

Course: CJ 110, Sec. A, Item #5015, Winter, 2012 (Jan. 3 – Mar. 22, 2012)

Course Title: Criminal Law

Class Hours: daily, 8:30-9:20 a.m.

Classroom: D-103

Office Hours: MWF 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Instructor Name and Credentials: Michael S. Brown, esq., Ph.D., J.D.

Email Address: mibrown@bellevuecollege.edu

Course Materials:

Required:

Samaha, Joel. *Criminal Law*, 10th ed. Wadsworth/Cengage Learning, 2011.
ISBN 978-0-495-80749-0.

Optional/recommended:

Hacker, Diana. *A Writer's Reference*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's (latest edition).

Course Description:

This is a hands-on course combining readings, lectures, discussions, and small and large group activities during class times. We will look at theories about the legal system, statutes, and case law. We will also learn formal analytical techniques by critically reading and briefing case law.

Netiquette:

It is critical that you include in the subject line of all emails you send to me 1) an identification of both the class and the matter to which the note pertains (example: NOT “question”; BUT “CJ 110, Week 4 quiz,” etc.). Not knowing what it is about or what information it contains will only cause me – as well as you – delays. Also, if you do not receive a reply from me within 24 hours (longer on weekends/holidays), it could mean that, for whatever reason, I did not receive your email. In this case, please feel free to send the same note to me again to make sure that I am aware that you are trying to contact me. Strict adherence to these guidelines is critical, as I often receive dozens of emails in a single day, and your email will easily become invisible if you do not identify it according to these rules. You are responsible for confirming receipt of any email. Consequences for any glitches resulting from not following these or any other instructions are your responsibility.

Course Grading:

Journal	100 points total
Presentation	50 points total
Quizzes	10 points each
Mid-term exam	50 points
Final exam	50
Participation	Please see policies below.

Grading Scale:

A 93-100; A- 90-92; B+ 87-89; B 83-86; B- 80-82; C+ 77-79; C 73-76; C- 70-72; D+ 67-69; D 60-66; F 0-59.

Journal:

The Journal is worth 100 points and rewards consistent, ongoing effort, as well as critical thinking. The Journal will consist of 1) all graded work 2) all current issues clippings (you should print and read 2 each week of the term) 3) all notes based on in-class discussion questions 4) all notes on films 5) all notes on presentations and 6) reflections (you should have 2 each week of the term). Everything should have a date. Regular lecture notes are *not* required for the Journal. There may be additional guidelines on the Journal as the term progresses orally and/or in writing.

The grade on the Journal will be based on: 1) clarity of organization (3-ring binder with tabs for each of the 6 sections, dates, etc.) 2) completion of all required components 3) adherence to all applicable guidelines (course, as well as those pertaining to the Journal) and 4) depth and sophistication in the thoughts reflected in the reflections portion.

The Journal is due at the *beginning* of the Final Exam period. Any submission of the Journal other than at the beginning of the Final Exam period – including at any point after the Final Exam has begun - will receive a late penalty of at least one day and a grade consistent with other policies on late submissions according to this syllabus.

The Journal need not be typed. However, it needs to conform to any and all guidelines pertaining to the Journal, written, oral, or otherwise, delivered in the syllabus and/or otherwise in any manner.

Presentation:

You must do a presentation on any topic of your choice as long as it integrates themes and specific materials from this class (readings, lectures, films, etc.). Although it is not required, I strongly recommend that you speak to me about your choice of topic before you start doing research in order to make sure that your topic ties into course materials.

The presentation consists of 1) written presentation 2) oral presentation, based on your written presentation and (2-3 minutes long) and 3) Turnitin.com submission.

At the top of the first page of your paper (1) in your written Presentation and 2) in your final draft, you must include a two sentence identification/explanation of what, specific legal topic from our class materials pertain to your paper and how it does so.

Both the written presentation and the oral presentation are due during Week 7. Each and every part of this assignment is due by the due date(s); the attempted submission of any part of this assignment after the due date makes the entire assignment late. No part of this assignment will be graded until the entire assignment is complete. All late penalties apply.

If you sign up for a presentation on a specific date but do not do it for any reason whatsoever (unless it is for an “emergency” as defined in this syllabus), you will get a 0 on the

oral presentation, and there are no makeups on the oral presentation (you may still submit the written presentation according to applicable guidelines).

There may be additional, specific instructions. Your paper must conform to these and all other guidelines; failure to abide by any rule *will* result in an *automatic minimum deduction of one letter grade* (example: a paper that would have received a “B” will automatically receive a “C”). It is the students’ responsibility to make sure that they have not missed any of these guidelines, either verbal or written.

Not following Instructions:

There is a minimum one grade deduction from any assignment for not following instructions (either written or announced in class. In either case, absence from class is not an excuse).

Technical problems:

Technical problems – including computer-related, printer-related, etc. – do not excuse late submissions. If you are experiencing technical difficulties, the resource to consult is the Help Desk or other formal sources dedicated to dealing with such issues.

Participation (variable):

“Participation” consists of point deductions for conduct that detracts from the classroom learning environment and/or from academic integrity. Points may deducted from individual student grades with or without notice. At no time is any student to assume that conduct that is disruptive in any public setting to be acceptable in this classroom. By enrolling and remaining in this course, the student understands, and accepts, that whether conduct is “disruptive” and thus warranting point deductions is up to the sole discretion of the instructor; and the instructor may, with or without notice, may deduct points for disruptive conduct at any time and to whatever extent the instructor deems proper. Those unaccustomed to classroom decorum within a college environment should take the initiative to check with the instructor about what is proper if there are any questions in order to avoid losing points wherever possible.

Incompletes:

There is no eligibility for a grade of Incomplete unless you have finished at least 90% of all course work up to the time that you make the request. The request must be in writing and have your name, course name/number, and a detailed explanation concerning why you will not be able to finish the remaining work. You must make the request no later than Wednesday of Week 9. I retain sole discretion, however, and will grant requests only on a case-by-case basis and with appropriate documentation.

There must be a legitimate medical or family emergency before I will grant a request for an Incomplete. However, there must be ample, written, documented proof of the emergency. You must attach the documentation to your written request for the Incomplete (see the section above about acceptable documentation for makeup requests). All supporting documentation must pertain to the period of the emergency.

Keeping Track of Your Work:

You must save all of your work and keep track of it for your own records. Failure to do so may result in losing points for lost work, and students understand that they bear all responsibility for failing to abide by this, as well as any/all other course policies.

Emergencies and Makeups:

There are exceptions on due dates and other class work for legitimate reasons. However, you must document any excuses. For medical reasons, I will accept only doctor, nurse, or other caregiver explanations on dated letterhead paper. All such documentation must pertain to the period during which you missed anything. For personal reasons, I will accept only notes from family or relatives with a legible name, signature, date, and phone number. This paragraph notwithstanding, I reserve complete discretion in all such matters.

Makeups, General Policies:

You may make arrangements for, or take, a makeup, only if you have an emergency. An “emergency” consists of death or physical incapacitation (including documented work-related matters or court proceedings). Any supporting documentation must be in writing on letterhead paper or other official document from an official source, e.g., doctor, official, college personnel, legal guardian, or parent; and it must have the preparer’s signature and current contact information. This written letter of excuse must accompany your emailed request, with proof of written approval from me, to take the makeup under applicable guidelines in this syllabus, and it must pertain specifically to the dates of the missing assignment. Even if you otherwise comply with these requirements, if you make the foregoing arrangements but then do not make it up at the arranged date/time, you will get a 0 on the assignment with no additional opportunities for makeup.

Under no circumstances whatsoever may a student take a mid-term exam makeup any later than 14 calendar days from the regular mid-term exam date.

Notwithstanding any provision in this section or elsewhere, the instructor reserves sole discretion in all related matters, and the student is not to presume that compliance guarantees approval and/or credit for a makeup.

Makeups, Quizzes:

You may do a makeup on the syllabus quiz if you miss it during Week 1. However, you must make it up on a regular quiz day no later than the quiz session of Week 2. You must send me an emailed request for the syllabus quiz makeup no less than 48 hours before your makeup; and you must receive an emailed confirmation from me before you are to assume that you may do the makeup. If there is a mixup of any sort, you will get a 0 on the syllabus quiz. Missing the syllabus quiz, for whatever reason, does not excuse non-compliance with the quiz content and/or any other matters related to the syllabus or course policies.

