

Introduction to Constitutional Law

CJ 204

Winter 2011

Syllabus

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Office: Online

Office Hours: Monday through Sunday (online)

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Class meets online

Course Objective:

CJ 204 will examine the general principles of constitutional criminal procedure and how to apply these principles to legal problems. These general principles provide the basis for understanding the U.S. Justice System. This course will emphasize the 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th Constitutional Amendments.

Expected Outcomes:

The student will be able to (1) recite the general principles of constitutional criminal procedure, and (2) apply these principles to factual problems utilizing the 4th, 5th, 6th & 8th Amendments.

Texts:

- No required text. Research will be Internet based.

Materials/Resources:

You must have:

- Internet access
- An open mind

Course Objectives

- **Ethical Objective:** To master the concept and the process of answerability and its role in creating an atmosphere of morality and ethics in our institutions. Outcomes: You will participate in class discussions while respecting the responses of every member of the online community, and the accepted process of collaborative creation. You are expected to demonstrate active and involved learning. Written expression is as important as dialog participation and other means of expression. Silence will not be acceptable, as you will be graded on your active involvement in all discussions.

- **Technological Objective:**

To master the simple use of any computer that happens to be available. Many of your assignments and readings will be located on the Internet. Outcomes: You will be expected to research information on a website. With that information, you will be expected to create a paper and to post your research in the discussion forum.

- **Praxis Objective:**

To recognize differences between theory, factual knowledge, and the application and synthesis of that knowledge in praxis. Outcomes: You will apply theoretical discussions to examples within their own institutions, as they relate to race and ethnicity. Focus on conceptually linking criminological theory to current events and personal narratives shared in discussions.

Course Elements & Policies

Students **MUST** complete all course requirements in their appropriate sequence and in a timely fashion. Students **MUST** visit the Blackboard online classroom at least once a day to check the course calendar, read announcements and new discussion board postings, take quizzes, submit written assignments and post discussion board messages.

Students are responsible for keeping up with and adhering to the due dates.
THERE IS NO MAKEUP WORK ACCEPTED.

Response time: Except for weekends, I will normally respond to email and to questions posted in the Blackboard Discussion Board area within 48 hours. Unless otherwise indicated, written assignments will be graded and returned within 7 days of their submission to Blackboard.

Instructions on how you are expected to use this online course.

Quizzes: Scheduled, optional quizzes are taken on-line & must be completed during their respective windows of availability. Take quizzes from a link placed in the Blackboard menu area during the days it is available to be taken. There are no makeup quizzes. Quiz points are utilized to increase your grade as there is no make-up work accepted.

Expect a quiz to start on a Monday (see the weekly calendar in Assignments area) and close on a Wednesday at 11:59 PM PST.

MANDATORY Syllabus text, PRE-TEST and POST-TEST

There will be a mandatory syllabus test, pre-test and post-test conducted in this course. The syllabus test is worth 25 points and is located in the first week's assignment module labeled 'Assignment 2.2.' The Pre-test is also located in week 1 module.

The mandatory pre-test and post-test however do not carry any weight in your grade but WILL reflect your grade negatively if not completed by a WHOLE grade letter reduction.

For example, if you scored an A at the end of the quarter, you will only receive a B if the pre-test and/or post-tests are not completed. If you received a D in this course, then your final grade will be a F if you fail to take one or both of the pre-test or post-tests.

The pre-test MUST be completed within the first week of the course and the post-test MUST be completed within the last week of the course. After the intended weeks the pre and post tests are to be taken, they will be removed from the site and will no longer be available. There are NO MAKE-UPS for these tests.

Announcements

You are responsible for reading all announcements posted by me. Check announcements each time you login being sure to read all announcements posted since the last time you logged in.

Announcements are automatically shown to you on entry to the Blackboard classroom. Some are permanent and always show.

Weekly Assignments

Weekly assignments are available from the main menu via assignment modules. You can achieve this by clicking on the button titled **Assignments**, and clicking on the assignment with the current week's date. Each weekly assignment has a checklist that indicates the topics, reading assignments, essays, discussions,

quizzes and any other activities that must be completed during the week.

