

College of the Siskiyous
ADJ-2-Concepts of Criminal Law
Course Information Bulletin
Spring, 2011

Course: Concepts of Criminal law
Number: ADJ-2
Credit: 3 Units
Online Course

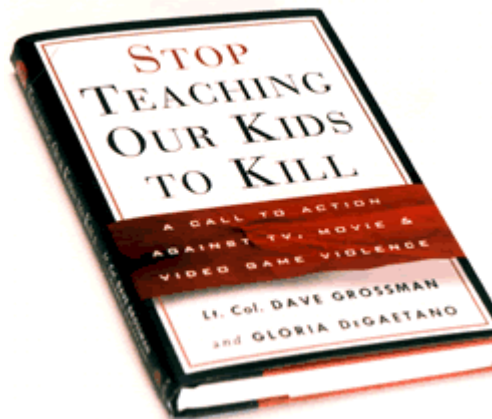
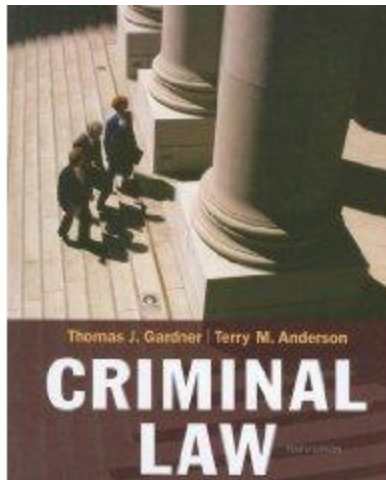
Instructor: [Will Bullington](#)

Office Hours: Thursdays Noon to 1 P.M.

Office Location: Online in ETUDES-Chat Room

Email: bullington@siskiyous.edu Please contact me for my phone number if you need to speak with me personally.

Texts: *1) Criminal Law. Gardner and Anderson.. 10th Edition, ISBN-13 978-0-495-55435-6 (At bookstore) 2) "Stop Teaching Our Kids To Kill," Lt. Col. Dave Grossman and Gloria DeGaetano, ISBN 0-609-60613-1(also at bookstore).*



Course Description:

This course will cover 6 basic, fundamental criminal law disciplines or areas of focus:

1. Basic Concepts of Criminal law
2. Balancing Constitutional Rights with the need for public order

3. Crimes against Persons
4. Crimes against Property
5. Sex Crimes
6. Other Criminal Conduct--Drugs, gangs etc.

The course will also focus on the historical development, philosophy of law and constitutional provisions, definitions, classifications of crimes and their application to the system of the Administration of Justice; Legal research, the study of case law, methodology and concepts of law as a social force.

This is an online course and requires at least three hours a week of your time to submit work, listen to lectures, etc. Please go to the COS website link on taking online classes. You must be able to watch videos, go to web sites, and submit home work that I can open. In the past students have sent me attachments from a program that I can't open. Please see homework below for information on this topic.

Support Hour:

The support hour provides students with professional assistance, supplemental instruction and remediation opportunities to help improve student success. Supervised support is offered for reading, writing, math, information technology, computer competency, and other skills outside of discipline specific content. During the semester, students will complete a variety of tasks related to this course that will necessitate the services available through the support hour. These tasks will include (list course specific tasks such as: discussion of writing assignments with lab staff; use of MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint or Access to present work or complete homework; exploration of course CD-ROM or course software; learning the basics of citing sources, paraphrasing, and avoiding plagiarism; use of Skills Bank software to review basic reading, writing, and math skills). Student use of the support hour will be assessed, as outlined in the Grading section. Help with ETUDES issues may be accessed on line at ETUDES under "users group." There are discussion pages on common questions about ETUDES. You may also go to the COS help desk page for ETUDES: www.siskiyous.edu/online/etudes/.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of the course of study and depending upon the individual student's commitment and participation in the class, he/she will

develop a better understanding of the following criminal law issues and concepts:

- To provide the student with a knowledge of the historical development of law and the philosophy of law.
- To familiarize the student with the United States Constitution and to integrate constitutional provisions with the fundamentals of law.
- To introduce the student to basic legal definitions and concepts which provide a foundation for law.
- To develop within the student an appreciation for the value of case study and legal research as a means of interpreting court decisions in relation to the written statutes.
- To familiarize the student with the relationship between the law and the total Administration of Justice.
- To explore the relationship between certain statutory crimes and the legal foundation(s) on which they are based.

