

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

- COURSE TITLE:** CRIM 4309: Seminar in Criminal Justice  
*Topic: Significant Cases in Criminal Procedure*
- COURSE PERIOD:** Online Web Course
- INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Ferris Roger Byxbe
- EMAIL:** [fbyxbe@sulross.edu](mailto:fbyxbe@sulross.edu)
- BIOGRAPHY:** <http://faculty.sulross.edu/fbyxbe>
- OFFICE:** Faculty Building 205, Del Rio Campus
- OFFICE PHONE:** 830-703-4834 (Office) or 830-703-4831 (Fax)
- OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment, by Email, or by Phone.
- COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This class is intended to serve as a writing intensive capstone course for undergraduate criminal justice students in the study of significant U.S. Supreme Court cases that address criminal procedure within the legal arena. This course of study is intended to provide the student with an understanding of legal research and case opinions and to provide an abstract analysis of cases.
- TEXTBOOK** Significant Cases in Criminal Procedure 2<sup>nd</sup> edition  
Craig Hemmens, Alan Thompson, Lisa Nored  
Oxford University Press  
ISBN: 978-0-19-995791-0
- 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 invest a minimum of three clock hours per week for an online web class. (3 hrs x 16 wks = 48 clock hours or 2880 minutes to earn three semester credit hours)
- 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.** Students may avail

themselves to the SWTJC computer labs with a valid ID.

**LIBRARY RESOURCES:** Students have access to two libraries -- both SWTJC and SRSU. The SRSU library Information Desk number is (432) 837-8272 or students may use the Ask a Librarian/Chat. Students should search for interlibrary loan books in the first few weeks of the semester. Online computer research is also available to students.

**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.

**WRITING CENTERS:** It is recommended that students avail themselves to the RGC writing centers 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 student writing endeavors in this course.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES: Semester Writing Assignment**

Students are required to participate in writing assignments. **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 20-page research paper relevant to the subject-matter content of this 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, student name, semester and date.
- An abstract. (Page 2) No more than 100 words.
- A body. (Pages 3 – 17) Subject-matter content.
- Reference pages. (Pages 18 - 20) No less than ten outside resources must be cited as references. Relevant textbook cases (from the chapter chosen) must also be cited.

- The paper must be typed, double-spaced, using #12 font -- Times New Roman.
- APA/MLA documentation is required for in-text citations and references.

**All research papers must be submitted no later than 5:00 PM Thursday, May 4, 2017**

Research papers will be graded May 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>. Grades will be reported to the Office of Admissions and Records May 12, 2017.

**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. Do not submit this paper through Blackboard.**

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

This is a mandatory assignment. Failure to submit a research paper in this course will result in an “F” for the semester grade.

**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: The Exclusionary Rule

Chapter 2: What Constitutes Probable Cause?

Chapter 3: Stop and Frisk

Chapter 4: When has a Seizure Occurred?

Chapter 5: Arrest

Chapter 6: Standards for the Use of Force

Chapter 7: Search with a Warrant

Chapter 8: The Knock and Announce Rule

Chapter 9: Search Incident to Arrest

Chapter 10: Consent Searches

Chapter 11: Plain View Searches

Chapter 12: Open Fields Searches

Chapter 13: Vehicle Searches

Chapter 14: Regulatory Searches and Exigent Circumstances

Chapter 15: Electronic Surveillance

Chapter 16: Pretrial Identification procedures

Chapter 17: Right to Counsel

Chapter 18: The Development and Scope of the Miranda Warnings

Chapter 19: What Constitutes Interrogation?

Chapter 20: Civil Liability

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. five or more, but less than 10 mistakes

C = Competent. More than 10, but less than 15 mistakes  
D = Poor. More than 15, but less than 20 mistakes  
F = Unacceptable paper.

The above scale pertains to the clarity of your paper and supporting information and details, the quality of research materials used in support of the paper, the quality of style and composition – how interesting, informative, and captivating is the text, the organization of your ideas, paragraph and sentence structure, the clarity and correctness of language – grammar, usage, spelling, number of pages and page layout and/or format.

**Students have the entire semester (15 weeks) to complete this assignment. Do not waste time and do not plagiarize this research paper.**

### **SEMESTER CALENDAR**

Classes begins: Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Spring Break: March 13 – 17, 2017

Last day to drop courses with the grade of “W” in Admissions Office 4:00 PM April 7, 2017

Last class day: Thursday, May 4, 2017