

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE – CofC – Fall 2016

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CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course covers the development of criminal law in America. We will analyze the basic elements of specific criminal offenses as well as the legal procedure that accompanies the offenses both before and after arrest.

TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Criminal Law and Procedure, Scheb & Scheb, 8th Edition, Thomson/Wadsworth

GRADING POLICY:

Final grades will be awarded according to the following college wide grading scale:

A	94-100	C	73-76.99
A-	90- 93.99	C-	70- 72.99
B+	87-89.99	D+	67-69.99
B	83-86.99	D	63-66.99
B-	80-82.99	D-	60-62.99
C+	77-79.99	F	Failure- Below 60

The final grade in this class will be calculated as follows:

A) Chapter tests	60%
B) Class Project	20%
C) Attendance/Participation	15%
D) Event Attendance/ Response Paper	5%

There will be no midterm or final exam.

Make-up tests are allowed throughout the semester. However, all make up tests must be scheduled at the Instructor's convenience. You are responsible for keeping up with the specific test you need to take. No tests can be made up after the final day of class at the end of the semester.

HONOR CODE:

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student's actions are related more to a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student's file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student's transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the X to be expunged. The F is permanent. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration--working together without permission-- is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others' exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance.

Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the *Student Handbook* at <http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php>

CLASS PROJECT:

Details will be given out at a later point during the semester. The project will not be due until the exam date. I will provide a full explanation of the project as well as answer any questions related to the assignment throughout the semester.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:

Before attending classes, you must meet all prerequisites and officially register for all courses. Prompt and regular attendance is your responsibility. You are responsible for all material covered and all assignments made in class. Any time you are absent from a class, or other scheduled events, it is your responsibility to make satisfactory arrangements for any make-up work permitted by the instructor. An absence is defined as nonattendance for any reason, including illness, emergency or official leave. If you arrive late to class please just make sure you come in quietly and sign the roll at the end of class. All class sessions are important. Any time you miss a class you increase your risk of making a lower grade. I do count your class participation as a substantial percentage of your grade.

INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY:

Feel free to contact me via email or phone (cell or office) anytime with questions or concerns. I enjoy hearing from the students so please do not hesitate to contact me.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN CLASSROOM:

To minimize classroom disruptions and protect the integrity of test-taking situations, activated electronic communication devices such as pagers and telephones are generally not permitted in classrooms at College of Charleston. The only exception to this policy will be for on-call emergency personnel (police, fire, EMS), who will be required to notify their classroom instructor of their need for such devices at the beginning of the term and provide documentation verifying their occupation. However, on-call emergency personnel may not leave a testing situation; communicate by electronic means and return to complete an examination.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be competent to perform the following tasks:

1. Identify the elements necessary to prove specific criminal activity;
2. Recognize defenses to criminal charges;
3. Exhibit a basic understanding of how the criminal law of South Carolina is established and how to locate the written law and reported criminal cases of Appellate Courts, Federal and State.
4. Obtain a general knowledge and understanding of how the Criminal Process functions.
5. Conceptualize a true understanding of how the Criminal Justice system truly works.

SPEAKERS and FILMS:

All speakers and films shown in the class are material that is subject to testing. The speakers and films serve as a key asset in the understanding of the Criminal Justice system as a whole.

LECTURE/EVENT RESPONSE PAPERS:

Students are required to attend ONE lecture/event outside of class and to submit a one page response to the event/lecture linking the topic of the event/lecture to a class reading/discussion.

The lectures/events (subject to instructor approval) will be announced in class, posted on the syllabus or found in the weekly e-mails from the Department of Political Science.

EXTRA CREDIT:

Outside of class assignments will be available for extra credit throughout the semester.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

First Week	Intro to Course and Film	
WEEK 1	Fundamentals of Criminal Law & Procedures	Chapter 1
WEEK 2	Organization of the Criminal Justice System	Chapter 2
WEEK 3	Constitutional Limitations on the Prohibition of Criminal Conduct	Chapter 3
WEEK 4	Speaker	
WEEK 5	Elements of Crimes & Parties to Crimes	Chapter 4
WEEK 6	Inchoate Offenses/ Homicidal Offenses	Chapters 5/6
WEEK 7	Other Offenses against Persons	Chapter 7
WEEK 8	Property Crimes	Chapter 8
WEEK 9	White Collar and Organized Crimes/ Vice Crimes	Chapter 9/10
WEEK 10	Speaker	
WEEK 11	Criminal Responsibility and Defense	Chapter 14
WEEK 12	Search and Seizure	Chapter 15
WEEK 13	Arrest, Interrogation and Identification Procedures	Chapter 16
WEEK 14	The Criminal Trial	Chapter 18