

AJ 102—Concepts of Criminal Law
Fall 2013 Code: 10938

“The only legal certainty is the certainty of legal change. What makes law, its study and practice, qualitatively unlike most other things that human beings do is that we can never be sure of anything.”

-Justice E. Peters, Conn. Supreme Court

“The life of the law has not been logic: it has been experience.”

-Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

“In keeping people straight, principle is not as powerful as a policeman.”

-Abel Hermant

Course Information

Class Hours and Location: TR 3:05-4:30p, Room 203

Instructor: Mr. Beckley; Office: 207; Phone: (760) 355-6324

Email: jeff.beckley@imperial.edu

Office Hours: M: 10:50-11:50a, 2:55-3:25p; T: 2:20-3:05p, 6:10-6:40p; W: 11:05-11:50a;
R: 2:35-3:05p

Text and Required Course Materials

Samaha, Criminal Law, 11th edition, Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2014 (Student Resources: www.cengagebrain.com)

Course Description: See IVC Catalog

Course Objectives:

- Synthesize the historical development of the law and philosophy of the law.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and constitutional legal issues through assigned writings and case studies.
- Restate and explain basic legal definitions and concepts.
- Formulate an appreciation for the value of case study and legal research as a means of interpreting court decisions in relation to written statute.
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge and application of specific criminal violations.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Identify the difference between criminal law and civil law.
- Identify liability and how liability is determined.
- Demonstrate understanding of various crime groups to include: Crimes against People, Crimes against Property, and Crimes against the State.

<u>Evaluation</u>		<u>Scale</u>
Exam 1	50	A = 234-260
Exam 2	50	B = 208-233
Exam 3	50	C = 182-207
Drop Exam	-50	D = 156-181
Final Exam	80	
<u>Homework & Case Analyses</u>	<u>80</u>	
Total	260	

Note on Exams: Each student will need to provide a Scantron (100) and a # 2 pencil for each exam. In addition to the above materials, each student will need to provide a Blue Book for the Final Exam. Students may not leave the classroom until they have finished an exam. There will be no make-up exams.

Note on Homework: Homework must be turned in on the date assigned to receive full credit. Homework may be turned in one class period late for up to one-half credit. No homework will be accepted that is more than one class period late.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to be in class and to contribute to the learning environment. If a student is absent from class, it is the student's responsibility to obtain class notes for that day's lecture. Please see the IVC General Catalog for additional details on attendance requirements. These requirements will be followed in this class. Please turn off cell phones when in class. Cheating will not be tolerated.

Note from Disabled Students Programs and Services

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible at: DSP&S, Room 2117, Health Sciences Building, (760) 355-6312.

Tentative Course Outline

Week 1—Introduction, Chapter 1
 Week 2—Chapter 1, 2
 Week 3—Chapter 2
 Week 4—Chapter 3
 Week 5—Chapter 4
 Week 6—Exam 1, Chapter 5
 Week 7—Chapter 5
 Week 8—Chapter 6
 Week 9—Chapter 7, 8
 Week 10—Chapter 8, Exam 2
 Week 11—Chapter 9
 Week 12—Chapter 10
 Week 13—Chapter 11
 Week 14—Chapter 13
 Week 15—Exam 3, Review
 Week 16—Final Exam

Final Note

The above schedule and procedures are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.