

**Instructor's Syllabus and Course Requirements
Spring 2020**

Professor: Myrna Lozano

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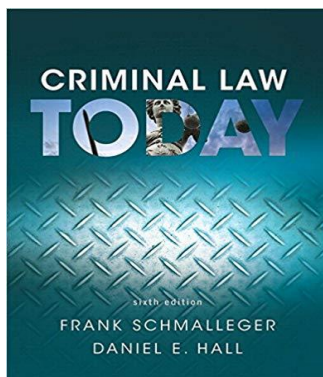
Telephone: (915) 873-0606

Course: CRIJ 1310: Fundamentals of Criminal Law

CRN: 28808

Office Hours: Virtual Office Hours are by appointment

***I will respond to all emails within 24 hours of receipt. Please keep in mind that I reside in the Mountain Standard Time (MST) Zone*.**



Schmallegger Frank and Hall E. Daniel (2016). Criminal Law Today 6th Edition. Publications, INC.

ISBN-13: 9780134163734

ISBN-10: 0134163737

LEARNING MANANGEMENT SYSTEM: All course content is delivered via the UTEP Blackboard course management system. You can view all materials related to this course on Blackboard (except for the textbook).

IMPORTANT NOTE: Distance education demands a considerable amount of self-discipline and motivation. You will enjoy a flexibility to work and study at times that fit your personal schedule; however, you must still meet weekly course deadlines. If you feel you require the structure of a classroom in order to stay engaged, then this class is not for you. Setting up regular times to sit down and focus your attention on the course materials is essential to success. We realize you are balancing many issues in your life and have chosen distance learning as an option to fit your individual circumstances.

IMPORTANT NOTE: All students are required to check Blackboard regularly for announcements and/or changes to the syllabus.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

History and philosophy of modern criminal law, including the structure, definition, and application of statute and leading case law; the elements of crimes and penalties.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

On successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- 1) Sources of criminal law and punishment
- 2) Limitations on criminal liability
- 3) Limitations on government actions
- 4) The basic requirements of a criminal act
- 5) Defenses to criminal charge
- 6) The elements of criminal felony statutes
- 7) Special topics

Assignment grading assessments will be weighted in the following way:

Activity or Assignment	Point Value
Quiz #1	50
Quiz #2	50
Midterm	100
Weekly Discussion Board (6weeks) 40pts each	240
Research Written Assignment	100
Final	200
Total Points	740 Points

***There will be no curve used in the grading nor will extra work be accepted for credit*.**

Grading Points

A 665-740

B 591-664

C 517-590

D 444-516

F 0-443

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students will be required to read each chapter, participate in discussions and be ready to discuss current events in the field criminal justice.

Exams: A total of four testing assessments will be administered to measure the students learning success. There are two quizzes, a midterm and a final exam, (total 400 points). **All quizzes, and midterm will be available on Thursday and will close on Saturday of that specific week. Please plan accordingly. I will NOT reopen quizzes or midterm. The final exam will be available for one week please plan accordingly. I will NOT reopen the final exam.**

Arrangements for make-up exams will need to be approved by professor Lozano by telephone call only.

Research Paper: Students are required to complete a research paper on one (1) of the following topics: Punishments, Homicides, Sex Crimes, Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Public Morals, or Crimes of Abuse. **Students are to pick one topic.**

The paper must be at least **five (5) pages** and written in the third person. The paper must be formatted pursuant to the APA style as delineated in the Publication of the APA Manual, Sixth edition. **Consistent with the APA style, individual paper will be typed, double-spaced, "Time New Roman" font face, 12-point font size, and 1-inch margins all around. The paper should include a title page, an abstract and running heads.** Pages should be numbered consecutively, including title page. This paper will be supported by at **least three (3) scholarly, academic, or professional references.**

No late papers will be accepted. Please plan accordingly. **Early submissions are accepted and highly encouraged.**

Wikipedia is not an acceptable independent academic source for written assignments. Wikipedia, however, can be used as a portal to gain a general understanding about the subject matter, but it cannot be listed as a source on research-based papers. The same is applicable to YouTube, Dictionary.com, Cliffnotes.com, Answers.com, Encarta Encyclopedia and other similar sources. The Internet may be used to access information from scholarly journals, libraries, etc. Google Scholar is an excellent research database for scholarly and professional materials. No late papers will be accepted. Early submissions are accepted and highly encouraged.

DISCUSSION PARTICIPATION:

For full participation credit during participation weeks, you are required to contribute a total of six (6) substantive messages each week in the classroom on three different days. You are required to answer the **initial discussion question** posted by the professor and **respond five (5) times to other students.** Total of six (6) posts per week. The initial discussion question will be posted on Sunday @ 6:00am and will close on Saturday @ 11:00pm. The six posts must occur on at **least three (3) different days** during the online week to earn full credit.

