCH PAPER

Students will write a ten page, double spaced research paper on an aspect, case(s), or statute in the criminal justice system. Preferably, the subject matter will address a topic, concept, statute or case we have discussed in class over the course of the semester. The paper must have no fewer than five sources, and comport with standard university level writing procedures, formats and guidelines. Students are allowed wide latitude of topic choice in writing the paper. I want the paper to be about something that the student finds interesting or thought provoking in the criminal justice system.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend classes, be prepared (have read the assigned materials), and participate in class discussions. Student participation grades will be based not only on attendance and quantity of participation but on quality of participation. Quizzes may be given at any time and will be included within your class participation grade.

SCHEDULE (This is a loose schedule and will be adjusted throughout the semester)

Jan 14	Introduction to materials/History/statutory Interpretation, Principles of Criminal Responsibility
Jan 21	Affirmative Defenses, Punishments & Inchoate offenses
Jan 28	Offenses against the person – Assaults, Homicides/kidnapping
Feb 4	Offenses against the person - Sexual offenses/sexual exploitation of minors
Feb 11	Offenses against the person - finish
Feb 18	Controlled Substance Offenses & Exam Review
Feb 25	Mid Term Exam- In Class
Mar 4	Offenses against property - Property destruction & Robbery
Mar 11	Spring Break, No Classes
Mar 18	Offenses against property - Burglary/Trespass
Mar 25	Offenses against property - Theft & fraud
Apr 1	Offenses against the family
Apr 8	Offenses against the administration of Government & Offenses against public order and decency
Apr 15	Offenses against public order and decency
Apr 22	Offenses against public health, safety, morals and welfare
Apr 29	Review for Final Exam, Research Paper Due
May 6	Final Exam

Guest lecturers may be visiting class during the semester. Video and other presentations

may also be made. Therefore, class discussions will not necessarily cover all materials in the book, however you are responsible for all assigned readings whether covered in class or not. Regardless of guest speakers or multi-media presentations, you are required to have completed all the readings according to the above schedule and be prepared to discuss the materials required through that date in class. You will note that the reading schedule is intensive at times; I suggest that you read ahead during breaks etcetera.

Quizzes may be given at any time on the readings and other materials up through the date of the quiz.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

No form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. On examinations no "cheating" will be tolerated. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying another student's answers, consulting "crib sheets", consulting with another student or any other act or attempted act seeking to gain unfair advantage. All work submitted must be the student's own work.

Plagiarism (the unattributed inclusion of another's work as the student's own), in whole or in part, will likewise not be tolerated. Any academic dishonesty will result in the student receiving a failing grade for the course.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. Any person missing a Examination or Quiz will receive an "F", numerically a zero on that Quiz or Examination. **Only under the most extraordinary of circumstances** will a make-up examination or quiz be given for a student who was absent. Should such an extraordinary circumstance arise, contact the instructor as soon as possible to explain the reason for your absence. Proof of the underlying cause may be required. It will be at the instructor's sole discretion as to whether to allow a make-up exam.

2. This class involves the study of crime and criminal law. The subject matter and/or materials presented may be graphic on occasion and disturbing to some. If at any time you are so affected and wish to leave class for that reason please feel free to do so.

3. I will on occasion refer to actual cases in which I have been involved. If you, a family member, or friend were also involved in a case discussed, be it as a victim, defendant, or otherwise, please let me know. Certainly no offense or desire to embarrass is intended.

DISABILITIES

If you are a student with a medical, psychological, or learning disability and would like accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center (652-7516) in the Student Services Center. The Disability Resource Center will determine the eligibility of a student requesting special services and determine the appropriate accommodations related to their disability.

