Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement (CRIJ 2323)

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Chris Spears

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 6-7pm

CREDIT

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

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Hybrid / Online

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

Complete the Online Orientation and answer yes to 7+ questions on the Online Learner Self Evaluation
https://www.lit.edu/online-learning/online-orientation/is-distance-learning-right-for-me

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to provide you with defined goals and objectives of police authority. You will be able to demonstrate the ability to conduct proper criminal case investigations through the laws of arrest, search and seizure developed through court decisions. Throughout the course, you should acquire the knowledge of the "rule of law" through the U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights and Code of Criminal Procedure. We will review how to organize a criminal case, including field notes, reports, and crime scene. In addition to this, students will define the responsibilities of Law Enforcement and Constitutional restraints. Students will analyze landmark Supreme Court cases that influences law enforcement. Demonstrate understanding of the daily functioning of the criminal justice system. Students will also be able to compare and contrast current Supreme Court cases to past Supreme Court cases. By the end of the course, Students will demonstrate the basic knowledge to prepare for a law enforcement career.

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
4. Organize the criminal case including field notes, reports, and crime scene.

5. Students will define the responsibilities of Law Enforcement and Constitutional restraints.
6. Students will analyze landmark Supreme Court cases that impacts law enforcement.
7. Demonstrate understanding of the daily functioning of the criminal justice system.
8. Students will be able to compare and contrast current Supreme Court cases to past Supreme Court cases.
9. Students will discuss how do Law enforcement effects society.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS
Criminal Procedure by Rolando V. Del Carmen, 10th edition, Cengage Learning ISBN: 9781305577367

ATTENDANCE POLICY
You must log onto Blackboard and access this course a minimum of three times per week and attend the prescheduled in-person class dates. These will be announced after the start of class**.**

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	Discussions (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
1/16/24 (1)	Introduction	"Introductions" Discussion (1)	- Introduction Assignment - Begin reading Chapter 1
1/22/24 (2)	**Chapter 1** The Court System, Sources of Rights, and Fundamental Principles	Discussion (2) *Due at the end of the week. See instructions within assignment*	
1/29/24 (3)	**Chapter 2** Overview of the Criminal Justice Process		Assignment 1
2/5/24 (4)	**Chapter 3** Probable Cause and Reasonable Suspicion	Discussion (3)	Test 1
2/12/24 (5)	**Chapter 4** The Exclusionary Rule		Assignment 2
2/19/24 (6)	**Chapter 5** Stop and Frisk and Station House Detention	Discussion (4)	

Date	Topic		
2/26/24 (7)	**Chapter 6** Arrest and Use of Force		Test 2
3/4/24 (8)	**Chapter 7** Searches and Seizures of Things	Discussion (5)	
3/11/24 (9)	Spring Break		
3/18/24 (10)	**Chapter 8** Motor Vehicle Stops Searches and Inventories	Discussion (6)	Assignment 3
3/25/24 (11)	**Chapter 9** Plain View and Open Fields Abandonment and Border Searches		Test 3
4/1/24 (12)	**Chapter 10** Lineups and Other Means of Pretrial Identification	Discussion (7)	Assignment 4
4/8/24 (13)	**Chapter 11** Confessions and Admissions Miranda v Arizona	Discussion (8)	
4/15/24 (14)	**Chapter 12** Basic Constitutional Rights of the Accused During Trial		Test 4
4/22/29 (15)	**Chapter 13** Sentencing the Death Penalty and Other Forms of Punishment	Discussion (9)	Assignment 5
4/29/24 (16)	**Chapters 14 and 15** Legal Liabilities of Law Enforcement Officers / Electronic Surveillance and the War on Terrorism	Discussion (10)	Final Review
5/6/24	Final Exam		

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Tests 40%
- Assignments 30%
- Discussions 30%

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

1. You must log onto Blackboard and access this course a minimum of three times per week.
2. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated.
3. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and dropping the course. If you stop logging-in to the course and do not complete the course drop process, then you will receive an "F" grade for the course
4. Internet Usage – Students are expected to use proper net etiquette while participating in course emails, assignment submissions, and online discussions.
5. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor.