

Cumberland County College

Course: CJ 104 Criminal Law

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: RD 100, EN 060

Description:

A comprehensive study and evaluation of the principles of criminal law with consideration given to theory, history, and purpose of criminal law, general criminal procedures, federal and state court systems, elements for major offenses, and the analysis of leading judicial interpretations.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to:

- Identify elements of the criminal code statutes.
- Describe key concepts of the criminal law.
- Categorize the concepts of crime
- Analyze and interpret case laws while applying them to the concepts of criminal law.

Topical Outline:

- The Nature and History of Criminal Law
- Criminal Liability and the Essence of Crime
- Expanding the Concept of Crime
- Extending Criminal Liability: Inchoate Offenses and Parties to Crime
- Justifications as Defenses
- Defenses: Excuses and Insanity
- Legal and Social Dimensions of Personal Crime: Homicide
- Legal and Social Dimensions of Personal Crime: Assault, Battery, and Other Personal Crimes
- Legal and Social Dimensions of Property and Computer Crimes
- Offenses against Public Order and the Administration of Justice
- Terrorism and Human Trafficking Offenses against Public Morality
- Offenses against Public Morality Terrorism and Human Trafficking
- Victims and the Law
- Punishment and Sentencing
- APPENDIX A How to Brief a Case
- APPENDIX B The Constitution of the United States of America
- APPENDIX C Model Penal Code Excerpts

Text: Schmalleger, F., & Hall, D. (2014). Criminal Law Today (5th Ed.). Prentice Hall.

Student Assessment: Issue, Rule, Analysis and Conclusion paper required. Assessment may be accomplished through projects, portfolios, exams, presentations and/or papers.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation. Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense. As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of ZERO and the student may receive a grade of F for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Note: If you are having difficulty with work in this class, tutoring is available through the Success Center. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856-691-8600 x 1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

Before Withdrawing From This Course

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.

Rubric for Issue, Rule, Analysis and Conclusion Paper.

Student Name: _____ **Due Date:** _____ **Date Received:** _____

Semester/Section: _____ Instructor Name: _____

Possible points = 100

Criteria	Exemplary 9-10 points	Good 7-8 points	Average 5-6 points	Fair 3-4 points	Poor 0-2 points
Issue & Precedent Identification: Identify the legal issues in the cases.	Identifies & understands all of the main issues in the case study.	Identifies & understands most of the main issues in the case study.	Identifies & understands some of the main issues in the case study.	Identifies & understands few of the main issues in the case stud.	Identifies & understands none of the issues in the case study.
Laws and Precedents: Identify the laws and legal precedents that are best for the legal issues.	Identifies & demonstrates an understanding of all of the laws and legal precedents for the case study.	Identifies & demonstrates an understanding of most of the laws and legal precedents for the case study	Identifies & demonstrates an understanding of some of the laws and legal precedents for the case study	Identifies & demonstrates an understanding of few of the laws and legal precedents for the case study	Identifies & demonstrates an understanding of none of the laws and legal precedents for the case study
Analysis of Issues: Explain why the precedents pertain to this issue.	Very thorough and insightful analysis of the issues against the laws and precedents.	Pretty thorough analysis of the issues against the laws and precedents.	Somewhat thorough analysis of the issues against the laws and precedents.	Marginal analysis of the issues against the laws and precedents.	Was not able to analyze the issues against the laws and precedents.
Decision: Based upon the precedent and the issues, determine who should be the prevailing party in each of the cases and explain why.	Provided an excellent explanation of decision based on the issues and precedent.	Provided an acceptable/worthy explanation of decision based on the issues and precedent.	Provided a passable explanation of decision based on the issues and precedent.	Either the decision was not clear, or the decision was made without basis.	Did not make a decision based on the issues and precedent
Reason for Decision: Communicate logically why you decided the winner in the case.	Thoroughly and logically explained decision in the case. Many details provided.	Adequately explained decision in the case. Enough details were provided.	Fairly explained decision in the case. More details needed.	The explanation for the case has many faults.	Did not defend the case.
Opposing Opinion: Based on the precedent and	Thoroughly and logically explained the opposing	Adequately explained the opposing opinion in the case.	Fairly explained the opposing opinion in the case.	The explanation for the opposing	Did not discuss the opposing opinion in the case.

issues, discuss any reasons why the opposing party may prevail when this case goes to court.	opinion in the case. Many details provided.	Enough details were provided.	More details needed.	opinion has many faults.	
Identifying Variable: What is missing from the case?	Identifies and understands all of the main variables in the case study.	Identifies and understands most of the main variables in the case study.	Identifies and understands some of the main variables in the case study.	Identifies and understands few of the main variables in the case study.	Identifies and understands none of the main variables in the case study.
Analysis of Variable: As a variable, how does the missing information affect the cases?	Very thorough and insightful analysis of how the variable could affect the outcome. Many details provided. ?	Adequately analyzed how the variable could affect the outcome. Enough details were provided. ?	Fairly analyzed how the variable could affect the outcome. More details needed. ?	Marginally analyzed how the variable could affect the outcome. Many more details needed.	Did not analyze how the variable could affect the outcome.
Writing Skills & Organization Grammar; Paragraph and sentence structure; Spelling; punctuation.	Writing is free of errors. Clearly organized and easy to read.	Occasional errors. Adequately organized and readable.	Several errors. Lacked organization.	Frequent errors, but the document could be understood. Overall unorganized.	The document is not able to be understood due to too many errors. Very unorganized.
APA Formatting: Information Literacy Correct citations within text; Title page Fonts; spacing Resource page Avoided plagiarism.	Correctly applied APA formatting to all criterion.	Adequately applied APA formatting to all criterion correctly. Minor errors.	Fairly applied APA formatting to all criterion correctly. Many errors.	Attempted to apply APA formatting; omitted some listed criterion.	Did not apply APA formatting.

NOTE Below:

Information Literacy Outcome: Students use correctly all of the following information use strategies; (use of citations and references; choice of paraphrasing, summary, or quoting; using information in ways that are true to original context; distinguishing between common knowledge and ideas requiring attribution) and

demonstrate a full understanding of the ethical and legal restrictions on the use of published, confidential and/or proprietary information	
Total	
Grade Equivalent	A= 100 A- = 92-90 B+ = 89-87 B = 86-83 B- = 82-80 C+ = 79- 77 C= 76-70 D = 69-60 F= 59 or below