There is a quiz at the end of each week (except for exam days), covering any substantive work that we have done for that week. Except for the syllabus quiz, quizzes will cover only materials for that week; they will not cover anything from the previous week. You may skip any two quizzes during the term without any penalty. However, you may not make up a missed quiz (except for the syllabus quiz).

Late Enrollment, Absences, and Mixups Generally:

Enrolling in class late (e.g., after the beginning of the term, etc.) will not excuse any policies here or elsewhere in the syllabus (e.g., if you miss a quiz during Week 1 or Week 2 due to late enrollment, there is no entitlement to any deviation from policies either written or oral.

Absence from class when any guidelines and/or policies, written or oral, are disseminated does not excuse non-compliance, and all policies will still apply. It is the student's responsibility, if they miss class, to check with the instructor in order to ensure that they have all current policies and instructions.

Any and all mixups are the student's responsibility, as are any deductions from/penalties upon the grade.

Writing Proficiency:

I will grade you on grammar, punctuation, spelling, and all other aspects of writing in any written assignment (except the Journal). If you have problems with writing, I strongly recommend that you explore various means for correcting them. One handy reference tool for catching the most common problems in writing is Diana Hacker's *A Writer's Reference*.

Late Assignments:

Unless I indicate otherwise, all assignments are due no later than class time. At any point thereafter, there is a minimum one grade deduction. There is also a one grade deduction for each calendar day that an assignment is late. Example: A student turns in an assignment on Wednesday even though the due date was Monday. It is two calendar days late. The paper, which would otherwise have received a "A," becomes a "C" after two letter grade deductions for being late two calendar days. If she turns it in on Friday, it is four days late and the grade becomes an "F" (although a grade of an F may result, depending on whether it is a good faith effort, it may still receive some nominal credit at my sole discretion). If she turns it on Monday of the following week, it is six calendar days late and there is no possibility of an "F" grade, i.e., 0 points even if she turns it in as a good faith effort.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:

Evidence of academic dishonesty or unethical behavior will lead to disciplinary action, including, but not necessarily limited to: a 0 on the assignment; referral to appropriate authorities; penalties upon the final grade for the course; institution of formal proceedings according to university policies.

All academic assignments are to be the work of the individual student. The following are some examples of dishonesty or unethical behavior:

Using another person's words, ideas, or results without giving proper credit to that person; giving the impression that it is the student's own work.

Any form of cheating on examinations.

Altering academic or clinical records.

Falsifying information for any assignments.

Partly or wholly completing an assignment(s) partially or wholly completed by another person or source.

Copying work or written text from a student, the internet, or any document without giving due credit to the source of the information in a manner making it clear that you are not the sole creator of the work.

Assignment Submission Guidelines:

I will not accept anything through email.

I will not grade partial assignments. Nothing will be graded unless and until it is submitted in its entirety; and the receipt date and time will be based on receipt of the assignment in its entirety.

Special accommodations:

Please make note of the following statement:

“The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. Please visit the DRC if you have any questions about classroom accommodations, whether you are a student or a faculty member.

If you are a student who has a disability or a learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact the DRC staff as soon as possible.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425-564-2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc

Remember if you are someone who has either an apparent or non apparent disability and requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.”

Please also note that accommodations in this class do not apply retroactively, so please plan accordingly.

Etiquette for Exams:

There must be at least one seat between you and the next person during all exams, and I may, furthermore, rearrange seating at any time at my discretion. During exams, *all* desk space needs to be completely clear of *anything* except your exam and a pen or pencil. There is complete silence during all exams.

