Course Objective: This is a core lower division as part of the Criminal Justice field of study group in Texas. The “Criminal Justice” system is essentially concerned with crime; legally speaking, the Penal Code determines what is and is not criminal. This renders Criminal Law most basic to our field; the course purpose is to provide the student with a familiarity and understanding of it. This will be accomplished through meeting the following unit objectives comprising the content of the course.

- Familiarize the student with the nature and origin of American substantive criminal law.
- Provide the student with a basic knowledge of the elements and properties of criminal statute.
- Cause the student to be aware of the principles and laws governing ‘parties of offenses.’
- Give the student to understand assault and sexual assault offenses.
- Make the learner aware of kidnapping and related offenses.
- Cause the student to recognize property destruction offenses.
- Give the learner an understanding of theft, fraud and related offenses.
- Enable the student to recognize the features of robbery as a criminal offense.
- Familiarize the student with robbery and criminal trespass as criminal statutes.
- Acquaint the student with statutes governing interfering with government operations.
- Provide the learner with knowledge of public order and safety offenses.
- Furnish a familiarization with preparatory offenses.
- Cause the learner to be aware of defenses to criminal prosecution.

Virtually all of the course content will be delivered through lecture-occasionally supplemented by video. No specific textbook is required. After the completion of each unit, announced examinations will be administered; some unannounced short quizzes may be given over limited specific topics. It is suggested that the student review notes before each class. In this course, you will be given an initial comprehensive pre-test-ungraded-which will be retaken at the conclusion for part of your grade as well as major homework assignment. You will not be formally graded on attendance; missing many classes and lectures will prevent your succeeding in the course. One examination or quiz may be made up at the end of the semester. Be aware that your instructor as a former street-level law enforcement officer, may employ rough language and hold or articulate views and attitudes which may be foreign to you. You will be exposed to this in class. You should not remain in the course if such is not acceptable or if you do not have serious interest in learning about the realities of the enforcement side of criminal justice. Questions or objections should to be taken directly to your instructor for clarification or resolution. As a rule, your instructor will be available to you around the hours of the class-specific information and office location will be given to you during the first week. Also when it is necessary, you are welcome to call him on his mobile telephone (325-277-1422). He is there to help you. A=85% or above; B=70-84%; C=60-69%; D=50-59% and below is failing. Good grades are relatively not difficult to earn by coming and investing some effort.