

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

Course: CJ 111 Introduction to Constitutional Law

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: RD 100, EN 060

### Description:

This course provides an overview of the important Articles and Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The primary focus will emphasize civil rights and individual liberties, with special emphasis on the first, fourth, fifth, sixth, eighth, and fourteenth amendments.

### Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Apply concepts of the separation of powers in the framing of the U.S Constitution
- Describe the different Articles and Amendments to the Constitution.
- Discuss the role of the U.S. Supreme Court
- Analyze landmark decisions relating to Criminal Justice

### Topical Outline:

An Historical Overview  
An Overview of the U.S. Legal System  
The U.S. Supreme Court: The Final Word  
Equal Protection under the Law: Balancing Individual, State, and Federal Rights  
The First Amendment: Basic Freedoms  
The Second Amendment: The Gun Control Controversy  
The Fourth Amendment: An Overview of Constitutional Searches and Seizures  
Conducting Constitutional Seizures  
Conducting Constitutional Searches  
The Fifth Amendment: Obtaining Information Legally  
The Sixth Amendment: Right to Counsel and a Fair Trial  
The Eighth Amendment: Bail, Fines, and Punishment  
The Remaining Amendments and a Return to the Constitution  
Epilogue  
Appendix A: The United States Constitution and Amendments  
Appendix B: Reading Legal Opinions  
Appendix C: Briefs of Marbury and Miranda  
Appendix D: Shepardizing a Case  
Appendix E: Legal Research

Text: Harr, Scott, J., Mattison, K., Orthman, Christine H., Kingsbury, J. (2015). *Constitutional Law and the Criminal Justice System*, (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Cengage.

Student Assessment: 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 Center for Academic & Student Success. 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.