Spring Semester Important DATES

2015 Spring Semester

Oct 31	Spring 2015 Bachelor's degree Graduation Application Deadline
Nov 17	Spring Registration open to Seniors (90+ earned credits)
Nov 18	Spring Registration open to Juniors (60+ earned credits)
Nov 19	Spring Registration open to Sophomores (30+ earned credits)
Nov 20	Spring Registration open to All Students
Jan 12	Classwork Starts
Jan 15	Last Day for Waitlist
Jan 16	Last Day to Add Without Signature
Jan 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan 22	Drop/Audit Fee Begins (\$10 per class)
Jan 22	Residency Application Deadline
Jan 27	\$50 Late Registration/Payment Fee
Feb 2	Spring 2015 Associate's degree Graduation Application Deadline
Feb 2	Pell Grant Census
Feb 2	Last Day for Refund
Feb 2	Last Day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
Feb 4	Courses dropped for non-payment
Feb 6	Last Day to Add/Audit
Feb 16	President's Day
Mar 2	Summer 2015 Bachelor's degree Graduation Application Deadline
Mar 2	Mid-Term Grades Due
Mar 6	Last Day to Drop Individual Class
Mar 9-13	Spring Break
Mar 23	Fall Class schedule available online
Mar 23	Summer Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Mar 24	Summer Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)

Mar 25 Summer Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)

Mar 26 Summer Registration open to all students

Apr 1 Fall 2015 Bachelor's degree Graduation Application Deadline

Apr 10 Last Day for Complete Withdrawal

Apr 13 Fall Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)

Apr 14 Fall Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)

Apr 15 Fall Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)

Apr 16 Fall Registration open to all students

Apr 29 Classwork Ends

Apr 30 Reading Day

May 1 Final Exams

May 1 Associate's degree Graduation Deadline - Summer 2015

May 4-7 Final Exams

May 8 Commencement

2015 Spring Semester (Block)

Oct 31 Spring 2015 Bachelor's degree Graduation Application Deadline

Nov 17 Spring Registration open to Seniors (90+ earned credits)

Nov 18 Spring Registration open to Juniors (60+ earned credits)

Nov 19 Spring Registration open to Sophomores (30+ earned credits)

Nov 20 Spring Registration open to All Students

Jan 20 Residency Application Deadline

Jan 30 Spring 2015 Associate's degree Graduation Application Deadline

Feb 16 President's Day

Feb 17 Classwork Starts

Feb 18 Last Day to Waitlist

Feb 19 Last Day to Add Without Signature

Feb 25 Drop/Audit Fee Begins (\$10 per class)

Feb 25 \$50 Late Registration/Payment Fee

Feb 27 Pell Grant Census

Feb 27 Last Day for Refund

Feb 27 Last Day to drop without receiving a "W" grade

Mar 2 Summer 2015 Bachelor's degree Graduation Application Deadline

Mar 2 Courses dropped for non-payment

Mar 3 Last Day to Add/Audit

Mar 9-13	Spring Break
Mar 23	Summer Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Mar 24	Summer Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Mar 25	Summer Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Mar 26	Last Day to Drop Individual Class
Mar 26	Summer Registration open to all students
Apr 1	Fall 2015 Bachelor's degree Graduation Application Deadline
Apr 10	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
Apr 13	Fall Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Apr 14	Fall Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Apr 15	Fall Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Apr 16	Fall Registration open to all students
Apr 29	Classwork Ends
Apr 30	Reading Day
May 1	Final Exams
May 1	Summer 2015 Associate's degree Graduation Application Deadline
May 4-7	Final Exams
May 8	Commencement

The instructor specifically reserves the right to amend this syllabus at any time if he deems it necessary or appropriate to do so.