Essays (Briefs)

After you write an assignment (your brief), you will submit it in its appropriate week as indicated there.

Once your essay has been graded and the grade appears in the online grade book, you can click on the grade to read any comments the instructor may have made about your essay.

Discussion Assignments

Participation in online discussions is required and graded. The discussions are asynchronous and have definite start and finish dates indicated in the instructions for each assignment. The purpose of the discussions is to stimulate study and discussion of the weekly reading assignments.

Discussion assignments are time sensitive and, if missed, *may not be made up*.

---- Students **must** make at least two types of contributions to each discussion board topic posted by the instructor, i.e., new threads and replies.

---- Your **primary postings** must respond to the discussion board assignment.

---- your **secondary postings** respond to the new threads other students.

Postings made during the last four days of a discussion will not count, but *Reply* postings made any time during the discussion period will count. Further, late postings to discussions will **NOT be graded**.

E-mail policy:

Except for Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, I **will respond to emails within 48 hours**.

After week 1, please send emails to your instructor only to communicate those *personal* issues you do not wish others to read or that you think need personal

attention; otherwise use the discussion board designated for course questions.

Assignment submission policy:

Assignments (essays, quizzes, discussion board contributions, exams) **will not be accepted via email**. Work submitted via email will not be graded. Homework must be submitted in the assignment drop-box within the week's module.

Course-related questions policy:

Asking course-related questions in the discussion board allows other students with the same question to read your question and the instructor's reply.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR PAPERS AND DISCUSSIONS: If you want to score the maximum possible points for all your papers and discussion here is some very important information. First, and most important is to be sure you utilize the APA referencing format in both the body of your paper (in-text citations) and at the end which is a "**reference**" page not a "bibliography" or a "works cited" page. The instructions for the APA format can be found on the class website, or the Bellevue College website or in the bookstore. Second, utilize more than one reference. This means more than one outside source. **Third, do not use WIKEPEDIA as a reference**, it is not a recognized source for any academic work. Fourth, do not copy a classmate's work and do not paraphrase from a reference source. If copy someone's writings reference it properly in the body of your work. The idea behind these papers is to encourage the production of proper scholarly activity and the pursuit of course directed research and knowledge through writings and peer interaction. Properly done research papers are the heart of college level learning and something you must learn to master. Remember to reference ALL your work, including your discussions!

Extra-credit policy

Essays due dates are firm and assignments are **not accepted late!** The timed quizzes are available for extra credit as there is no make-up work accepted. A few on-line chats may be conducted during the semester as indicated in the

course calendar. They serve as online office hours held by the me. They are **optional** and participation in them **will earn no points**. Chat times will vary.

Grades and Grading

- Grades on assignments are calculated using a 1000-point scale

Grade	Points
A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	0-599

- Etiquette and Netiquette

Netiquette:

Threaded discussion posts in online course spaces are an integral part of online learning environments. A feeling of safety is basic for any collaborative dialogue. An overview of the process of creating and participating in a safe discussion environment is provided in the online course space.

Critical Engagement Criteria:

In addition to the netiquette guidelines for online collaboration, you will be expected to participate in the online discussions in a way that engages with the topic and with the other participants. An overview of the criteria used in this course to evaluate your participation through your original and response posts is provided in the online course space.

Course Work

Exams:

There will be only one exam which will cover roughly the entire course material. The exam is in essay format. For each, your score on the exam will be the percentage of questions you answered correctly. Grading follows a straight-scale format. In extraordinary situations a make-up exam will be made available to a student who misses a regularly-scheduled exam. This exam must be completed within one week of the original deadline date.

The Final exam is 90 minutes in duration, and are administered such that only one question is shown on the screen. Further, should you not complete all questions before the 90-minute deadline, any unanswered questions will be counted as incorrect. This format makes it imperative that you begin the exam well-prepared.

