



## CJ 1330

**Division:** Social and Behavioral Science

**Department:** Criminal Justice

**Course:** CJ 1330

**Title:** Criminal Law

**Catalog Description:**

Criminal Law is a survey of American criminal law including the historical foundations, limits and purposes of law, the elements of crime, and criminal defenses.

**General Education Requirements:** N/A

**Semesters Offered:** Fall

**Credit/Time Requirement:** Credit: 3; Lecture: 3; Lab: 0

**Clock/Hour Requirements:** 0

**Offered for Non-Credit:** No

**Prerequisites:** N/A

**Corequisites:** N/A

**Justification:**

This course is required for an associate degree in Criminal Justice. This course also satisfies the lower division requirements for a bachelors degree which is offered at Southern Utah University and Weber State University and is transferable to those institutions.

Any student who is preparing for a career in the criminal justice system must have a basic level of understanding of the components of criminal law. All Criminal Justice curriculum and law enforcement training programs include a block of instruction in criminal law.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will know:

- the nature, purpose, and history of criminal law
- the origin of case and statutory law
- the classification of crimes
- the statutory basis of punishments for crimes
- principles of criminal liability
- components of culpable mental state
- classification of types of offenses.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- analyze and distinguish various crimes by their elements
- apply specific criminal statutes to a given set of facts and circumstances
- analyze appellate court decisions to determine the applicable rule of law

- discuss current events in criminal law in the context of this course.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will believe:

- the necessity of criminal law in a free society
- that some natural freedom must be exchanged or security.

### **Content:**

This course will include:

- History and Evolution of Criminal Law
- Statutory and Case Law Origins and Purposes
- Classification of Crimes
- Statutory Sentencing and Punishment Philosophy
- Crimes of Homicide
- Crimes Against Persons (Non Homicide)
- Sex Offenses
- Property Crimes
- Theft and Larceny
- Crimes Against the Family, Decency and Morality
- Crimes Against Public Order
- Criminal Defenses
- Inchoate Offenses
- Drug Offenses
- Motor Vehicle Offenses

### **General Education Outcomes:**

1) Read effectively, constructively, and critically.

Students are assigned readings from a text book and supplemental resources and are given vocabulary and concept based quizzes. Students are also assigned writings in which they articulate their understanding of legal proceedings from appellate court cases.

2) Write clearly, informatively, and persuasively.

Students are assigned essays and briefs in which they must articulate an understanding of legal concepts and cases. The writing is based on a previously instructed format. The student is graded on the quality of their assessment and presentation of the topic.

8) Apply ethical reasoning to a variety of contexts.

Criminal law in a multicultural society involves a convergence of conflicting beliefs. Student are encouraged to be able to detect the presence or influence of any factional group seeking to use criminal law to gain their own ends and weigh this against the constitutional ideal of equal treatment of all persons under the law.

### **Key Performance Indicators:**

- four to five quizzes (short answers): 25-30% of final grade

- six to eight assignments (practical application): 25-35% of final grade
- three to four essays (briefs of cases): 25-30% of final grade

**Representative Text and/or Supplies:**

- *Principles of Criminal Law*, current edition, Wallace, Robertson, AB Longman Publishers, ISBN 0-8013-1919-6.
- *Utah Criminal and Traffic Code*, current edition.
- *Dictionary of Law*, current edition or comparable text, Merriam Webster.

**Optimum Class Size: 35**

**Maximum Class Size: 35**

**Signatures:**

I hereby submit this course syllabus:

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Eldon Barnes, MSW, Assistant Professor

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Criminal Justice Department:

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, , , Chair

I hereby find this course consistent with the goals and resources of the Social and Behavioral Science Division:

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Sue Dalley, M.S., Associate Professor, Dean

I have discussed the need for library resources related to this class with the person submitting the syllabus:

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Lynn Anderson, MLIS, Technical Services Librarian (Main Campus)

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Michelle Olsen, MLS, Campus Librarian (Richfield Campus)