

Criminal Law CJL 4110

Instructor: Joseph W. Rivera, JD.
Office Hours: Turlington 3331 MWF 3:00 PM—5:00PM
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Text and Required Materials:

1. Criminal Law (CL), 5th Edition by Matthew Lippman ISBN 9781544308135

Course Description:

In this course we will study the substantive criminal law. Consideration will be given to its historical development, the tension between social and legal definitions of crime, the basic dimensions of criminality, the specific elements of major crimes, and the nature of criminal sanctions. After taking this course, students should be able to use critical thinking to analyze different facts and determine the application of various criminal laws discussed throughout the course.

Lessons	Dates	Read	Class Description
Lesson 1	Jan 5	Ch. 1	Welcome to Criminal Law
	Jan 7		Introduction to Criminal Law <input type="checkbox"/> US v. Alstötter et al.
Lesson 2	Jan 10	Ch. 2	Criminal Law & Constitutional Limitations <input type="checkbox"/> Loving v. Virginia <input type="checkbox"/> Brandenburg v. Ohio
	Jan 12	Ch. 3	Punishment & Sentencing <input type="checkbox"/> Miller v. Alabama <input type="checkbox"/> Bucklew v. Precythe
Lesson 3	Jan 14	Ch. 4	Actus Reus <input type="checkbox"/> State v. Utter <input type="checkbox"/> US v. Knowles
	Jan 19	Ch. 5	Mens Rea <input type="checkbox"/> People v. Conley <input type="checkbox"/> State v. Larson
	Jan 21		Causation <input type="checkbox"/> Jackson v. State <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth v. McCloskey
	Jan 24	Ch. 6	Parties to a Crime/ Quiz 1 Due <input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire v. Merritt <input type="checkbox"/> In re Yamashita
Lesson 4	Jan 26	Ch. 8	Justifications <input type="checkbox"/> State v. Norman <input type="checkbox"/> Regina v. Dudley and Stephens (Canvas)
	Jan 28	Ch. 9	Excuses/ Quiz 2 Due <input type="checkbox"/> Kahler v. Kansas <input type="checkbox"/> Montana v. Egelhoff
	Jan 31		Exam Review
EXAM 1—Feb 2			
Lesson 5	Feb 4	Ch. 7	Attempt <input type="checkbox"/> US v. Still <input type="checkbox"/> Gravens v. State
	Feb 7		Conspiracy <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Sales Co. v. US <input type="checkbox"/> US v. Michelena-Orovio
	Feb 9—11	Film	The Trial of the Chicago 7 Netflix

Lesson 6	Feb 14	Ch. 10	Murder <input type="checkbox"/> People v. Davis <input type="checkbox"/> Midgett v. State
	Feb 16		Manslaughter/ Quiz 3 Due <input type="checkbox"/> Girouard v. State <input type="checkbox"/> Ex Parte Weems
	Feb 18	Film	A Death in St. Augustine FRONTLINE
Lesson 7	Feb 21	Ch. 11	Rape <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth v. Berkowitz (1992) <input type="checkbox"/> State in the Interest of M.T.S.
	Feb 23		Assault & Battery/ Quiz 4 Due <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth v. Henson <input type="checkbox"/> Cavanaugh v. Cavanaugh
	Feb 25	Film	Predator on the Reservation FRONTLINE
Lesson 8	Feb 28	Ch. 12	Burglary & Robbery <input type="checkbox"/> People v. Dupree <input type="checkbox"/> Nichols v. State
	Mar 2		Arson/ Quiz 5 Due <input type="checkbox"/> US v. Jane Doe (R.S.W.) <input type="checkbox"/> State v. Rogers
	Mar 4	Film	Death by Fire FRONTLINE
	Mar 14	Exam Review	
EXAM 2—Mar 16			
Lesson 9	Mar 18	Ch. 13	Larceny & Theft <input type="checkbox"/> Bell v. State <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth v. Jones
	Mar 21		Computer Crime <input type="checkbox"/> US v. Morris <input type="checkbox"/> US v. Drew
	Mar 23—25	Film	United States of Secrets FRONTLINE
Lesson 10	Mar 28	Ch. 14	Extortion, Bribery, & Gratuities <input type="checkbox"/> McCormick v. US <input type="checkbox"/> McDonnell v. US
	Mar 30		Money Laundering <input type="checkbox"/> US v. Nelson <input type="checkbox"/> Whitfield v. US
	Apr 1	Film	Black Money FRONTLINE
	Apr 4	Ch. 14	Health Care Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> US v. Greber <input type="checkbox"/> Universal Health Services v. US
	Apr 6		Environmental Crime/ Quiz 6 Due <input type="checkbox"/> US v. Plaza Health Laboratories, Inc. <input type="checkbox"/> US v. MacDonald & Watson Waste Oil Co.
	Apr 8	Film	Flint's Deadly Water FRONTLINE
	Apr 18	Exam Review	
EXAM 3—Apr 20 (Final Exam is cumulative; so, use the week off to study!)			

