

CJ #2323 Aspects of Law Enforcement

Fall 2014 Web Based

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Course Description:

This course will explore police authority and responsibilities regarding criminal procedure as well as constitutional restraints as enumerated in the Texas Constitution, United States Constitution, and Bill of Rights. Upon completion of this course students should be able to understand police authority, the court system and process, sources of rights, and the law of arrest, search and seizure developed through court decisions that impact and form the way police officers do their jobs. Discussion will also include the criminal and civil liability that result from improper acts and/or the failure to act on part of police.

Students will have an established knowledge of specific areas of the U.S. Constitution as it relates to specific legal liabilities of criminal justice professionals, in particular police officers. Students will gain the ability to identify, assess, and compare Constitutional protections and individual rights and recognize violations of those Rights. Additionally, students will have a workable knowledge of the most significant legal challenges to criminal justice policy and the resulting changes to those policies.

**Criminal Justice Undergraduate Program Learning Objectives (PLOs)**

**PLO 1.** Demonstrated knowledge of specific areas of the U.S. Constitution as it relates to specific legal liabilities of criminal justice professionals. The ability to identify, assess, and compare Constitutional protections and individual rights and recognize violations of those Rights. Workable knowledge of the most significant legal challenges to criminal justice policy and the resulting changes to those policies.

**PLO 2.** Demonstrate knowledge of Criminological theories, and apply those theories to practical criminal justice events. The ability to identifying a prominent criminological theory within an actual criminal event or simulated criminal event. The ability to compare and contrast the basic concepts of the differing competing Criminological Theories.

**PLO 3.** Working knowledge of the specific language of the Criminal Justice and the ability to identify the individual parts of the CJ System. An awareness of the costs associated with the Criminal Justice System, and the ability to recognize and be aware of political influence on the system. The ability to apply historical knowledge of the CJ system and recognize patterns of system change.

Required Text:

del Carmen, Rolando V. (2010)*Criminal Procedure: Law and Practice, 8<sup>th</sup> Ed.* Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.  
ISBN 13: 978-0-495-59933-3 /ISBN 10: 0-495-59933-6

#### Requirements – Students will:

This is a Blackboard class and students will be expected to participate frequently with class discussions and complete all assignments in a timely manner. Students are responsible for logging into the class frequently to ensure full participation in class. Any technical problems experienced that hinders a student from logging in should be reported to me promptly so that the problem can be fixed, assignments completed and proper credit given. If you are having any problems please email me right away or contact me at the CJ office.

#### Grading:

Final Grades in this course will consist of student's performance on Discussion Questions, Tests (5 tests covering 3 chapters each, and one current events summary.

Tests will cover three chapters each and consist of 10 multiple choice questions per chapter for a total of 30 questions for each test. All tests must be completed on time, as there will be no make-up exams given. The Tentative Course Schedule provides the dates for these exams. The final exam will be available only during finals week and will cover the last three chapters only.

#### Discussion Questions:

Students will be expected to log in frequently, possibly several times each week, to actively participate in class discussions. Participation will involve responding to each discussion question as well as responding to information posted by other students. Students are required to participate and are expected contribute considerably to discussion boards. Students will need to draw on their own personal experiences, knowledge gained from reading the textbook, prior coursework, and any other source that would make a positive contribution to discussions. Each week there will be 1-2 discussion questions posted on Blackboard. The Assignment section will provide students with the guidelines for discussion content. All responses for discussion shall remain professional and courteous at all times.

#### Current Events Summary:

As this class will demonstrate, criminal procedure is continuously met with court challenges, changes, modifications and news-worthy incidents covered by news media. Students will be required to select one current event related to criminal procedure, summarize the event and main points associated with it, and post the summary to the discussion board. Each student will be required to comments on at least two of these posts.

#### Plagiarism:

Integrity is essential in the criminal justice field. Each student is expected and required to do their own work. Any cheating or plagiarism on any assignments in this class will result in a grade of "F".

Qualified students with disabilities needing academic or other accommodations to ensure full participation in the programs, services and activities at Sul Ross State University should contact the Disability Services Coordinator, in Counseling and Prevention Services, Ferguson Hall 112, Box C-117, (837-8203).

## Distance Education Statement:

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

### Tentative Course Schedule

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>August 25 - 29</b>	Course Introduction (Introduction to assignments and Blackboard, begin reading chapters)  Submit your self-introduction to blackboard by Friday (08/29)
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>Sept 1</b>	<b>Labor Day Holiday</b>
	<b>Sept 2 - Sept 5</b>	Read Chapter 1 and Discussion Question 1
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>Sept 8- - Sept 12</b>	Read Chapter 2 and Discussion Question 2
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>Sept 15 - Sept 19</b>	Read Chapter 3 and Discussion Question 3
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>Sept 22 - Sept 26</b>	Test 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3) (Sept. 25)  Read Chapter 4 and Discussion Question 4
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>Sep 29 – Oct 3</b>	Read Chapter 5 and Discussion Question 5
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>Oct 6 - Oct 10</b>	Read Chapter 6 and Discussion Question 6
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Oct 13 - Oct 17</b>	Test 2 (Chapters 4, 5, 6) (Oct. 16)  Read Chapter 7 and Discussion Question 7
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Oct 20 - Oct 24</b>	Read Chapter 8 and Discussion Question 8  Current Events due by Oct 24
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Oct 27 – Oct 31</b>	Read Chapter 9 and Discussion Question 9
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>Nov 3 - Nov 7</b>	Test 3 (Chapters 7, 8, 9) (Nov.6) Read Chapters 10 and Discussion Question 10
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>Nov 10 - Nov 14</b>	Read Chapter s 11 and 12 and Discussion Questions 11 and 12
<b>Week 13</b>	<b>Nov 17 - Nov 21</b>	Test 4 (Chapters 10, 11, 12) (Nov. 20) Read Chapters 13 and 14 and Discussion Questions 13 and 14

Discussion/Comments on at least two other student's current events  
due by Nov.21

<b>Week 14</b>	<b>Nov 24 - Nov 28</b>	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK (No class discussions)</b>
<b>Week 15</b>	<b>Dec 1 - Dec 5</b>	Read Chapter 15 and Discussion Question 15 <b>Review for Final (Last class Day Wednesday, December 3)</b>
<b>Week 16</b>	<b>Dec 8 - Dec 11</b>	FINAL Test 5 (Chapters 13,14,15) Actual date TBD