

GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course OutlineADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE 200 – CRIMINAL LAW

<u>1. Course Number</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Semester Units</u>	<u>Hours</u>
AOJ 200	Criminal Law	3	3 hours lecture

2. Course Prerequisites

A “C” or “CR” grade or higher in Administration of Justice 110 or equivalent.

Recommended Preparation

None.

3. Catalog Description

This course will explore the roots of criminal law from the past to the present. It will examine not only the historical development of the law, but include the philosophy of law, definitions, constitutional provisions, classifications of crime and their applications to the system of administration of justice. It will also include legal research, review of case law, methodology and concepts of law as a social force. This course will focus on the concepts of law.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

- a. Analyze the evolution of common law and its transition into statutory law and compare the two.
- b. Describe key points in the history and development of law.
- c. Identify and discuss specific legal terms and their application to existing criminal law.
- d. Research case law, appellate court decisions, and compose a sample case brief.
- e. Analyze case law and be able to:
 - (1) Interpret the case, and the locate the applicable statutory code.
 - (2) Explain the correct elements of the code.

5. Instructional Facilities

Since the course is to offered as both a standard classroom and a distance learning course, the students have a choice of the classroom or the computer. If the computer is selected, the student must have access to a computer capable of handling the Internet, including e-mail, accessing web sites and related tasks. The standard classroom used for this class also includes a computer presentation using PowerPoint software. The student need only be able to access the appropriate web site to manage the on-line instruction. Students may use existing computers on campus for this course or a personal computer.

6. Special Materials Required of Student

Access to a personal computer with Internet capability and e-mail. Students should be familiar enough with a computer to be able to access the web site for on-line instruction.

7. Course Content

- a. Comparison between the evolution of common law and its evolution into statutory law.
- b. Key points in the history and development of law.
- c. Examination of case law, appellate court decisions and case briefs.
- d. Specific legal terms and their application to existing criminal law.
- e. An emphasis of common legal scenarios related to criminal law and law enforcement, including analyzing applicable statutory codes.
- f. Analyzing the Corpus Delicti of specific laws and the correct elements of specific codes.

8. Method of Instruction

- a. Lecture with emphasis on concepts of law and its application to criminal law.
- b. Handouts.
- c. Referencing law library and the penal code.
- d. For the distance learning component, the on-line instruction is done "on-line" and students must follow the course schedule posed on the web site. All homework and assignments are submitted electronically.

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

- a. Written quizzes and exams.
- b. Completed case brief.
- c. Workbooks/study-guides may be used.
- d. Final exam.
- e. For distance learning students, there are weekly assignments and projects that must be completed and electronically submitted to the instructor. These include weekly quizzes and chapter projects. It also includes electronic research.

10. Outside Class Assignments

- a. Reading assignments from texts.
- b. Legal research project.

11. Texts

- a. Required Text(s):
 - (1) Schmallegger, Frank. Criminal Law Today. Englewood Cliffee, NJ: Prentice Hall Publishing, 1999.
- b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:
 - (1) Michelson, Richard. California Criminal Law Workbook and Study Guide. Burgess Publishing, 6th edition, 1999.
- c. Supplementary web site for distance learning students or for supplemental work
 - (1) www.prenhall.com/cjcentral

Date approved by the Governing Board: 5/00

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