

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 has 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 and Course Completion or Concurrent Enrollment in PLS 50

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 has 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 and Course Completion or Concurrent

Enrollment in PLS 50
Limits on Enrollment:
Transfer Credit: CSU;
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:
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective: Summer 2011	Inactive:
UC Transfer:		Effective:	Inactive:

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:

I. Course Overview and Vocabulary

II. History

- A. Laws of William the Conqueror
- B. Assize of Clarendon
- C. Magna Carta
- D. Declaration of Independence
- E. U.S. Constitution
 1. Bill of Rights
 2. 14th Amendment

III. Right to a Jury Trial

- A. Qualifications and criteria
- B. Duncan v. Louisiana

IV. Grand Juries

- A. Criminal
- B. Civil

V. Petit Jury

- A. Voir Dire/Jury Selection
 1. Drafting jury questionnaires

2. Submission of jury questions
3. Mock juries
4. Jury consultants
5. Challenges
- B. Death-Qualified Jury
- C. Jury Instructions
- D. Jury Deliberations
- E. Jury Verdicts - Jury nullification
- F. Juror Misconduct
- G. Juror Interviews
- H. The Jury Chart
- I. Jury Observation During Trial
- J. Post-Trial Interviews
- VI. Selected Notorious Trials
- VII. The Vanishing Jury Trial
 - A. Alternative Dispute Resolution
 - B. Bench Trials
 - C. Limitations on Access

Assignment:

1. Research and analyze 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. Engage with jury selection experts and counsel in the jury selection process.
5. Provide ongoing reports during trial and post-trial based on observation.
6. Participate in group work and class discussions
7. Quizzes (1-2)

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.

Written report on jury verdicts

Writing
20 - 30%

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

Analysis of jury verdicts, formulate jury questions and jury selection process, 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

Other Category
15 - 20%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

The American Jury System. Jonakait, Randolph. Yale University Press. 2016

Instructor Prepared Materials