
COURSE PREFIX/NUMBER: CRJ 115
COURSE TITLE: Criminal Law I
LECTURE HOURS/WEEK: 3.0
LAB HOURS/WEEK: 0.0
CREDIT HOURS: 3.0

[Distance Learning Attendance/VA Statement](#)
[Textbook Information](#)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course covers the development of criminal law in America. The basic elements of specific criminal offenses, criminal defenses, and various legal principles upon which criminal law is established are reviewed.

COURSE COMPETENCIES

Module 1: General Principles of Criminal Liability

1. Identify the sources of criminal law
2. Classify crimes by punishment
3. Classify crimes by subject
4. Explain the requirement of voluntary act
5. Explain the requirement of legal duty for crimes of omission
6. Explain the requirement of voluntary possession
7. Provide examples of strict liability crimes
8. Explain the requirement of mens rea concurring with actus reus
9. Provide examples of the four types of mens rea
10. Discuss strict liability and mental intent
11. Differentiate between factual and legal causation
12. Determine standards for purpose and knowledge
13. Distinguish between recklessness and negligence
14. Explain the principle of causation

Module 2: Property Crimes and Personal Crimes

1. Identify and distinguish the elements of crimes against property
2. Provide examples of crimes against property
3. Identify the elements and provide examples of robbery
4. Identify the elements and provide examples of the crimes of damaging or destroying property
5. Identify and distinguish the elements of the crimes of invading others' property
6. Provide examples of crimes of invading others' property
7. Summarize the law of parties
8. Provide examples of complicity and vicarious liability
9. Recognize inchoate crimes of attempt, conspiracy, and solicitation

10. Identify the elements of conspiracy crimes
11. Identify the elements of criminal homicide
12. Identify the elements of the five types of criminal homicide
13. Recognize and give examples of each of the five types of criminal homicide
14. Explain the history and development of criminal sexual assault
15. Identify the elements of modern sexual assault statutes
16. Identify the elements and give examples of sexual assault crimes
17. Identify and distinguish the elements of assault crimes
18. Provide examples of assault crimes
19. Identify the elements and provide examples of personal restraint crimes
20. Identify the elements and provide examples of crimes of possession
21. Identify the elements and provide examples of intoxication crimes

Module 3: Parties to a Crime and Criminal Defenses

1. Compare accomplice liability vs. conspiracy
2. Explain actus reus of accomplice liability
3. Explain majority rule of mens rea requirement of accomplice liability
4. Discuss minority requirement of mens rea requirement
5. Describe elements of accessory after the fact
6. Identify common-law requirements for accessories after the fact
7. Describe elements of strict, vicarious and accessory liability
8. State two conditions for liability before and during the commission of crimes
9. Discuss Wharton rule
10. Recognize common law categories of parties to a crime
11. Identify and distinguish the elements and limitations of the various justifications
12. Provide examples of valid or invalid justifications
13. Identify and distinguish the elements and limitations of the various "excuses"
14. Provide examples of the various "excuses"
15. Discuss the constitutional limits on criminal law
16. Identify and distinguish the elements of crimes against public order and morals
17. Identify and distinguish the elements of crimes against the state

Module 5: Organized Crime, Terrorism, and White Collar Crime

1. Explain examples of racketeering
2. Identify key concepts of Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968
3. Discuss criminal enterprises
4. Explain Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act
5. Discuss differences between domestic and international terrorism
6. Identify key components of Homeland Security Act of 2002
7. Provide examples of provisions in the USA Patriot Act of 2001
8. Explain examples of treason
9. Recognize uses of money laundering to support acts of terrorism
10. Discuss Environmental Protection Agency protections against white collar crime
11. Explain role of federal agencies in white collar crime
12. Provide examples of adulteration, check kiting, and churning

MINIMAL STANDARDS

CRJ 115 is designed for completion in one semester. A final grade of C must be earned for successful completion of this course. Failure to earn a letter grade of "C" would mean that competencies for the course have not been adequately met. Therefore, students earning a final grade lower than C must repeat the course. All assignments/assessments are expected to be submitted/completed within the specified time frame. Late work accepted at the discretion of the instructor and will be outlined in the addendum to the syllabus.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance Policy

The Attendance Policy contained in the College Catalog and Handbook will be enforced. Students are responsible for all material covered and for all assignments made in all classes. Students are responsible for attending all scheduled meetings in the courses in which they are enrolled until they have completed all course requirements.

Withdrawal from a Course

A student may withdraw from a course until midterm with a grade of "W." To withdraw from a course, the student obtains a Request for Withdrawal from their instructor or from Student Services. To withdraw after midterm and receive a grade of "W," the student must personally see the Instructor for approval. All other students will receive a grade of "WF."

Policy on Academic Dishonesty:

The policies stated in the York Technical College Catalog and Handbook will be enforced. Any student involved in cheating or any other form of academic dishonesty will be given a grade of zero and will be subject to further disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes using another's work or words without giving proper credit to the source, cheating on tests and other assignments.

EVALUATION STRATEGIES/GRADING

The final course grade will be determined by a student's performance on the four modules and a final examination. Each module grade may be comprised of objective and/or essay question exams or quizzes, written and group discussions or assignments, and written projects or papers as required by the instructor. Each module grade will account for a percentage of the course grade as shown below:

- Module 1: Exam, Written and/or Oral assignments - 15%
- Module 2: Exam, Written and/or Oral assignments - 15%
- Module 3: Exam, Written and/or Oral assignments - 25%
- Module 4: Exam, Written and/or Oral assignments - 15%
- Module 5: Exam, Written and/or Oral assignments, written project or paper - 30%

Grading Scale

- A 90 - 100
- B 80 - 89
- C 70 - 79
- D 60 - 69
- F Below 60

ENTRY LEVEL SKILLS: Not Applicable

PREREQUISITIES: RDG 100 and ENG 100 or equivalent test scores

CO-REQUISITIES: None

Disabilities Statement: Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Special Resources Offices (SR) at 803-327-8007 in the 300 area of Student Services. The SRO coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.