REGULATIONS

1. **Adding the Class:** You must register for this class by August 23rd if you wish to do so without instructor approval. Thereafter, instructor signature is required to add the class. Beginning September 7th there is a \$50 late registration/payment fee assessed. That last day to add classes is September 17th.
2. **Withdrawing from Class:** You must withdraw by September 13th if you want a refund and/or if you wish to avoid a W grade. Thereafter, you may withdraw from or choose to audit a class until October 18th, but will receive no refund or adjustment. The last day for complete withdrawal from school is November 12th.
3. **Other Important Dates:** The semester officially begins on Monday, August 23rd, and ends on Friday December 10th. Final exam week begins on Monday December 13, and ends on Friday, December 17th.
4. **Written Work:** All written work must be typewritten or word processed, double spaced, and on one side only of 8.5 x 11 inch plain white paper. Every page of each assignment must bear your name, a page number (except the first page), and the assignment title. Do NOT bind your papers in any way, other than to staple pages together. Place your stapled paper into a file folder with your name on the tab and submit the folder to your instructor. Please remove any previously graded papers from the folder.
5. **Timeliness of Papers:** Papers are due immediately at the beginning of class on the day that they are due. If your paper is turned in after this time, it will be considered late. There is a one-grade deduction for late papers, and an additional grade deduction for each week thereafter that it is late.

6. **Grading of Papers:** Written assignments will be graded against professional business standards rather than against the performance of other students in the class. A paper deemed NOT to meet professional standards will be graded at a "D" or below level. A paper which meets professional standards with some revision will be graded at a "C" level. Better quality papers, requiring less editing and demonstrating above average critical analysis will receive higher grades. Mechanical correctness is required, and one point will be subtracted for each spelling, grammatical, and/or usage error. Factual correctness is also required, and major errors in fact will be penalized significantly.
7. **Exams and Chapter Quizzes:** Exams and chapter quizzes must be taken in class on the day they are administered. No make-up quizzes or exams will be given. For this reason, attendance in class on those dates is essential to your success. Carefully reading your assignments is important since you may be quizzed on any material assigned and/or discussed prior to that date. The final exam will not be comprehensive.
8. **Absences Related to College Functions:** In accordance with Dixie State's policy, students may be excused from class for legitimate college functions such as athletics and student activities leadership activities. However, any work and/or quizzes or exams that may take place during the student's absence must be completed before the student leaves for the required activity. In no case can quizzes or exams be taken late, and written assignments turned in after the due date will be considered late (see #2 and #4 above).
9. **Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty in any form is not tolerated at Dixie State College, including but not limited to plagiarism on written assignments, submitting other person's work as one's own, and cheating on exams or quizzes. Teachers at Dixie State College may discipline students proven guilty of academic dishonesty by: (1) giving a failing grade on the specific assignment where dishonesty occurred, (2) failing the student in the entire course, (3) Immediately dismissing and removing the student from the course, and/or (4) Referring the student to Student Affairs, a committee which may reprimand, place on probation, suspend, and/or expel the student. (See DSC Policy 34.1.1-4). In addition, the Communication department may consider dropping such students from its academic degree program.
10. **Disabilities Statement:** If you are a student with a medical, psychological or a learning difference and requesting reasonable academic accommodations due to this disability, you must provide an official request of accommodation to your professor(s) from the Disability Resource Center within the first two weeks of the beginning of classes. Students are to contact the center on the main campus to follow through with, and receive assistance in the documentation process to determine the appropriate accommodations related to their disability. You may call (435) 652-7516 for an appointment and further information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 per Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The office is located in the Student Services Center, Room #201 of the Edith Whitehead Building.
11. **Library, Writing Center, and Testing Center** statements can be found on the Internet at the following links:
 - Library <http://library.dixie.edu>
 - Writing Center http://new.dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php
 - Testing Center <http://new.dixie.edu/testing>
12. **Dmail statement:** Important class and college information will be sent to your Dmail email account. This information includes your DSC bill, financial aid/scholarship notices, notification of dropped classes, reminders of important dates and events, and other information critical to your success in this class and at DSC. All DSC students are automatically assigned a Dmail email account. If you don't know your user name and password, go to www.dixie.edu and select "Dmail," for complete instructions. You will be held responsible for information sent to your Dmail email, so please check it often.