Grading:

- **Participation—33%.** There will be 23 class days that are graded; so, each day will be worth 1.43% points.
- **Quizzes—18%.** There are 6 quizzes, and each quiz will be worth 3% of your grade.
- **Papers—25%.** There are 5 papers due in the class, and each will be worth 5% of your grade.
- **Exams—24%.** There are 3 exams, and each exam will be worth 8%.

This course uses a +/- grading scale:

- A = 93 +
- A - = 90—92
- B + = 87—89
- B = 83—86
- B - = 80-82
- C + = 77—79
- C = 73—76
- C - = 70—72
- D + = 67—69
- D = 63—66
- D - = 60—62
- E = 59 and below

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
JAN	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					
FEB			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28					
MAR			1	2	3	4	5
	Spring Break						
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31		
APR						1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23

Attendance/Participation:

Be prepared to come to class able to participate in class discussions. In your reading assignments, you will be directed to read specific legal cases. As such, to earn full credit for class participation, you must read the cases that you are assigned and be prepared to discuss the cases out loud in class in order to earn credit for participation. Some cases that are assigned are not in the textbook; so, be prepared to read the entire cases online, such as through Google Scholar.

Quizzes:

You will receive two attempts to take each quiz. All the quizzes will be on Canvas. The questions will be different each time, but this is to give you the opportunity to improve your grade by giving you time to go back and study the material. **YOU WILL NOT BE GIVEN THE CORRECT ANSWERS.** So, you need to know what material and questions you felt less familiar with and focus on that to study before your second attempt. If you have specific questions about what you got wrong or about material you did not understand, you can post in the general discussion for course questions or email the instructor.

Papers:

Exact due dates will be available on Canvas. There are five papers due in the course. In the course content section above, there are eight movies that we will watch over the course of the semester, and you may choose to write a paper on any five. Each paper will be due one week after the movie is shown in class.

You will be graded based on your:

- (1) Summary of the movie (1 pts);
- (2) Incorporation of the textbook and relevant case law to explain the crimes that may have been committed, the defendants that could be prosecuted, the specific elements of the criminal offenses involved, and the evidence you would need to make your case (4 pt.);

- (3) Opinion of the movie and whether you could or should make a case for prosecution based on the facts presented in the film and your own outside research (2 pts); and
- (4) Use of correct formatting requirements (12 pt. Times New Roman Font, 4 pages, double-spaced, and 1" margins) (3 pts).

Exams:

You will only get one attempt to take the exam. You will need to download and install Respondus Lockdown Browser. A link to that software will be made available on Canvas. Just go to the home page and click on the "start here" button. Again, after you submit your exam, **YOU WILL NOT BE GIVEN THE CORRECT ANSWERS**. If you have specific questions about what you got wrong or about material you did not understand on the exam, you can post in the general discussion for course questions or email the instructor.

Make-up Work Policy:

All make-up work is the student's responsibility! If you know you may miss a class, let me know as soon as possible. Without appropriate documentation, class assignments cannot be made up.

Classroom Rules of Conduct:

I have the primary responsibility for control over class behavior and may order temporary removal or exclusion of students from the discussions who disrupt the class or who violate the general policies of the College. Disruptive conduct shall include, but is not limited to, any offensive or rude behavior directed toward the instructor or other students during the discussion forums.

Cheating:

In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action.

The Honor Pledge:

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Disabilities:

The University of Florida is committed to providing academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, a student should present his/her accommodation letter to me supporting a request for accommodations. The University encourages students with disabilities to follow these procedures as early as possible within the semester.

Course Evaluations:

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via: <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Disclaimer:

I reserve the right to alter the course syllabus as circumstances dictate. Any changes will either be announced in class or posted on Canvas. Any student not attending class is responsible for obtaining this information.