

AJ 22 Course Outline as of Spring 2006**CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: AJ 22

Title: CRIMINAL LAW CONCEPTS

Full Title: Concepts of Criminal Law

Last Reviewed: 9/25/2017

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

Catalog Description:

Historical development, philosophy of law and constitutional provisions; definitions, classification of crime and their application to the system of Administration of Justice; legal research, study of case law, methodology and concepts of law as a social force. Law as it affects the correctional component of the justice system will be clearly identified.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:**Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100.

Limits on Enrollment:**Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Historical development, philosophy of law and Constitutional provisions; definitions and classifications of crime. Concept of law as a social force. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100.

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC. (CAN AJ4)

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area	Effective:	Inactive:
CSU GE:	Transfer Area	Effective:	Inactive:

IGETC:	Transfer Area	Effective:	Inactive:
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CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
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UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
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CID:

CID Descriptor: AJ 120 Concepts of Criminal Law

SRJC Equivalent Course(s): AJ22

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:

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

1. Identify the three primary sources on which the law is based, including the concept of a Social Contract, English Common Law, and United States and California Constitutions.
2. Distinguish between the letter of the law and the spirit of the law.
3. Differentiate between a civil and criminal matter.
4. Distinguish between substantive law and procedural law.
5. Recall the statutory definition of a crime.
6. Classify list the possible punishments under the laws of California.
7. Explain the concept of corpus delicti.
8. Recognize the basic elements common to all crimes.
9. Recognize and list the basic required elements of an attempt to commit a crime.
10. Categorize the three classes of crimes as felony, misdemeanor, and infraction and parties to a crime as they relate to criminal codes.
11. Analyze the categories of persons considered legally incapable of committing a crime.
12. Identify the defenses against criminal liability.
13. List the elements of Part I (crimes against persons) and Part II (crimes against property) crimes.

Topics and Scope:

- I. Origins of the law

- A. Concept of the social contract
- B. English Common Law
- C. Development of a constitution
- D. Branches of government
- E. United States and California Constitution
- II. Current law
 - A. Constitutional law and the Bill of Rights
 - B. Tenth Amendment provisions
 - C. Statutory law
 - D. Ex post facto
 - E. Codes
 - F. Ordinances
 - G. Case law and Stare Decisis
 - H. Judicial law
- III. Distinctions in the law
 - A. Letter of the Law vs. Spirit of the Law
 - B. Purpose of Criminal and Civil Law
 - C. Interpretation of the law
 - D. Criminal law (crimes)
 - E. Civil law (non-criminal violations)
 - F. Purpose of civil law
 - G. Tort by omission
 - H. Civil actions by crime victims
 - I. Substantive law
 - J. Procedural law
 - K. Due process
- IV. Criminal Law
 - A. Definition of a crime
 - B. Mala en se vs. mala prohibita
 - C. Crimes without victims
 - D. Punishment
 - E. Persons liable for punishment
 - F. Elements of a crime
 - 1. Basic elements to every crime
 - 2. Specific crime elements
 - G. Attempt to commit a crime
 - 1. Specific attempted crimes in penal code
 - 2. Attempted crimes not covered in penal code
 - H. Intent
 - 1. General intent
 - 2. Specific intent
 - 3. Transferred intent
 - I. Criminal negligence
 - J. Penal Code Section 15
 - K. Persons liable for punishment
- V. Criminal prosecution
 - A. Classification of crimes
 - 1. Felony
 - 2. Misdemeanor
 - 3. Wobbler
 - 4. Infractions
 - B. Principals

- C. Aiding and abetting
- D. Accessories
- E. Old accessory law
- F. Accomplices
- G. Feigned accomplice
- VI. Persons legally incapable of committing a crime
 - A. Children under the age of 14 years
 - B. Lack of mental capacity
 - C. Ignorance or mistake
 - D. Unconscious act
 - E. Misfortune or accident
 - F. Defense of others
 - G. Threat or menace
 - H. Double jeopardy
- VII. Defenses against criminal liability
 - A. Insanity
 - B. Statute of limitations
 - C. Immunity against self-incrimination
 - D. Diplomatic immunity
 - E. Entrapment
 - F. Justifiable use of force (self-defense)
 - G. Temporary insanity
- VIII. Sentencing
 - A. Determinate
 - B. Indeterminate
 - C. Enhancements
 - D. Three Strikes
 - E. Special circumstances
- IX Amendments
 - A. First
 - B. Second
 - C. Fourth
 - D. Fifth
 - E. Sixth
 - F. Eighth
 - G. Tenth
 - H. Fourteenth
- X. Common Crimes
 - A. Murder
 - B. Involuntary Manslaughter
 - C. Voluntary Manslaughter
 - D. Vehicular Manslaughter
 - E. Robbery
 - F. Theft
 - G. Grand Theft
 - H. Aggravated Assault
 - I. Assault with a deadly weapon
 - J. Rape
 - K. Mayhem
 - L. Aggravated mayhem
 - M. Spousal injury
 - N. Carjacking

- O. Kidnapping
- P. Assault
- Q. Battery
- XI. Crimes against/within penal institutions
 - A. Control of contraband
 - B. Assaults against staff
 - C. Escapes/attempts
- XII. Crimes by staff
 - A. Assaults on inmates
 - B. Introduction of contraband
 - C. Undue familiarity/over familiarity
 - D. Official acts

Assignment:

1. Read 20-30 pages weekly from textbook
2. Complete 6 quizzes, and 2 written examinations which may include essay and problem solving.
3. Research paper

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Term project.

Writing
20 - 35%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving
0 - 0%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations
0 - 0%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, True/false, Matching items, Completion, Essay exam and problem-solving.

Exams
50 - 70%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Class participation

Other Category
10 - 15%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Chamlin, Robert and Richard Evans, CRIMINAL LAW FOR PEACE OFFICERS,
Prentice Hall, current edition.

Hunt, Donald D. and Devalis Rutledge, CALIFORNIA CRIMINAL LAW CONCEPTS,
Burgess International Group, Edina, Minnesota, current edition.

Law Tech, California Criminal Law and Evidence, current edition.