****Note:** Due to the amount of material to be covered and, depending on the other factors (discussion topics, holidays etc.) not all of the chapters will be discussed or covered during the semester. I have skipped a chapter or two, so we may concentrate on other more pertinent chapters.

Grading Policy:

I DO NOT grade on a curve. You will be graded on a point total basis only. However, I do round up or round down for each grade. For example, a 68.5% = 69%; 79.4% = 79%. Your grades will be determined by the following percentages:

- 90%-100% = A
- 80%-89% = B
- 70%-79% = C
- 60%-69% = D
- Below 60% = F

Quizzes:

There will be a quiz after each chapter of study. Each quiz is worth 20 points. The

quizzes will be comprised of 10 selected multiple-choice-type questions worth 2 points apiece.

Tests:

There will be generally one test after each 3 chapters of the text. These tests will cover lectures, textbook material, homework (case studies) and other “in-class” material (videos etc.)

Note: Since there is no one best test instrument to assess retention of knowledge, I have constructed my tests in the following manner: (You cannot guess, at least it is more difficult to do so!)

- 20 multiple choice questions (2 pts apiece)
- 20 matching questions (2 pts apiece)
- 2 short essay-type questions (10 pts apiece) 100 pts total!

I DO NOT like Fill-in-the-blank questions and you will not see any one my tests! The use of computers and/or reference material can be accessed through use of the support hour and your grades will reflect the utilization of this support hour as it relates to your exam/quiz and research project efforts.

Final Exam:

- Posted online the last week of the semester during “finals week.”

The final exam will cover ANY area discussed during the semester. This could include lectures, guest speakers, handouts, videos etc. The test will consist of 50 multiple choice-type questions; 20 true and false and 5 essay-type questions of which you must choose 3 to answer. The test will be worth 200 points. It will cover the last approx. 5 chapters of the text.

Lecture:

I lecture online with audio lectures from my MP3 player. Most students have no problem listening to these. I am still working on video lecture but ETUDES restricts uploads to their server to 5 mb, only 20 mins of audio and 5 of video. I also use the power point presentations for supporting the audio lecture. You will need to have a MS Power Point Viewer at least. You may go to their website and download a free 2003 Power Point Viewer.

Homework: (This is really important!)

Homework will be assigned throughout the semester. The majority of the homework will come from the "CASE ANALYSIS AND WRITING EXERCISES" at the end of certain chapters in the text. They will be worth 20 pts each. Homework is posted in the online "assignments" editor. You may also attach a word document. **I cannot open word perfect, Corel, etc. so please use MS Word.** You may type it in your word processor and "copy and paste" it in RTF (rich text format) in ETUDES editor screen.

Please have an e-mail address for taking online classes. Link it to your account in ETUDES so that you may get announcements alerts. This is done through your ETUDES account preferences. You should do this through your COS navigator account also so that I may click on it and send you an e-mail in case you are missing work, on the waiting list (you should do this for all your classes so you may get alerts).

Literary Analysis: DUE DATE TBA.

You will be reading a book entitled, "*Stop Teaching Our Kids to Kill:* by Lt. Col. Dave Grossman and Gloria Degaitano. We will also be watching lectures by Lt. Col. Grossman on the subject. You will be conducting an analysis of the book and responding to several statements from the book in a critical thinking application of the concepts. The write up information will be posted under "assignments."

Extra Credit:

There will be ONE AND ONLY ONE extra credit assignment this semester. It will be posted late in the semester so that you may judge based on your current scores if you need or want to submit it.

Discussions:

This is of course our area for classroom discussion. This is where I pose questions in class, and you "raise your hand" and participate in the class. This is a must. Each week there will be a discussion worth 10 points, 5 for posting and 5 for replying to another students "post." These add up fast and students have lost an entire grade by not keeping up on these.

