



Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring
Course Prefix: CJ
Course Title: Criminal Law

Year: 2025
Course and Section #: 1330 X01
Credits: 3

Course Description

Provides an overview of criminal law. Covers history and terminology of the criminal justice system, the elements of specific offenses, and the role of the criminal justice profession in the fact-gathering process.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Professor Michelle Wright

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze various crimes and defenses by their elements and requirements
 - Apply specific criminal statutes and potential defenses to a given set of facts and circumstances
 - Define how crimes and defenses are categorized
 - Describe the criminal procedure process
 - Explain how the U.S. Constitution provides significant protections relating to criminal law and procedure
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Course Materials and Texts

- Textbook: Criminal Law and Procedure 8th Edition Daniel E. Hall, J.D., Ed.D. ISBN-13: 978-0-357-61933-9
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Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Syllabus Quiz:

After completing a thorough review of the instructor and syllabus pages take the Syllabus quiz. This quiz must be taken as many times as necessary to achieve a perfect score. A perfect score on this quiz releases full course materials. This quiz is mandatory, and will count toward your final grade.

Assignments:

This course has a variety of activities including case briefs, papers (APA format, 1-3 pages excluding title and references pages), reflective journals, court observation as well as several format of choice research assignments that allow you to choose text, audio/video, or mixed media submissions.

Some activities may require 'out-of-class' time to allow you an opportunity for first-hand learning experiences.

Discussions:

Discussions will be opportunities to explore topics together. Posts to the discussion should add significantly to the conversation and support your point of view. *Comments that do not add significantly to a discussion will receive no credit.* It is okay to disagree in a discussion. In fact much learning happens when we disagree. However we need to be respectful and keep our online classroom a safe place to learn.

Due dates for discussions correspond with the initial post date which is usually a Thursday. Follow up comments are due by Sunday. Follow up posts are expected to be after the due date and are not marked late. Discussions conclude by the Sunday following the due date. After this, posts will be marked late.

Quizzes/ Mid-term and Final:

Online chapter quizzes and exams are multiple choice, true false and short answer. Quizzes are open book (not open neighbor) and are single attempt with no time limit. Exams are timed so you will need to be prepared as you will not be able to look up every answer.

All assignments are to be completed and submitted online through Canvas.

Grading Scale:

The following grading standards will be used in this class:

Grade	Percent
A	95-100
A-	90-94
B+	86-89
B	83-85
B-	80-82

C+	76-79
C	73-75
C-	70-72
D+	66-69
D	63-65
D-	60-62
E	0-59

Assignment Categories

Activity	Point
Assignments (Case Briefs, Papers, etc.) (6 @ 10-30 points)	120
Format of Choice (FOC) (6 @ 20 points)	120
Discussions (8 @ 10 points)	80
Quizzes (14 Chapter Quizzes @ 20 points) Syllabus quiz @ 10 points	290
Major Exams (Mid-term and Final @ 50 points)	100
Total	710
Extra Credit	15

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

All required readings use chapters from the course text that align with the schedule below.

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Week	Topic	Assignments
Course Orientation	Course Orientation & Syllabus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Syllabus Quiz
Lesson 1	Intro to the Legal System of the United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion - Introduce Yourself Judiciary Branch (FOC) Chp 1 Quiz
Lesson 2	Intro to Criminal Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss - Culpability For Inchoate Offenses Case Brief - Keeler v. Superior Court Chp 2 Quiz Chp 7 Quiz
Lesson 3	Essential Elements of Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actus Reus And Mens Rea (FOC) Chp 3 Quiz
Lesson 4	Crimes Against The Person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss Crimes Against Persons Crimes Against The Person (FOC) Chp 4 Quiz
Lesson 5	Crimes Against Property And Habitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss Crimes Against Property And Habitation Arson And Burglary (Common Law To Present Paper) Chp 5 Quiz
Lesson 6	Crimes Against The Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crimes Against The Public (FOC) Chp 6 Quiz
Lesson 7	Factual/Statutory And Constitutional Defenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule A Court Observation Case Brief Ashe v. Swenson (Defenses) Mid-Term Exam
Lesson 8	Intro To Criminal Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion - Representation Of Co-Defendants Chp 10 Quiz
Spring Break		
Lesson 9	Constitutional Aspects Of Criminal Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion - State Constitutional Protections Chp 11 Quiz
Lesson 10	Search, Seizure, And Arrests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion - Search And Seizure Search And Seizure (FOC) Chp 12-13 Quiz
Lesson 11	Police Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion - Police Practices Defendant Right To Counsel Paper Chp 14 Quiz
Lesson 12	Pretrial Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chp 15 Quiz

Week	Topic	Assignments
Lesson 13	Trial, Sentencing, And Appeal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process Of Criminal Case (FOC) • Chp 16 Quiz • Chp 17 Quiz
Final Assignments	Final Assignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court Observation • Final Exam • SRI (Extra Credit)

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

AI Syllabus Statement

**adapted from [Temple University](#)Links to an external site. statement on AI in classes.*

AI programs are not a replacement for your human creativity, originality, and critical thinking. Writing, thinking, and researching are crafts that you must develop over time to develop your own individual voice. At the same time, you should learn how to use AI and in what instances AI can be helpful to you.

The use of generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Google Bard, etc.) is permitted in this course for the following activities:

- Brainstorming and refining your ideas;
- Fine tuning your research questions;
- Finding information on your topic;
- Drafting an outline to organize your thoughts; and
- Checking grammar and style.

The use of generative AI tools is not permitted in this course for the following activities:

- Impersonating you in classroom contexts, such as by using the tool to compose discussion board prompts/responses assigned to you or content that you put into a Teams/Canvas chat.
- Completing group work that your group has assigned to you, unless it is mutually agreed upon that you may utilize the tool.
- Writing a draft of a writing assignment.
- Writing entire sentences, paragraphs or papers to complete class assignments.

You are responsible for the information you submit based on an AI query (for instance, that it does not violate intellectual property laws, or contain misinformation or unethical content). Your use of AI tools must be properly documented and cited in order to stay within university policies on academic honesty. Any student work submitted using AI tools should clearly indicate what work is the student's work and what part is generated by the AI. In such cases, no more than 25% of the student work should be generated by AI. If any part of this is confusing or uncertain, please reach out to me for a conversation before submitting your work.

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may

require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office

for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.