

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY- DEL RIO CAMPUS
*** DEL RIO * EAGLE PASS * UVALDE**
DEPARTMENT NATURAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM
FALL 2026 CJ 4371 COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: CJ 4371: Criminal Procedure Law and Practice

1st day-Monday: 8/24/2026

Last day-Thursday: 12/9/2026

LECTURER: Dr. Sergio J. Gonzalez

Email: Sul Ross State University-Rio Grande College email: sjg17iz@sulross.edu

PLEASE STAY UP TO DATE BY CHECKING YOUR EMAILS WEEKLY

BIOGRAPHY:

JUDICIAL JURISDICTION: Misdemeanor Criminal; Juvenile; Adult & Juvenile Drug Treatment Specialty Court; Probate; Divorce; Child & Adult Protective Services, & Civil.
August 2017-Present: Adjunct Professor SRSU-Rio Grande College.
January 1, 1999-Present: Court-At-Law Judge, Val Verde County. November 2, 1990-1998: General Practice of Law with Law Offices of Gonzalez, Gonzalez & Gonzalez, 313 Pecan Street, Del Rio, Texas. Criminal Felony & Misdemeanor, Juvenile, Divorce & Child Custody, Protective Orders, Child Protective Services, Probate, Guardianships & Civil Matters.
May 4, 1986: Juris Doctorate Degree, O.W. Coburn School of Law, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
August 14, 1981: Bachelor of Arts Degree, St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas.
May 2, 1976: Del Rio High School Graduate, Del Rio, Texas.
CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION STUDY HOURS: January 1, 1999-Present: 770.00
Total CLE; 115.75 Total Ethics, State Bar of Texas.

TEXTBOOK: Criminal Procedural Law Course Textbook is titled, "Criminal Procedure Law and Practice" 11th Edition. All your required materials are included in your Sully Shelf Book. You can visit your official Lobo Outfitters online <https://www.bkstr.com/sulrossstore/home> and select "Fall 2026" from the drop-down menu, then click "FIND COURSES" and enter your course information which will give you access to the textbook above.

ONLINE DIGITAL COURSE ACCESS WITHIN ULTRA-BLACKBOARD: Note: This digital course is already included with your tuition, NO NEED TO PAY, unless you desire the actual textbook. **Hard copy Textbook is NOT required for this course...**This Cengage/MindTap course is fully integrated into Ultra-Blackboard. First, in Blackboard under "Course Content" click on "MindTap Access & Fall 2026 Syllabus CJ 4371 Procedural Law." Second, click on "Start Here: Register to Access MindTap. Third, set up your Cengage/MindTap account & click on

“Click Here to Access MindTap-CJ 4371. Once you do so, you will have access to each chapter 1-15 assignments and activities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This Course has been designed to provide Student(s) with a high level & thorough understanding of Criminal Procedural Law within the Criminal Justice System. Students will grasp key concepts, terms, case law and learning objectives and acquire extensive knowledge of Criminal Procedural Law within the Criminal Justice System.

CHAPTER ASSIGNMENTS, ACTIVITIES, & GRADING SCALE:

Exams and assessments have been structured to mandate maximum participation in this self-directed course of study. Each Chapter contains “Chapter Reading”, important that you click on highlighted word to view definition; “Chapter Video Case”, important you complete the full short video and answer the multiple (5) questions; “Chapter You Decide Part I “; & “Chapter Exam”. Each section mentioned herein develops points in calculating your grade. You have (2) retries to increase your point totals. Grading Scale: 225 points total: A-203-225; B-180-202; C-158-179; D-135-157; F-134-0. Professor may include a curve that will determine the final semester student course grades. **(Chapter Assignment(s) scheduled below will be Graded Each Week)**

CHAPTER COURSE TOPICS IN CRIMINAL PROCEDURAL LAW

Chapter 1: The Court System, Sources of Rights, and Fundamental Principles. (Week 1: 8/24-8/30)

Chapter 2: Overview of the Criminal Justice System. (Week 2: 8/30-9/20)

Chapter 3: Probable Cause and Reasonable Suspicion. (Week 3: 9/20-9/27)

Chapter 4: The Exclusionary Rule. (Week 4: 9/27-10/4)

Chapter 5: Stop and Frisk and Stationhouse Detention. (Week 5: 10/4-10/11)

Chapter 6: Arrests and Use of Force. (Week 6: 10/11- 10/18)

Chapter 7: Searches and Seizures of Things. (Week 7: 10/18-10/25)

Chapter 8: Motor Vehicle Stops, Searches, and Inventories. (Week 8: 10/25-11/1)

Chapter 9: Plain View, Open Fields, Abandonment, and Border Searches (Week 9: 11/1-11/8)

Chapter 10: Lineups and Other Means of Pretrial Identification. (Week 10: 11/8-11/15)

Chapter 11: Confessions and Admissions: Miranda v. Arizona. (Week 11: 11/15-11/22)

Chapter 12: Basic Constitutional Rights of the Accused during Trial. (Week 12: 11/22-11/29)

Chapter 13: Sentencing, the Death Penalty, and Other Forms of Punishment. (Week 13: 11/22-11/29)

Chapter 14: Legal Liabilities of Law Enforcement Officers. (Week 14: 11/29-12/6)

Chapter 15: Electronic Surveillance and the War on Terror. (Week 14: 11/29-12/6)

All grades due by the final week of classes. Do not wait until the end of the course to begin assignments.

CENGAGE/MINDTAP TECHNICAL SUPPORT: Any issues regarding Cengage/MindTap access in Blackboard, student shall contact **Cengage Technical Support Helpdesk @ 800-354-9706**

DISHONESTY: Academic cheating and plagiarism is not acceptable behavior. It violates university policy and human ethics. If a violation occurs the penalty will result in the grade of “F” for the semester.

DISABILITY SERVICES: ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) 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. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu. Drop Policy: If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must contact the Records Office and ask for the necessary paperwork. Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Record’s Office will give a deadline for which the paperwork and form, if required, must be returned, complete and signed. If you discover that you are still enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Records Office immediately.