Make up Work:

All assignments/tests/quizzes/homework etc., are due to me on the day they are due, period. I have in the past tried to work with students on “reasons, excuses, etc. and the sad part is I spent way too much time on e-mails and personal messages about excuses. You have a whole week to take a quiz, do an assignment and post in discussions. ETUDES is open 24 hours a day 7 days a week. “Get er’ done,” remember that law enforcement is a mission orientated profession and it’s all about the two R’s: *results not reasons*. “Your lack of planning does not necessarily result in an emergency for me.” The three P’s are “piss poor planning makes for piss poor performance.” I could go on and on....

Codes of Conduct:

Cheating:

DON'T DO IT! As a potential criminal justice professional, your conduct and behavior MUST be beyond reproach! If you are found to be cheating (homework, tests, quizzes etc.) you will receive a 0 on that assignment. A second incident will result in an F for the semester and removal from the class. You may however, withdraw if it is within the COS drop/add period. Here’s the thing: I may copy and paste sections of your submitted homework into “Turnitin.com” or any other search engines and find where you “copy and pasted” your homework. This is stealing and if you want a job in law enforcement your lack of honesty will come up in your first potential employers background check. They do call college instructors. Do you own work and if you quote someone cite the source properly.

Chat Room and Discussions:

You are all adults. You are expected to act as such while in my class! Respect others views and do not insult or use language that might hurt someone’s feelings. Debate is healthy but done in an atmosphere of professionalism and respect.

Duty to Warn:

Occasionally during the semester, I may become aware of a situation(s) that are illegal or could have serious consequences if not reported to the proper authorities. If this occurs, I will promptly notify the appropriate authority (police, fire, COS Administration etc.) In other words, there is

no KINGS X when it comes to this! Do not ask for special consideration!

Special Needs Students:

It will be YOUR responsibility to notify or advise me of any special need(s) you may have (hearing, sight etc.) so appropriate and reasonable arrangements/accommodations can be made for you.

ATTENDANCE/WITHDRAWL/INCOMPLETE:

An online course does take much of the same time and dedication that a face to face class does. You need to stay up with discussions, assignments, quizzes, tests, etc. Your quality of work must reflect college level work. Many of you are training to go into a profession that demands proper grammar and sentence structure for police reports, communications, etc. If you do not post in discussions, submit assignments or take a quiz for more than two weeks you will be dropped.

You may withdraw from this class as any class on campus by filling out the appropriate forms and submitting them BEFORE the dates listed in the catalog or schedule of classes. You may also receive an incomplete for this course. This is a contract between you and me for circumstances that do not allow you to complete the course. This might include a long-term illness, death in the family, etc. You must fill out the appropriate form and submit them to me per COS policy.

Syllabus:

There will not be a formal week-to-week syllabus. There is so much information to be presented that I hate to be locked into a certain days, etc. I will post in “announcements” and the schedule everyday assignments, test dates, quizzes etc. Have no fear, you will be kept informed! Online courses include a lot of typing for instructors, and from time to time a quiz or other assignment may have a “glitch” in it. Let me know so I may fix it. The tough part with ETUDES is I may not alter a published quiz or test.

Diversity Statement:

Each of us comes to this class with our unique perspectives, prejudices and personal biases. I expect each of us to respect the origins, nationalities, cultures and contributions of the class members during the course of this class. It is these unique qualities that assist each of us in the learning process and tolerance of ideas different than our own. Any student who demeans or is

perceived to "make fun" of any other class member due to their heritage, race, sexual orientation or national origin will be invited to leave the class.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS:

During the course, we will cover several areas of the criminal justice system. Some areas of focus however, may be personally objectionable or offensive to some of you. Examples: videos, dead body films, discussion topics, etc. It is not my intent to shock or provide intentionally objectionable material, but only to enhance the learning process through quality learning tools that have been made available to me. Additionally, since change is always inevitable, I may, at my discretion change or modify this course information bulletin to further the educational process.