

Course Number/Title: CJ 215 Criminal Law
Department: Social Science/Criminal Justice
Required Text: *Criminal Law* by Samaha
ISBN: 0495812277
Instructor: Dr. Justin Barrett
Office Hours: Posted
Office: BMC 713B
Recommended: *Black's Law Dictionary*
Email: Justin.barrett@colbycc.edu

Year: Fall 2012
Credit Hours: 3
Days/Time: T/R 12:15-1:30 p.m.
1/11/2011 - 5/13/2011
Room #: BMC 714
Phone #: (785) 460-5530
Prerequisite: None
Course Placement: Any

RATIONALE

This course fulfills an elective three-credit hour requirement in the General Education Requirements of the Transfer and Articulation agreement between the Kansas Regents Universities and Kansas Community Colleges. The student will acquire general knowledge of the American Legal System and critical thinking skills useful to understanding legal process and career development.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an analysis and interpretation of the history, basis, scope, and nature of criminal law in the United States; general principles, offenses and the elements of offenses.

COURSE OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Module 1 Examining the history of US law
 Reviewing the Basics
- Module 2 Identifying Resources
- Module 3 Exploring Case Law—Principles & Elements
 Reinforcing understanding of principles of law by interactive role playing
- Module 4 Focusing on case key points
 Summarizing elements
 Identifying relevant facts
 Recognizing opinions
- Module 5 Practicing description, analysis & critique—Applications
- Module 6 Examination
- Module 7 Review
- Module 8 Final

COURSE GOALS

The main goal of this course is that you learn how to think and analyze critically and academically. You should learn to integrate ideas and explore the applicability of academic

learning in the real world. The course is focused on student-centered learning. The nature of this course is discovery learning and collaboration.

STUDENT LEARNING ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

- Examine the problems of defining crime
- Discuss legal issues
- Review the history and development of criminal law in the United States
- Describe the foundations of case law
- Recognize key concepts of the course of study
- Identify the elements of a crime

METHOD OF EVALUATION

Course credit will be evaluated according to the following chart:

Attendance/Practice	Performance	Outcome
Practice Tests, Quizzes, Activities 50%	Projects 15%	Semester Grade 100%
	Student Presentations 10%	
	Examinations 25%	

Grading uses the following scale: A=90-100%, B=80-89%, C=70-79%, D=60-69%, F=0-59%

Semester grade is determined one-half by attendance and participation. The other half is based on performance--i.e, examination, presentation, and project scores. Final examination over the final unit of study will be according to the finals schedule, unless otherwise notified. Final Exam will only be administered once.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

Instructor will convey to each student an understanding of:

- A comprehensive view of the subject of study
- The scope and historical sequence of the subject of study
- The structure and purpose of the subject of study academically and professionally
- Career opportunities in the subject of study

Textual materials, readings, media, lectures, and group discussions will be used to introduce students to course content. The basis of instruction is student discovery and instructor guidance. The instructor uses a perspectivistic approach. Instruction includes the Socratic Method and Intuitive Learning Techniques, as well as lecture/discussion format. Learning activities to encourage student performance may include service learning, field encounters, active learning, teamwork, and critical thinking exercises.

A portfolio of the student's best work for the semester will be collected throughout the course. All rights in publication remain with the student.

Course work is designed to allow students to apply what they are learning directly to authentic situations related to the course outline. The instructor facilitates the integration of classroom learning within the context of the world beyond the academic setting.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will read the entire syllabus and inquire about any further information necessary and attend each class. Keep a record of clear, chronological notes of classroom events, activities, and presentations. Participate in class activities in a positive and sincere manner during class and maintain respect for other students. Students will show due diligence and self-discipline in study habits. Each student is responsible for reading, taking class notes, and doing assignments. Students will turn in assignments when due and arrive on time for each scheduled class. Students will observe and pay attention to the focus of each instructional activity whether it is simulation, lecture, video, or group discussion, etc. The level of competency each student should demonstrate for successful completion of the course is at least the 70-percentile level for a C average.

• SERVICE-LEARNING COMPONENT

Any student may arrange with the course instructor and community agency an approved Service-Learning Presentation. Each participating student who chooses this option will plan with the instructor 12-15 hours of volunteer service-learning and report the results as a course requirement.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Assignment sheets will be posted. Students are responsible for quality and timeliness. Late work may not receive full credit. Please indicate your name and identify the lesson at the top of the assignment. Assignments will be returned in each student's portfolio.

TEST POLICY

Quizzes, tests, and examinations will be designated during class as online, in class, open/closed file, notes, or textual materials. Make-up tests or quizzes are by arrangement with the instructor.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance is recorded by the regular collection of assignments, projects, quizzes, tests, and examinations. Failure for non-attendance forms will be used according to school policy. Official withdrawal forms should be submitted by the student to obtain refund and change enrollment status according to official deadlines.

SCHOOL ACTIVITY ABSENCE

If you are absent due to a school activity such as field trips, athletic events involving players, etc., you are required to have permission by the appropriate coach or other instructor. **You must make arrangements to make up class work before** you leave for that activity, or class work may not receive full credit.

PERSONAL ABSENCE

In the case of a personal absence--one that cannot be avoided, class work must be made up before the absence, or by arrangement with the instructor. It is your responsibility to call the instructor's office and communicate about your absence and class work.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Colby Community College Policies and Procedures Manual states that:

The college assumes that students will demonstrate personal conduct, which is based upon courtesy, integrity, common sense, and respect for others, both inside and outside the classroom.

The college reserves the right to suspend or dismiss a student for conduct determined to be detrimental to the best interest of the college. Types of behavior considered violations of college standards are listed as items A-J. Violations may result in suspension or other disciplinary action. Instructors may ask students to leave the classroom when they disrupt the teaching-learning process. Significant violations should be reported to the Dean of Student Services.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The college maintains a number of support services to aid and assist the students find tutorial and other personal assistance for class work at the Student Support Services Office.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The college Policies & Procedures Manual states that students have the responsibilities to:

- 1) Complete class assignments to the best of their ability without plagiarizing, cheating, or in any way misrepresenting their work.
- 2) Refrain from participating in any form of academic dishonesty as an individual or in combination with other individuals.

EQUIPMENT

The H.F. Davis Library keeps Media/videos on reserve for instructional use. Students should request assistance if needed from the instructor or library staff to check out videos and use equipment.

SYLLABUS INFORMATION DISCLAIMER

The course instructor reserves the right to change any information contained in this document, when necessary, with adequate notice given to the student. Notice shall be given in the classroom during class. No other notice is required. It is the students' responsibility to keep up with any changes, modifications, adjustments or amendments that are made to this document.

The student must discuss with the instructor any course related assignment, learning activity, or other part of the course that a student finds objectionable to his/her moral integrity or otherwise considers offensive content. Thereupon, with respectful dialogue, the instructor and student can find an alternative together for quality education.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is the responsibility of each student with a disability to notify the college of his/her disability and to request accommodation. If a member of the class has a documented learning disability or physical disability and needs special accommodation, he/she should contact CCC Student Support Services or the CCC Vice President of Student Services.

CCC ASSESSMENT STATEMENT:

Colby Community College assesses student learning at several levels: general education, program, and classroom. The goal of these assessment activities is to improve student learning. As a student in this course, you will participate in various assessment activities. An example of your work, a paper, some test questions, a presentation, or other work may be

selected for assessment. This process will not affect your grade, will not require you do additional work and your evaluation will be confidentially handled. Results of these activities will be used to improve teaching and learning at Colby Community College.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

See textbook.