



CJ 1306.71W Courts and Criminal Procedure (ONLINE) COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2019

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Kendra Gentry, PhD - Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice

Office Location: Ferguson Social Sciences # 219

Office Hours: Tues: 2:30pm-4:30pm; Virtually: Weds 1:00-2:00pm; Other times by appointment

Office Phone: 903-468-3259

Office Fax: 903-886-5330

University Email Address: kendra.gentry@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: D2L Discussion Thread, Email and/or office visit

Communication Response Time: Emails are answered within 48 hours

Course start and end dates: August 26 - December 13, 2019

Class Location: Online

Class time: Online

COURSE INFORMATION

TEXTBOOK:

Title: America's Courts and the Criminal Justice System (**Edition 13**)

Authors: Neubauer & Fradella

Publisher: Cengage Learning

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to assist you in obtaining a basic understanding of the process of criminal procedure. Criminal Procedure is the "how" of the criminal justice system. It is the body of rules that guide the conduct of criminal justice officials from the point of contact between a police officer and a suspect to the time at which a convicted offender is sentenced by a judge or jury. The course will include a discussion of the constitutional rules and case law as they apply to the rights of suspects and defendants.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify the major actors in the U.S. criminal court system and differentiate their roles and responsibilities
2. Describe the structure of the U.S. criminal court system and its foundation in criminal law
3. Discuss the key issues relating to the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth and Fourteenth Amendment as they apply to criminal procedure.
4. Identify the impact of criminal law and procedure on U.S. criminal court practices
5. Evaluate racial disparity issues in the U.S. criminal court system.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed:

Basic understanding of Microsoft Office programs

Internet browsing

Instructional Methods:

Online class

Attendance, Online Participation/Discussion Requirement:

Attendance in the course is measured through online participation. In fulfillment of course requirements, you are required to be active **a minimum of 4 hours per week** in this course. This will be done through accessing D2L each week at your convenience. Online participation includes being actively engaged in reading online lectures, posting to the discussion board and reading the discussion board. Online participation is **monitored by the professor each week** and used when determining borderline grades.

See below for a description of your assignments and requirements.

All of your answers and responses in this online course must be articulate and well thought-out, and of substantial length and depth to fully show the time and effort you have taken in preparing to answer the question or respond to another answer. One sentence or two sentences, one word, or a simple “I agree” are insufficient to receive points for any assignment. No abbreviations, jargon or “text talk” are allowed (lol, etc.).

ALL POSTS AND SUBMISSIONS MUST BE MADE BY 10PM. You will not do well if you wait until "the last minute" to post, and it also does not allow time for other students to read your responses and reply.

Late posts and assignments are not accepted and a score of zero will be assigned.
No exceptions are made for individual students, no matter the circumstances.

Reading Assignments:

You are required to buy/rent the textbook and complete all readings. You will not score well in this course without the textbook, since many questions come directly from the text and require page number citation.

Quizzes and Examinations:

Students are required to take quizzes and exams during the assigned module as scheduled on the course syllabus. No make-up exams or advance exams will be offered.

All quizzes are open-book/notes, timed, randomized and in sequential order – meaning that **no two quizzes/exams are the same**. It is strongly suggested that you take your quiz/exam in a quiet space with a reliable computer and consistent Internet connection.

There are **NO EXAM RESETS**. Once accessed, the timing begins and you may only take the quiz/exam one time. Once submitted, it can't be re-opened or modified. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

- You will not be able to re-take a quiz/exam because:
 - “I entered the wrong answer.”
 - “My Internet went down.”
 - “My computer froze/crashed.”
 - “D2L kicked me out/logged me off.”

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

IMPORTANT: All students are **REQUIRED** to take their exams **with a webcam and microphone**. See D2L for instructions. Before taking quizzes, students must display their university or state ID to confirm their identity.

Contacting Professor with Questions – D2L Discussion Board

MANDATORY: Post all questions regarding class, assignments and quizzes on the Discussion Board. The instructor prioritizes these posted questions **before** e-mail and voicemail. This method benefits all students in the class, since others may have similar questions. Only e-mail if you have a personal emergency.

Grades:

Individual grades on assignments are posted in D2L in order to assist students in monitoring their academic progress throughout the semester. All final grades are posted via the D2L.

Extra Credit:

Any extra credit opportunities will be discussed in class. If offered, extra credit will be available to all students in the course, not individual students.

Virtual Classroom Rules:

- You are free to discuss individual thoughts and opinions during class discussion periods, however, be sure to be courteous to your fellow classmates and professor via all posts.
- Please be tolerant toward comments and opinions for which you do not agree; tolerance is a reciprocal process for all students. The professor will not tolerate any remarks that are personally demeaning, or offensive.
- If disruptive behaviors arise in the online discussion board, the professor and Department Chair will contact you to discuss dropping the course.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is generally defined as the presentation of the ideas and/or the words of someone else as one's own. Examples of plagiarizing material include using a person's written words or ideas from a variety of different sources (internet, classmate's paper, book, journal article, etc.) without proper documentation. Plagiarism is taken very seriously and the student will be fully punished if caught plagiarizing material within this course. This course uses plagiarism software, which is integrated within D2L.

