COURSE OUTLINE

JUST 110 – CRIMINAL LAW

Prepared By: Lisa E. Colbert
A. **TITLE:** Criminal Law

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 110

C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No

E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks

F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring/Fall

G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:**
3 hours lecture per week

H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course is a study of the fundamentals of criminal law: i.e., actus reus, mens rea, distinctions between grades of offenses; criminal responsibility; and substantive law.

I. **PRE-REQUISITES/COLUMN-COURSES:** Pre-requisite: JUST 101, Introduction to Criminal Justice or permission of instructor

J. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**
By the end of this course, the students will be able to:

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<th>Course Objective</th>
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<td></td>
<td>2. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>b. Classify and grade crimes.</td>
<td>2. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>c. Distinguish the sources of criminal law</td>
<td>2. Critical Thinking</td>
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<td>d. Discuss and understand the rule of law, ex post facto laws, void-for-vagueness doctrine, equal protection under the law, free speech, right to privacy, and cruel and unusual punishment, and the principles of mens rea, actus reus, concurrence, and causation.</td>
<td>1. Comm. Skills</td>
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<td>2. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<td>e. Apply the general principles of liability to the criminal act.</td>
<td>2. Crit. Thinking</td>
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g. Explain parties to crime, vicarious liability, and inchoate crimes.

h. Discuss the many defenses to criminal liability.

i. Explain the crimes against persons, property, public order, and the State.


L. **REFERENCES:** N/A

M. **EQUIPMENT:** Technology Enhanced Classroom

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F

O. **MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**
   - Exams
   - Quizzes
   - Assignments
   - Participation

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

I. Fundamentals of Criminal Law
   A. Definition and origins of law
   B. Constitutional Limitations
   C. Role of courts

II. Organization of the Criminal Justice System
   A. Legislature
   B. Law Enforcement
   C. Courts
   D. Juvenile Justice
   E. Corrections

III. Constitutional Limitations on the Prohibition of criminal conduct
   A. Enacting laws
   B. Bill of Rights

IV. Elements of Crimes and Parties to Crime
A. Actus reus and Mens rea
B. Strict liability
C. Parties to crime

V. Inchoate Crimes
A. Attempt
B. Conspiracy
C. Solicitation

VI. Homicidal Offenses
A. Homicide
B. Manslaughter
C. Murder
D. Prosecutorial Burdens

VII. Other offenses Against Persons
A. Assaultive offenses
B. Stalking
C. Sex Crimes
D. Abusive offenses
E. Kidnapping and False Imprisonment
F. Civil rights offenses
G. Hate Crimes

VIII. Property Crimes
A. Theft
B. Robbery
C. Other property crimes
D. Defenses to property crimes

IX. White Collar and Organized Crime
A. Antitrust violations
B. Computer crimes
C. Fraud
D. Identity theft
E. Defenses

X. Vice Crimes
A. Sexual Conduct
B. Obscenity and Pornography
C. Gambling
D. Animal Cruelty
E. Alcohol-related offenses
F. Drug offenses

XI. Offenses against public health and the Environment
A. Legislation
B. Planning and Zoning
C. Scope of federal and state laws
D. Environmental Statutes
E. Wildlife protection

XII. Offenses against public order
A. Breach of peace
B. Vagrancy, loitering, panhandling
C. Motor Vehicle violations
D. Weapons offenses
E. National Security
F. Terrorism and WMD

XIII. Offenses against justice and Public Administration
A. Bribery
B. Perjury
C. Obstruction of justice
D. Resisting arrest
E. Compounding a crime
F. Escape
G. Contempt

XIV. Criminal Responsibility and defenses
A. Negative and affirmative defenses
B. Lack of capacity
C. Excuse and Justification
D. Nontraditional defenses

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: N/A