

Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement (CRIJ 2323)

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 police authority; responsibilities; constitutional constraints; laws of arrest, search, and seizure; police liability. This course is time-bound, structured and completed totally online.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Define the goals and objectives of police authority.
2. Demonstrate ability to conduct proper criminal case investigations through the laws of arrest, search and seizure developed through court decisions.
3. Acquires knowledge of the “rule of law” through the U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights and Code of Criminal Procedure

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Trazarra Stelly

Email: tnstelly@lit.edu

Office Phone: 409-247-5224

Office Location: Technology Center (TC) #212

Office Hours: Face to Face or Telephone Appointments available by appointment only. Must schedule in Starfish. Monday – Friday (Flexible Times).

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

Criminal Procedure by Rolando V. Del Carmen, 11th edition, Cengage Learning (ISBN: 9780357763636)

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. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an “F” in the course.

Approved: TS 1/21/26



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COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date) Submission Deadline is BEFORE 10 p.m. on scheduled date. All initial discussion posts are due on Wednesdays. Replies to Peers due on Saturdays.
1/20-1/24	Welcome and Introduction	1/21: Review Syllabus	1/24: - Introduction Discussion & Replies - Introduction Assignment - Syllabus Quiz
1/25-1/31	The Court System, Sources of Rights, and Fundamental Principles	1/26: Chapter 1	1/31: Chapter 1 Assignment
2/1-2/7	- Overview of the Criminal Justice Process - Probable Cause and Reasonable Suspicion	2/2: Chapter 2 & Chapter 3	2/4: - Chapter 2 & 3 Discussion 2/7: - Discussion Replies - Chapter 1-3 Quiz
2/8-2/14	The Exclusionary Rule	2/9: Chapter 4	2/14: Chapter 4 Assignment
2/15-2/21	Stop and Frisk and Stationhouse Detention	2/16: Chapter 5	2/18: - Chapter 5 Discussion 2/21: - Discussion Replies - Chapter 4 & 5 Quiz
2/22-2/28	Arrests and Use of Force	2/23: Chapter 6	2/25: Course Project Topic Selection Due 2/28: - Chapter 6 Assignment
3/1-3/7	Searches and Seizures of Things	3/2: Chapter 7	3/4: - Chapter 7 Discussion 3/7: - Discussion Replies - Chapter 6 & 7 Quiz
3/8-3/14	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
3/15-3/21	Motor Vehicle Stops, Searches, and Inventories	3/16: Chapter 8	3/21: Chapter 8 Assignment

3/22-3/28	Plain View, Open Fields, Abandonment, and Border Searches	3/23: Chapter 9	3/25: - Chapter 9 Discussion 3/28: - Discussion Replies - Chapter 8 & 9 Quiz
3/29-4/4 No class on 4/3	- Lineups and Other Means of Pretrial Identification - Confessions and Admissions: Miranda v. Arizona	3/30: Chapter 10 & Chapter 11	4/1: Course Project Outline/Rough Draft Due 4/4: - Chapter 10 & 11 Assignment - Chapter 10 & 11 Quiz
4/5-4/11	Basic Constitutional Rights of the Accused during Trial	4/6: Chapter 12	4/8: - Chapter 12 Discussion 4/11: - Discussion Replies
4/12-4/18	Sentencing, the Death Penalty, and Other Forms of Punishment	4/13: Chapter 13	4/18: - Chapter 13 Assignment - Chapter 12 & 13 Quiz
4/19-4/25	Legal Liabilities of Law Enforcement Officers	4/20: Chapter 14	4/22: - Chapter 14 Discussion 4/25: - Discussion Replies
4/26-5/2	Electronic Surveillance and the War on Terror	4/27: Chapter 15	5/2: - Chapter 15 Assignment - Chapter 14 & 15 Quiz
5/3-5/9 Last Class Day is 5/6	Work on Final Project	Work on Final Project	5/6: Course Project Due before 10 p.m.
5/10-5/13	Final Grades Submitted	Final Grades Due	Final Grades Submitted on 5/11

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Assignments 35%
- Discussions 20%
- Quiz 20%
- Course Project 25%

GRADE SCALE

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

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.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses

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. medical situations such as hospitalization)

Preferred means of communication: Email: tnstelly@lit.edu or phone: (409) 247-5224.

Communication Response Time: Expected response time for communication with instructor is 24-48 hours (except weekends).

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