Critical Thinking

The ability to think and write critically are essential skills in many walks of life. Critical thinking skills are developed and refined through practice, self-reflection, and the critique and support of peers and instructors. Throughout this course you will have many opportunities to exercise your analytical thinking, synthesize information, and apply knowledge to real-life situations.

Deadlines/Due Dates - All due dates and deadlines are firm. Late assignments will not be accepted. The absolute final deadline for ALL course work is every Sunday no later than 11:59 PM PST.

Groupwork: You may work in study groups on all exercises, assignments, quizzes, and exams. Cooperative learning groups are strongly encouraged. There is also extra credit work available. **Extra Credit Work:** If you want to hedge your grade a bit, especially if you have missed an assignment and need to make up points, you can do so by following these directions. Check the Bulletin Board regularly (just click on the website icon) and you will see that I often post topics and questions for you to research. The first three students who do these three things will receive an extra credit grade point that will be added to your total grade score. First, research the topic. Second, post the reference you located concerning the topic. Third, write a paragraph or two discussing or describing what you found, you can even express your personal opinion on the subject, and post it. If your work follows these guidelines and is timely (one of the first three) I will notify you through the Bulletin Board. These extra points can be a real grade saver by the end of the course, grab them when you can.

WARNING: THIS IS NOT YOUR TRADITIONAL COURSE WHERE I LECTURE AND YOU QUIETLY TAKE NOTES. I ENCOURAGE A COOPERATIVE LEARNING APPROACH AS WELL AS SEVERAL EXPERIMENTAL AND INNOVATIVE TEACHING/LEARNING TECHNIQUES. GROUPWORK IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN THIS COURSE!

Plagiarism

The BC Student Code is also very clear about the seriousness of cheating and the actions that faculty members are required to take in cases of plagiarizing: The BC Student Code prohibits cheating, stealing, plagiarizing, knowingly furnishing false information to the college, or submitting to a faculty member any work product that the student fraudulently represents as his or her own work for the purpose of fulfilling or partially fulfilling any assignment or task required as part of a program of instruction. All forms of cheating, stealing, and plagiarizing will be reported to the Dean of Instruction.

Other Important Notes

BC Technical Support

Troubleshooting for WebCT or Vista

- First: Check the WebCT Server Status page to find out if there are reported problems
- Second: If the problem is with your class, not the system, contact your instructor to report the problem
- Third: If you cannot reach your instructor, contact the Distance Education office at (425) 564-2438 or landerso@bcc.ctc.edu

The Academic Tutoring Center offers one-on-one and group tutoring sessions for college credit courses.

Location: D204

Phone: (425) 564-2468

Students and community members can find career planning and job search assistance in the Career Center. The Center provides one-on-one career advising, classes and workshops, work-study and internship opportunities, and many computerized resources.

Location: B231

Phone: (425) 564-2018

Academic, career, and personal counseling services and credit classes are available to all enrolled BCC students.

Location: B234

Phone: (425) 564-2212

DRC provides advocacy and classroom accommodations, including specialized materials, technology and equipment for eligible students with disabilities.

Location: B132

Phone: (425) 564-2498 or 564-4110 (TTY line)

The Childcare Center provides affordable, quality childcare to children ages 3 months to 7 years, an on-site Head Start program, and resources and classes for parents.

Location: Building Q

Phone: (425) 564-2240

Educational Planning Resource Center

Advisors, counselors and resources are available for students who wish to transfer to a four-year university, pursue a career or are undecided about their major.

Location: B232

Phone: (425) 564-2437

Learning & Computer Labs

Many academic learning labs and nearly 1,300 computers are dedicated for student use at BCC. View our complete list of labs including those located in the library and across campus.

Location: Various

Library Media Center

In addition to traditional library resources, the LMC provides access to electronic periodicals, research assistance, books and publications, computers with Internet connections, material reservation, media lab, study rooms and other helpful resources.

Location: D124

Phone: (425) 564-225

Multi-Cultural Student Services (B233)

MCS provides culturally-sensitive academic and support services to BCC students. MCS services include outreach, advising, counseling, cultural events planning, and curriculum and policy development.

Location: B233

Phone: (425) 564-2208