COURSE OUTLINE:

WEEK 1 (Jan. 3- Jan. 6)	<u><i>Introduction to Criminal Law</i> (read text, Chapter 1)</u> Monday: No class Tuesday: Introduction to the course and syllabus Wednesday: Lecture/Discussion Thursday: Lecture/Discussion Friday: Lecture/Discussion/ QUIZZES on 1) syllabus 2) Wk 1 materials
WEEK 2 (Jan. 9- Jan. 13)	<u><i>Constitutional Limits on Criminal Law</i> (read text, Chapter 2)</u> Monday: Lecture Tuesday: Lecture Wednesday: Lecture/Discussion Thursday: Lecture/Discussion Friday: Lecture/Discussion/ QUIZ
WEEK 3 (Jan. 16- Jan. 20)	<u><i>General Principles of Criminal Liability</i> (read text, Chapter 3)</u> Monday: Holiday: no classes Tuesday: Lecture Wednesday: Lecture/Discussion Thursday: Lecture/Discussion Friday: Lecture/Discussion/ QUIZ
WEEK 4 (Jan. 23- Jan. 27)	<u><i>General Principles of Criminal Liability</i> (cont'd)(read text, Chapter 4)</u> Monday: Lecture Tuesday: Lecture Wednesday: Lecture/Discussion Thursday: Lecture/Discussion Friday: Lecture/Discussion/ QUIZ
WEEK 5 (Jan. 30- Feb. 3)	<u><i>Defenses to Criminal Liability</i> (read text, Chapter 5)</u> Monday: Lecture Tuesday: Lecture Wednesday: Lecture/Discussion Thursday: Lecture/Discussion Friday: Lecture/Discussion/ Exam Study Guide Distribution; QUIZ

WEEK 6 (Feb. 6- Feb. 10)	<u><i>Defenses to Criminal Liability (continued)</i></u> (read text, Chapter 6) Tuesday: Lecture Tuesday: Lecture Wednesday: Lecture/Discussion Thursday: Lecture/Discussion Friday: Mid-Term Exam
WEEK 7 (Feb. 13- Feb. 17)	<u><i>Parties to Crime and Vicarious Liability</i></u> (read text, Chapter 7) Monday: Lecture Tuesday: Lecture Wednesday: DUE – 1) oral presentation and 2) written presentation Thursday: DUE – 1) oral presentation and 2) written presentation Friday: Lecture/Discussion/ QUIZ
WEEK 8 (Feb. 20- Feb. 24)	<u><i>Inchoate Crimes: Attempt, Conspiracy, and Solicitation</i></u> (read text, Chapter 8) Monday: Holiday: no classes Tuesday: Lecture Wednesday: Lecture/Discussion Thursday: Lecture/Discussion Friday: Lecture/Discussion/ QUIZ
WEEK 9 (Feb. 27- Mar. 2)	<u><i>Crimes against Persons I</i></u> (read text, Chapter 9) Monday: Lecture Tuesday: Lecture Wednesday: Lecture/Discussion Thursday: Lecture/Discussion Friday: Lecture/Discussion/ QUIZ
WEEK 10 (Mar. 5- Mar. 9)	<u><i>Crimes against Persons II</i></u> (read text, Chapter 10) Monday: Lecture Tuesday: Lecture Wednesday: Lecture/Discussion Thursday: Lecture/Discussion Friday: Lecture/Discussion/ QUIZ
WEEK 11 (Mar. 12- Mar. 16)	<u><i>Crimes against Property</i></u> (read text, Chapter 11) Tuesday: Lecture Tuesday: Lecture Wednesday: Lecture/Discussion Thursday: Lecture/Discussion Friday: Lecture/Discussion/ QUIZ
WEEK 12 (Mar. 19- Mar. 22)	<u>Final Exam Week</u> Thursday, Mar. 22: Final Exam, 7:30-9:20 a.m. in our regular classroom; DUE: Journal at the beginning of the final exam session; if you turn it in after others have begun their exam, it will be counted late at least one day.

NOTES:

*This syllabus represents the proposed plan for this term. However, there may be changes according to unexpected circumstances, and students are responsible for inquiring about any updates in the event of their absence from class when any changes are announced. Continued enrollment in this class constitutes acceptance of, and agreement to abide by, any and all course and College policies.

**The instructor will not provide legal advice. The student understands that any comments on legal issues are understood to be purely hypothetical. The student also understands that, under no circumstances does enrollment in this class give rise to an attorney-client relationship or privileged communications.

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