

**SUL ROSS STATE UNIVESRITY – RIO GRANDE COLLEGE  
DEL RIO \* EAGLE PASS \* UVALDE  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM  
COURSE SYLLABUS**

- COURSE TITLE:** CRIM 3307: Police Ethics and Legal Liabilities
- COURSE PERIOD:** Online Web Course
- INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Ferris Roger Byxbe [fbyxbe@sulross.edu](mailto:fbyxbe@sulross.edu)
- BIOGRAPHY:** <http://faculty.sulross.edu/fbyxbe>
- OFFICE:** Sul Ross Faculty Offices Building 205, Del Rio Campus
- OFFICE PHONE:** 830-703-4834 (Office) or 830-703-4831 (Fax)
- OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday & Thursday 09:00 – 12:00 PM & 2:00 – 4:00 PM
- COURSE DESCRIPTION:** A course addressing Constitutional issues and legal precedents for police officers; an examination of various aspects of civil rights and liberties within the criminal justice arena; an examination of conduct relating to ethics, liability, and discretion that confront law enforcement officers on a daily basis -- tying together acquired knowledge of criminal justice theory, research and case studies in Constitutional law.
- TEXTBOOK:** Briefs of Leading Cases in Law Enforcement, 8<sup>th</sup> edition (2012)  
Rolando V.del Carmen & Jeffrey T. Walker  
Anderson Publishing  
ISBN: 978-1-4377-3506-2
- ACADEMIC SUCCESS:** Students enrolling in online web courses at Rio Grande College must be aware that such courses are not self-paced and require considerable vested time in order to meet requirements. Students should be prepared to devote a considerable amount of time to accomplish the requisites in this course. Each semester will require a student to devote approximately 12 hours per week to each web class – which equates to 3 hours of class time plus 9 hours of reading, research, writing and other course preparation.
- DISHONESTY:** Academic cheating **and plagiarism** are not acceptable behaviors. It violates university policy and human ethics. If a violation occurs the penalty will result in the grade of “F” for the semester.

**GRADING SCALE:**

Grade assessment will be premised upon the **Analytical Writing Rubric** provided in Blackboard.

**SEMESTER GRADES:**

Final semester grades are reported to the Office of Admissions and Records at the appropriate time. Student grades are posted on Banner for review at the conclusion of each semester.

**COMPUTER LABS:**

Rio Grande College computer labs are open Monday – Thursday 8:00AM - 9:00PM and Friday 8:00AM – 5:00PM. **RGC Computer labs are not open weekends.** However, students may avail themselves to the SWTJC computer labs with valid ID. Online web students should have available a high-speed internet connection on a regular basis for off-campus course work, exams, assignments and research.

**WRITING CENTERS:**

It is recommended that students avail themselves to the RGC writing center located at each campus site. Writing center personnel can assist students with guidance in literary composition and will provide insight into efficient and effective writing skills. It is highly recommended that these facilities and faculty be used to enhance your writing assignment for this course.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES: Semester Writing Assignment**

**This assignment is not optional – it is required.** The purpose of this paper is to provide the instructor with a means of assessment for student writing skills. Each student will be expected to write a research paper relevant to the subject-matter content of the course.

Each paper will be assessed premised upon scholarly achievement (critical thinking, creativity, and research) and composition (grammar, spelling, mechanics, and documentation). Grade assignment will be conducted in accordance with the Analytical Writing Rubric provided.

**The research paper must include the following:**

- A title page. (Page 1) Title of the document, course title & number, instructor's name, semester and date.
- An abstract. (Page 2) No more than 100 words.
- A body. (Pages 3 – 18) The subject-matter content.
- Reference pages. (Pages 19 - 20) No less than ten outside resources must be cited as references. Some textbook cases (from the chapter chosen) must be cited as resources.
- The paper must be typed, double-spaced, using #12 font -- Times New Roman.
- APA documentation is required for in-text citations and references.

**All research papers must be submitted no later than 5:00 PM, December 2, 2015.**

**All research papers are to be submitted by email attachment to [fbvxbe@sulross.edu](mailto:fbvxbe@sulross.edu). This will provide evidence of the date and time submitted.**

**Late papers will not be accepted for any reason.**

Research papers will be graded December 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> (2015). Grades will be reported to the Office of Admissions and Records no later than December 11<sup>th</sup> (2015).

This is a mandatory assignment. Failure to submit a research paper in CRIM 3307 will result in a failing grade for the semester.

**Plagiarism, of any kind, will result in the grade of “F” for this course.**

From the textbook listed above, the student is to select one of the following chapters for their research topic.

Chapter 1: Probable Cause

Chapter 2: The Exclusionary Rule

Chapter 3: Stop and Frisk

Chapter 4: Arrest and Other Seizures of Person

Chapter 5: Seizure of Things

Chapter 6: Searches – In General

Chapter 7: Searches after Arrest

Chapter 8: Searches with Consent

Chapter 9: Vehicle Stops and Searches

Chapter 10: Searches of People in Vehicles

Chapter 11: Roadblocks

Chapter 12: Electronic Surveillance

Chapter 13: Plain View and Open Fields searches

Chapter 14: Lineups and other Pretrial Identification Procedures

Chapter 15: Use of Force

Chapter 16: Confessions and Admissions Cases Affirming Miranda

Chapter 17: Confession and Admission Cases Weakening Miranda

Chapter 18: What Constitutes Interrogation for Miranda Purposes

Chapter 19: Rights to Counsel Related to Policing

Chapter 20: Entrapment

Chapter 21: Legal Liabilities

Grading procedure and scale:

This research paper will be graded according to the **Analytical Writing Rubric** provided.

A = Excellent. A perfect paper, no mistakes found.

B = Good. One or more, but less than 10 mistakes

C = Competent. More than 10, but less than 20 mistakes  
D = Poor. More than 20, but less than 30 mistakes  
F = Unacceptable paper.

The above scale pertains to the mechanics of the paper – grammar, spelling, sentence and paragraph structure, number of pages, page layout, and precise composition. This paper will also be assessed on the quality of research materials used in support of the topic selected by the student. Also, how well the topic is presented in composition – is it interesting, informative, and captivating.

### **SEMESTER CALENDAR**

Students have the entire semester (15 weeks) to complete this assignment: August 24<sup>th</sup> until December 2<sup>nd</sup> (2015). Do not waste time and do not plagiarize this research paper.

**PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLO):** The graduating student will

- 1) Demonstrate proficiency in the application of legal concepts, theoretical applications, scientific principles, and historical trends in the criminal justice arena.
- 2) Demonstrate the application of organizational principles, cultural, social and behavioral knowledge, critical thinking skills and cognitive thought processes within the criminal justice arena.

**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. *[If the course requires students to take proctored exams or to purchase additional software or equipment, please describe those requirements here.]* 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.