

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PLS 64

Title: THE AMERICAN JURY SYSTEM

Full Title: The American Jury System

Last Reviewed: 8/28/2017

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	1.00	Lecture Scheduled	1.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	17.50
Minimum	1.00	Lab Scheduled	0	2	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	1.00		Contact Total	17.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 35.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 52.50

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:**  
This course will provide an overview of the evolution and current functions of the adversarial system that have evolved in the U.S. as a means of settling disputes. The grand jury, the criminal petit jury, and the civil petit jury will be explored.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: This course will provide an overview of the evolution and current functions of the adversarial system that have evolved in the U.S. as a means of settling disputes. The grand jury, the criminal petit jury, and the civil petit jury will be explored. (Grade Only)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites:  
Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100  
Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;  
Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Summer 2011	Inactive:
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<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

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

1. Locate and report jury verdicts in anticipation of trial.
2. Create and utilize a jury chart.
3. Perform effectively and professionally with jury selection experts and counsel in the jury selection process.
4. Provide ongoing reports during trial and post-trial based on observation.

### **Topics and Scope:**

1. Course Overview and Vocabulary
2. History:
  - a. Laws of William the Conqueror
  - b. Assize of Clarendon
  - c. Magna Carta
  - d. Declaration of Independence
  - e. U.S. Constitution
    - i. Bill of Rights
    - ii. 14th Amendment
3. Right to a Jury Trial:
  - a. Qualifications
  - b. Duncan v. Louisiana
4. Grand Juries:
  - a. Criminal
  - b. Civil
5. Petit Jury:
  - a. Voir Dire
    - i. Drafting jury questionnaires
    - ii. Submission of jury questions
    - iii. Mock juries

- iv. Jury consultants
- v. Challenges
- b. Death-Qualified Jury
- c. Jury Instructions
- d. Jury Deliberations
- e. Jury Verdicts
  - i. Jury nullification
- f. Juror Misconduct
- g. Juror Interviews
- h. The Jury Chart
- i. Jury Observation During Trial
- j. Post-Trial Interviews
- 6. Selected Notorious Trials
- 7. The Vanishing Jury Trial:
  - a. Alternative Dispute Resolution
  - b. Bench Trials
  - c. Limitations on Access

### Assignment:

1. Research jury verdicts for assigned cases and report findings in writing and orally
2. Draft sample jury questions based on fact pattern presented
3. Create a jury chart
4. Participate in group work and class discussions
5. 1-2 quizzes

### 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.

Report on jury verdicts, draft jury questions

Writing  
20 - 30%

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

Report on jury verdicts, draft jury questions, jury chart

Problem solving  
30 - 50%

**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.

Quizzes

Exams  
15 - 20%

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

Participation and group work
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Other Category 15 - 20%
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**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

The American Jury System. Jonakait, Randolph. Yale University Press: 2006

Instructor Prepared Materials