

ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE 104
Introduction to Criminal Law

Winter 2007

Dr. Michael A. Caldero

Office: Location D-100-C Phone: 425-564-5297

Office hours 10:30am to 11:30am Tuesdays and Thursdays (or any time I'm in which is usually Tuesday or Thursday afternoons, but to be sure just make an appointment)

e-mail mcaldero@bcc.ctc.edu

INSTRUCTIONS:

Please note that that this is a "Hybrid Learning" class environment. This means that this class meets only on TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS, during the remainder of the week this class is conducted either "on-line" or with outside class assignments. SEE THE "SPECIAL INSTRUCTION" SHEET (which will be handed out in class) FOR DIRECTIONS TO GETTING ON THE "VISTA" WEBSITE WHERE THE ONLINE SECTION OF THIS CLASS IS CONDUCTED. THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course deals extensively with the historical development and content of the criminal law in this country and the state of Washington. It will introduce the student to criminal law in general; the purpose, scope and sources of criminal law; essential elements of a crime; criminal liability; criminal responsibility and the capacity to commit a crime; defenses that seek to justify the use of force; other criminal defenses; criminal punishment; criminal jurisdiction; decision making by the Supreme Court, and the limits of free speech. Crimes against the person, crimes against property sex crimes, and other common offenses within the Revised Code of Washington will also be discussed, with special regard to the appropriate elements of the criminal law pertaining to such crimes. In addition, the course will explore the Criminal Law from the standpoint of average citizen to whom the law is commonly being applied. It will answer such questions as; When can a police officer make an arrest? Is it a good idea to talk to the police if you are a criminal suspect? When can an officer search your person or vehicle or both? When is a police officer liable for his or her behavior?

COURSE EXAMINATIONS

There will be three (3) examinations administered for this class. **THE DATES OF THE EXAMS WILL BE DISCUSSED AS FOLLOWS: Exam one will be held on Thursday January 25th, exam two will be held on Thursday February 15th and exam three will be held on Thursday March 15th.** Each exam is worth a total of 100 points. Please note that the subject matter for each exam will consist of the material we covered from the text, the RCW and your class notes. You will be notified in advance on the class website what chapters to read in your text and what statutes to review from the RCW.

THE PAPER

In addition, a paper will be due (**THE DUE DATE WILL BE DISCUSSED IN CLASS**) Each student will analyze their favorite "Fairy Tale" in terms of violations of the Washington Criminal Code. This exercise not only illustrates the violence aspect of these stories, it also teaches the basic utilization of the Revised Code of Washington. (**FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THIS WRITING ASSIGNMENT WILL BE DISCUSSED IN GREAT DETAIL AS THE CLASS PROGRESSES, IN ADDITION THE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR THIS PAPER WILL BE POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD OF THE CLASS WEBSITE**) The paper will be graded on its content, attention to grammar, spelling, and its structure. In addition, it will be typed, at least five (5) pages in length, and double spaced. It will also be stapled together **without** a cover. (cover sheets are fine)

Your paper generates a score which can either take your cumulative test average up five (5) points or down ten (10) points. That's right, if you fail to do the paper, or, if you do an unsatisfactory job, as much as **ten** points will be deducted from your cumulative score (that's percentage points), after all three exams are added up and the total divided by three. On the other hand, if you do a good job as much as five points could be **added to** your cumulative score. If you want more information regarding this process please raise your hand or see me after class. Do not underestimate the impact of this writing assignment upon your course grade. For additional information regarding the construction of your grade, KEEP READING.

EXTRA CREDIT OPTIONS:

There are several ways to earn extra credit points during this course. The **first** is in class "Big L" points. These points are acquired each time you respond to a question during class that substantially contributes to presentation of the course subject matter. (This usually means you have prepared yourself by reading the text, doing the assignments, and/or researching relevant material). **Second**, is to post on the "**bulletin board**" (**this means on the class website**) a response to an **extra credit topic**. These topics are given out in class so be sure to listen carefully for them. Here is the procedure you must adhere to in order to receive credit for your postings. 1. research the topic, (on line will do) write a paragraph or two describing what information you have found and state your opinion of it. 2. post (on the class website "bulletin board") the paragraph and the article, link, or reference you have located. If your posting is noteworthy for the class, (something I decide), I will respond to you in the Vista "email" site (which goes to you personally) with the instructions "**print and bring**" your postings. You will then bring the posting to the next class session and turn it in to me. All "Big L" and extra credit points are cumulative grade points, this means that after your exams are averaged these points are added to your score. Yes, that's right, you could score only C's on your exams and still earn an A for the course, it all depends on how much work you are willing to do. I "usually" only respond to the first

three postings regarding a given topic so do not hesitate to post your findings as quickly as possible after the topic is announced. If you have questions regarding extra credit points please feel free to ask them in class at any time.

ASSIGNMENTS: It is VERY important that you read this section. You will have SEVEN (7) two page papers assigned throughout the quarter. The papers MUST be completed by the following week after they are assigned. This work is NOT graded, HOWEVER, if it is not satisfactory, meaning, if your grammar, and sentence structure are not up to college level or if you failed to cover the assigned material, you will be asked to re-submit the paper. If you fail to do a paper or to complete a re-submit you will NOT BE GIVEN A FAILING GRADE FOR THE CLASS. THESE PAPERS ARE VERY IMPORTANT, PLEASE TREAT THEM THAT WAY. If you have questions regarding the assignments, ask me in class on the first day you read this syllabus.

MORE EXTRA CREDIT:

For those of you who really want to build good grade insurance I have one more option, it is called **service learning**. This will require you to work at least 10 hours for a volunteer program (you can choose from a list of programs in the area or find one of your own). After you finish the service you will write a short paper describing what your experience and what you learned from it. Service learning can earn you five (5) extra credit points. If you are interested in the details of this option ask me anytime, even during class.

ATTENDANCE:

I do not take attendance. I believe your education is "your" responsibility.

**** Please note****, past experience has repeatedly demonstrated that it is "extremely" difficult if not totally impossible to pass this course without regular attendance on lecture days, that is Mondays and Tuesdays.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

"Criminal Law for Police Officers", 9th Edition, by Neil Chamelin, Prentice-Hall publishers.

Revised Code of Washington, (ASK ME FOR DETAILS BEFORE YOU BUY ONE)

GRADING POLICY:

A	=	100-97%	C+	=	80-77%
A-	=	96-93%	C	=	76-73%
B+	=	92-89%	C-	=	72-69%
B	=	88-85%	D+	=	68-65%
B-	=	84-81%	D	=	64-61%
			F	=	60% OR LESS

UNLESS YOU HAVE NOTIFIED ME AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE, A MISSED EXAM WILL BE SCORED AS A ZERO AND AVERAGED INTO YOUR GRADE.
IF YOU HAVE "ANY" QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS CLASS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ASK THEM IN OR OUT OF CLASS.