NETIQUETTE:

You must maintain an academic attitude and uphold UTEP policies. Being disrespectful, using profanity or unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated. All of your online communications must be composed with fairness, honesty and tact.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic dishonesty is a serious matter. At UTEP “any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or any attempt to commit such acts”. Students suspected of any of these violations will be referred for further investigation. **Research papers are automatically submitted for plagiarism check as soon as you upload into Black Board.**

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

If a student has or suspects he/she has a disability and needs an accommodation, he/she should contact the Disabled Student Services Office (DSSO) at 747-5148 or at dss@utep.edu or go to Room 106 Union East Building. The student is responsible for presenting to the instructor any DSS accommodation letters and instructions.

DROP POLICY:

The course drop policy for this class is the same as the official policy for the University. The policy is set-out in the University catalog as well as the class schedule. In conjunction with this policy, the instructor may exercise the right to drop a student from the course roll if the student has an excessive number of unexcused absences, is perpetually tardy in arriving to class, and/or consistently fails to complete class assignments as directed.

CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Week One 01/21/20 to 01/25/20	Chapter 1: The Nature and History of Criminal Law Chapter 2: Criminal Liability and the Essence of Crime	Familiarize yourself with Black Board, welcome tab, syllabus tab, discussion questions tab, announcement tab, quizzes tab, research paper tab, and final exam tab. Read chapter 1 and 2. No discussion questions this week.
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<p>Week Two 01/26/20 to 02/01/20</p>	<p>Chapter 3: Expanding the Concept of Crime</p> <p>Chapter 4: Extending Criminal Liability: Inchoate Offenses and Parties to Crime</p>	<p>Discussion Question # 2 Thread will open on 01/26/20 and will close on 02/01/20 at 11pm.</p> <p>Read chapters 3 and 4</p> <p>Quiz #1 Chapters 1-4 Quiz will open on 01/30/20 and will close on 02/01/20 at 11pm.</p> <p>Due 02/01/20</p>
<p>Week Three 02/02/20 to 02/08/20</p>	<p>Chapter 5: Justifications as Defense</p> <p>Chapter 6: Defenses: Excuses and Insanity</p> <p>Chapter 7: Crimes Against Persons: Homicide</p>	<p>Discussion Question # 3 Thread will open on 02/02/20 and will close on 02/08/20 at 11pm.</p> <p>Read chapters 5, 6 and 7</p> <p>Quiz # 2 will open on 02/06/20 and will close on 02/08/20 at 11pm. Due 02/08/20</p>
<p>Week Four 02/09/20 to 02/15/20</p>	<p>Chapter 8: Crimes Against Persons: Assault, Sex Offenses, and Other Crimes</p> <p>Chapter 9: Property and Computer Crimes</p> <p>Chapter 10: Offenses Against Public Order and the Administration of Justice</p>	<p>Discussion Question # 4 Thread will open on 02/09/20 and will close on 02/15/20 at 11pm.</p> <p>Read chapters 8, 9 and 10</p> <p>Research Paper Due Due 02/15/20</p>
<p>Week Five 02/16/20 to 02/22/20</p>	<p>Chapter 11: Offenses Against Public Morality</p> <p>Chapter 12: Terrorism and Human Trafficking</p>	<p>Discussion Question # 5 Thread will open on 02/16/20 and will close on 02/22/20 at 11pm.</p> <p>Read chapters 11 and 12</p>

		Midterm thread will open on 02/20/20 and will close on 02/22/20 at 11pm. Midterm Exam Due 02/22/20
Week 6 02/23/20 to 02/29/20	Chapter 13: Victims and the Law	Discussion Question # 6 Thread will open on 02/23/20 and will close on 02/29/20 at 11pm. Read chapter 13
Week 7 03/01/20 to 03/07/20	Chapter 14: Punishment and Sentencing	Discussion Question # 7 Thread will open on 03/01/20 at 6am and will close on 03/07/20 at 11pm. Read chapter 14 Final Exam (one week) Due 03/07/20 at 11:00pm Thread will be open on 03/01/20 at 6am and will close on 03/07/20 at 11pm.

***I reserve the right to change or add dates or assignments if necessary and amend the schedule to suit the needs of the class*.**

*** Final exam is due 03/07/2020 at 11:00pm. Please plan accordingly*.**

IMPORTANT NOTE: All students are required to check Blackboard/emails regularly for announcements and/or changes to the syllabus.