You commit plagiarism if you use, copy and paste or paraphrase:

- **Any part of an assignment submitted by a student from a previous semester**
- **Any part of an assignment written by/shared with a current classmate (collaboration work, group work and split work are NOT allowed)**
- **Any part of another person's written words without correct documentation**
- **Any part of another person's ideas without correct documentation, including any part of a website, book, encyclopedia, magazine article, journal article, newspaper article or any other source used without correct documentation.**
- **Plagiarism is punished in a variety of ways. If collaboration/shared work is found, BOTH the student who copied and the student who allowed their work to be copied will be reported. The student(s) may fail the assignment and/or the entire course. The Dean may take additional actions.**

- **To avoid such punishments: do not plagiarize others and do not allow other students/friends to view your work at any time, no matter the circumstances.**

Student Expectations:

- Check D2L, course schedule, assignment due dates and your e-mail every day.
- Post any questions to the Discussion Board.
- Keep up with your reading assignments and lecture slides. Don't fall behind!
- Participate actively in class discussions – apply the knowledge you have learned.
- Practice "Netiquette":
 - Be polite and respectful in your postings
 - Use proper grammar and correct spelling
 - Do not write in all caps

Professor Expectations:

- I will be available during scheduled office hour appointments.
- I will read questions posted to the Discussion Board daily during the week.
- I will respond to your post within 48 hours.
- I will post announcements and reminders at the beginning of the semester.
- I will update your grades as quickly as possible.

How to get an “A” in this online class:

- Know your due dates and submit all assignments on time!
- Confirm that your submissions were properly uploaded by clicking the My Grades tab.
- Set aside a specific time during the day for this course. Use this time for preparation (reading, studying) and for participation (posts, quizzes/exams).
- Keep up with the readings so you can participate in group and class discussions.
- Post all questions for the professor to the Discussion Board. No email or voicemail.
- Study, study, study! Memorize the review sheet. Make flashcards. Form a study group.
- Schedule enough time in advance to finish all assignments and quizzes/exams. Be aware that D2L is often not accessible due to being “under maintenance” and late submissions will not accepted.

Tips for success:

- Since you have most of the reading materials available to you at the beginning of the semester, you can do much of the reading in advance. You may also watch the documentaries and read relevant news articles ahead of the deadlines listed on the syllabus. Remember: You are still required to submit at least (1) thoughtful comment to a fellow student's answer for each assignment.
- Your hard work at the beginning of the semester will pay off toward the end of the semester, as deadlines from other courses often pile up. Keep ahead of deadlines to remain stress free.

GRADING

Graded Item	Points Possible	Points Earned
Quiz 1	100	
Quiz 2	100	
Quiz 3	100	
Video Presentation	100	
TOTAL	400	

Points Earned	Final Grade
360-400	A
320-359	B
280-319	C
240-279	D
239 or below	F

ASSESSMENTS

1. **Quizzes: 3 x 100 points each (300 points)**

There will be (3) quizzes during the term, each following major parts of the textbook. Students will be responsible for all assigned readings in the textbook and lecture slides. And all supplemental videos and readings.

All quizzes are 1 hour and 15 minutes with 50 questions (2 points each).

Questions vary: multiple choice, true/false

- Quiz #1: Chapters 1-3
- Quiz #2: Chapters 5-9
- Quiz #3: Chapters 10-15

2. **Video Presentation: 100 points**

Each student will be assigned to watch and analyze a criminal trial and sentencing. Then, each student will record themselves in a presentation answering the following:

Case Facts (1-2 minutes)

[25 points]

- Type of crime(s)
- Location(s)
- Date(s)
- Names of key players: defendant, victim(s), prosecutor, defense attorney, judge, witnesses, experts

Chronological Summary (3-4 minutes)

[25 points]

- Opening Statements
- Witness Testimony
- Closing Arguments
- Jury Instructions
- Verdict
- Sentencing

Critical Analysis – Applying the Textbook (6-8 minutes)

[50 points]

- Trial
- Verdict
- Sentencing

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\)](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
 - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Syllabus Change Policy: The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct: All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance: For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity: Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice: Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement: Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Late submissions are NOT accepted and a grade of “zero” will be recorded.

DATE	TOPIC(S)	READ	DUE BY: SUNDAY 10PM
MODULE 1 8/26 – 9/1	Course Introduction	--	Buy Textbook
MODULE 2 9/2 – 9/8	Law, Crime, Courts and Controversy	CH 1	
MODULE 3 9/9 – 9/15	Federal Courts	CH 2	
MODULE 4 9/16 – 9/22	State Courts	CH 3	
MODULE 5 9/23 – 9/29	Study & Complete Quiz	--	Quiz #1 (Chapters 1-3)
MODULE 6 9/30 – 10/6	The Dynamics of Courthouse Justice	CH 5	
MODULE 7 10/7 – 10/13	Prosecutors Defense Attorneys	CH 6 CH 7	
MODULE 8 10/14 – 10/20	Judges Defendants, Victims and Witnesses	CH 8 CH 9	
MODULE 9 10/21 – 10/27	Study & Complete Quiz	--	Quiz #2 (Chapters 5-9)
MODULE 10 10/28 – 11/3	From Arrest and Bail Through Arraignment Disclosing and Suppressing Evidence	CH 10 CH 11	
MODULE 11 11/4 – 11/10	Negotiated Justice and the Plea of Guilty Trials and Juries	CH 12 CH 13	
MODULE 12 11/11 – 11/17	Sentencing Appellate and Habeas Corpus Review	CH 14 CH 15	

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

MODULE 13 11/18 – 11/24	Study & Complete Quiz	--	Quiz #3 (Chapters 10-15)
MODULE 14 11/25 – 12/1	Work on Video Presentation	--	
MODULE 15 12/2 – 12/8	Work on Video Presentation	--	
MODULE 16 12/9 – 12/13	Record & Upload Video Presentation	--	Video Presentation

**subject to modification, with notification*

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.