

Sul Ross State University
Department of Homeland Security and Criminal Justice
CJ 2323 W01 Aspects of Law Enforcement
SPRING 2019 Web-delivered Course

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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 Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

UG-CJ-SLO1: Student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of specific areas of the U.S. Constitution as it relates to specific legal liabilities.

UG-CJ-SLO2: Student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of criminological theories, and apply those theories to an analysis of practical criminal justice events.

UG-CJ-SLO3: Student will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the specific language of the Criminal Justice System, ability to identify the individual parts and costs associated with the Criminal Justice System, and demonstrated knowledge in recognizing the political influences on the CJ system.

Required Text:

del Carmen, Rolando V. (2017) *Criminal Procedure: Law and Practice, 10th Ed.*, Cengage Learning. ISBN 13: 9781305577367 /ISBN 10: 1305577361

Distance Education Statement: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, such as online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources,

visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires 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.

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, and current events summaries.

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 final s 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 at least 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".

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691.

SPRING 2019 Course Schedule

ASPECTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

- JAN 21** **Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday (no classes)**
- JAN 22 – JAN 25** Course Introduction (Introduction to assignments and Blackboard, begin reading chapters) Read Chapter 1 – The Court System, Sources of Rights, and Fundamental Principles. Chapter 1 deals with the U.S. court systems and the Rule of Law, as well as sources of rights and how judicial decisions affect those rights. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 1.
- JAN 28 – FEB 1** Read Chapter 2 – Overview of the Criminal Justice Process. This chapter will cover the Criminal Justice process beginning with procedures before, during, and after trial, and differences from one jurisdiction to another. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 2.
- FEB 4 – FEB 8** Read Chapter 3 – Probable Cause and Reasonable Suspicion. This chapter defines, discusses, and compares probable cause and reasonable suspicion. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 3.
- FEB 11 – FEB 15** **Test 1 (Chapters 1, 2, and 3). This assignment covers two (2) chapters.** Read Chapter 4 - The Exclusionary Rule. This chapter explains the Exclusionary Rule and how it applies to and affects court cases. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 4. Read Chapter 5 – Stop and Frisk and Stationhouse Detention. This chapter includes various aspects involving stop and frisk and discusses the concept of stationhouse detentions. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 5.
- FEB 18 – FEB 22** Read Chapter 6 – Arrests and Use of Force. This chapter discusses and defines arrests and the authority of law enforcement officers making arrests and covers the Use of Force by police. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 6.
- FEB 25 – MAR 1** **Test 2 (Chapters 4, 5, and 6).** Read Chapter 7 – Searches and Seizures of Things. This chapter provides insight into the Fourth Amendment, privacy rights, and the type and the scope of searches and seizures conducted by law enforcement. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 7.
- MAR 4 – MAR 8** Read Chapter 8 – Motor Vehicle Stops, Searches, and Inventories. This chapter deals with the various aspects of motor vehicle stops, searches and seizures associated with those stops, and inventories by police. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 8.
- MAR 11 – MAR 15** Read Chapter 9 – Plain View, Open Fields, Abandonment, and Border Searches. This is a chapter covers the Plain View and Open Field doctrines, the issue of Abandonment, and the authority and role of law enforcement to conduct border searches. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 9.
- MAR 18 – MAR 22** **SPRING BREAK (No class discussions)**

- MAR 25 – MAR 29** **Test 3 (Chapters 7, 8, and 9).** Read Chapter 10 – Lineups and Other Means of Pretrial Identification. This chapter provides insight into lineups, show-ups, and other photographic identifications as well as other means of identifying persons including the use of DNA, facial recognition, and others. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 10.
- APR 1 – APR 5** Read Chapter 11 – Confessions and Admissions: *Miranda v. Arizona*. This chapter covers the confessions and admissions of persons and discusses in detail *Miranda Rights*. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 11.
- APR 8 – APR 12** Read Chapter 12 – Basic Constitutional Rights of the Accused during Trial. This chapter addresses the basic Constitutional Rights of the accused from the time of arrest through trial including the right to an attorney and the right to due process. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 12.
- APR 15 – APR 18** **Test 4 (Chapters 10, 11, and 12).** Read Chapter 13 – Sentencing, the Death Penalty, and Other Forms of Punishment. This chapter provides insight on the sentencing of those persons convicted of crimes and types of punishments, the death penalty, and the rights of victims at trial. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 13.
- APR 19** **GOOD FRIDAY holiday (No classes)**
- APR 22 – APR 26** Read Chapter 14 – Legal Liabilities of Law Enforcement Officers. This chapter covers types of liability faced by law enforcement officers, what happens when police are sued, and other consequences of police misconduct. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 14.
- APR 29 – MAY 3** Read Chapter 15 – Electronic Surveillance and the War on Terrorism. This chapter addresses electronic surveillance, contemporary issues in this type of surveillance, as well as current trends and critical issues maintaining the War on Terror. Accomplish the Discussion Assignment 15.
- MAY 6 – MAY 8** **Finish all class assignments**
- (Last class Day Wednesday, MAY 8)**
- MAY 10 -- 15** **FINAL Test 5 (Chapters 13, 14, and 15)**
- MAY 17 (Friday)** **Fall Commencement, Pete P. Gallego Center, 7 p.m.**