Fundamentals of Criminal Law (CRIJ 1310)

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Trazarra Stelly

Email: tnstelly@lit.edu

Office Phone: 409-247-5224

Office Location: Technology Center (TC) #212

Office Hours: Monday -Friday (Flexible Times); by appointment only.

CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Online

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

NONE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is the study of criminal law including application of definitions, statutory elements, defenses and penalties using Texas statutes, the Model Penal Code, and case law. The course also analyzes the philosophical and historical development of criminal law and criminal culpability. This course is time-bound, structured and completed online

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Identify the elements of crimes and defenses under Texas statutes, Model Penal Code, and case law.
2. Classify offenses and articulate penalties for various crimes.
3. Compare culpable mental states when assigning criminal responsibility.
4. Assess the impact of history and philosophy on current criminal laws.
5. Evaluate the application of criminal law to other areas of criminal justice such as law enforcement and corrections.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

Criminal Law by Lisa Storm, Lulu Publishing Services, ISBN: 9781483433837 a. Textbook is available for free download on the internet

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to log into the course via Blackboard at least 3 times per week. Regular participation is necessary to pass this course.

DROP POLICY
If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process by the specified drop date as listed on the Academic Calendar. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an "F" in the course.

STUDENT EXPECTED TIME REQUIREMENT
For every hour in class (or unit of credit), students should expect to spend at least two to three hours per week studying and completing assignments. For a 3-credit-hour class, students should prepare to allocate approximately six to nine hours per week outside of class in a 16-week session OR approximately twelve to eighteen hours in an 8-week session. Online/Hybrid students should expect to spend at least as much time in this course as in the traditional, face-to-face class.

COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date) Submission Deadline is 10 P.M. All Initial Discussion Posts are due on Wednesdays before 10 P.M. (Except for the intro week)
7/6-7/8	Start Here: Introduction Week	Review Syllabus and Blackboard	7/8: • Intro. Discussion • Intro. Assignment • Syllabus Test
7/9-7/15	Module 1: • Introduction to Criminal Law • The Legal System in the United States • Constitutional Protections	Chapters 1-3	7/12: • Module 1 Discussion 7/15: • Module 1 Assignment • Module 1 Test
7/16– 7/22	Module 2: • The Elements of a Crime • Criminal Defenses, Part 1 • Criminal Defenses, Part 2 • Parties to Crime	Chapters 4-7	7/19: • Module 2 Discussion 7/22: • Module 2 Assignment • Module 2 Test
7/23-7/29	Module 3:	Chapters 8-10	7/26:

	• Inchoate Offenses • Criminal Homicide • Sex Offenses and Crimes Involving Force, Fear and Physical Restraint		• Module 3 Discussion 7/29 • Module 3 Assignment • Module 3 Test
7/30-8/5	Module 4: • Crimes Against Property • Crimes Against Public • Crimes Against the Government	Chapters 11-13	8/2: • Module 4 Discussion 8/5: • Module 4 Assignment • Module 4 Test
8/6-8/10	• Texas Penal Code	Texas Penal Code	8/10 • Texas Penal Code Project

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Discussions   25%
- Assignments   25%
- Exams   30%
- Course Project   20%

GRADING SCALE

90-100   A
80-89   B
70-79   C
60-69   D
0-59   F

LIT does not use +/- grading scales

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students found to be committing academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, or collusion) may receive disciplinary action. Students need to familiarize themselves with the institution's Academic Dishonesty Policy available in the Student Catalog & Handbook at http://catalog.lit.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#academic-dishonesty.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology (lit.edu).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

I DO NOT accept late work. All assignments are due as scheduled. There are a few exceptions but those will be discussed on a case by case basis. (ex. Hospitalization)

Preferred means of communication: In the summer, the best way to contact Ms. Stelly is by Email: tnstelly@lit.edu

Communication Response Time: Expected response time for communications with instructor is 48 hours (except weekends).

Grading Response Time: Assignments should be returned with grades within 1 week.