CRIJ 1310 Fundamentals of Criminal Law  
(8-Week On-line Version)  
Summer I Session, 2020

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Email: randolph.hicks@angelo.edu  
Office Hours: by appointment

MAIN TEXTBOOK FOR PURCHASE:


Supplemental Reading: *Texas Penal Code* located at [http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/](http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/)

This is the Texas Legislature’s website. Just click on the “Statutes” tab in the center column under “Additional Searches.” Next, select “Penal Code” and enter section.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Topics for this course include a study of the nature of criminal law, philosophical and historical development, major definitions and concepts, classification of crime, elements of crimes and penalties using Texas statutes as illustrations, criminal responsibility.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Technical Skills Required for This Course

As with all online courses, students must be able to operate a computer and have the necessary technical skills to navigate around a web page. Additional technical skills are not a prerequisite for this course. However your computer must meet [certain minimum requirements to operate Blackboard](http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/).

Time Spent on this Course

Students can expect to spend a minimum of 10 hours per week to complete all readings and assignments. The lessons themselves take as long as it requires the student to read the materials and watch or listen to media presentations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a result of completing this course, the student will be able to:

- Describe the basic principles that underlie the Common Law system of substantive criminal law.
• Describe the basic principles that underlie the American system of substantive criminal law.
• Describe the process of filing criminal charges in the Texas justice system.
• List the role and jurisdictions of the various Texas criminal courts.
• State the elements of the primary state criminal offenses as defined by the Texas Penal Code.
• State the classification of Texas criminal offenses and their respective punishment levels.
• Discuss the primary excuses and justifications for criminal conduct permitted under Texas law.
• Analyze and explain how to apply the elements of Texas criminal offenses to hypothetical fact situations.

**GRADING POLICY:**

Student learning outcomes will be assessed using a combination of quizzes, essay assignments, and exams.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson Quizzes</th>
<th>160 points (Possible points 20 per quiz)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The instructor requires students to take a set of lesson-based fundamental quizzes (all multiple choice questions) at the conclusion of the lecture on each Module.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson Essay Assignments</th>
<th>120 points (Possible points 20 per Assignment)</th>
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<tr>
<td>During all Weeks except Weeks 4 &amp; 8, the instructor requires each individual student to focus on lesson-based fundamental questions at the conclusion of the lecture on each Module.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Midterm Exam</th>
<th>160 points (Possible points 4 per question)</th>
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<td>During <strong>Week 4</strong>, the students will be required to take this 60 minute midterm exam. The total of 40 questions will cover the materials discussed over the course. The exam will have two sections included: (1) A 80-point 20-item multiple choice section; and (2) A 80-point 20-item true/false section.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Final Exam</th>
<th>160 points (Possible points 4 per question)</th>
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<td>During <strong>Week 8</strong>, the students will be required to take this 60 minute midterm exam. The total of 40 questions will cover the materials discussed over the course. The exam will have two sections included: (1) A 80-point 30-item multiple choice section; and (2) A 80-point 10-item true/false section.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>600 points</th>
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**Final Grade**

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Cumulative Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>540 to 600 (equal to 90 -100 %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>480 to 539 (equal to 80 -89 %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>420 to 479 (equal to 70 -79 %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>360 to 419 (equal to 60 -69 %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>359 and below (equal to 59 % and below)</td>
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**MAKE-UP EXAMS:**
No make-up exams will be given.

**COURSE ORGANIZATION AND SCHEDULE**

**Module One**  Ch 1. Foundations of Criminal Law
- 1st Lesson Test and 1st Essay Assignment due by 10 p.m. on Friday, June 5

**Module Two**  Ch 2. Elements of a Crime
- 2nd Lesson Test and 2nd Essay Assignment due by 10 p.m. on Friday, June 12

**Module Three**  Ch 3. The Criminal Law in Daily Practices
- 3rd Lesson Test and 3rd Essay Assignment due by 10 p.m. on Friday, June 19

**Module Four**  Ch 5. Criminal Homicide
- 4th Lesson Test due by 10 p.m. on Thursday, June 25

**Midterm Exam**  Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
*The midterm exam will be posted at 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, June 25 / Due by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, June 26*

**Module Five**  Ch 6. Assault and Sexual Assault
- 5th Lesson Test and 4th Essay Assignment due by 10 p.m. on Friday, July 3

**Module Six**  Ch 7. Kidnapping and Related Offenses
- Ch 8. Property Destruction Offenses
• 6th Lesson Test and 5th Essay Assignment due by 10 p.m. on Friday, July 10

Module Seven
Ch 9. Theft, Fraud, and Related Offenses
Ch 10. Robbery
• 7th Lesson Test and 6th Essay Assignment due by 10 p.m. on Friday, July 17

Module Eight
Ch 11. Burglary and Criminal Trespass
• 8th Lesson Test due by 10 p.m. on Thursday, July 23

Final Exam
Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11
The final exam will be posted at 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, July 23
Due by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, July 24

IMPORTANT DATES

June 1, 2020: 8-Week Summer Session begins.

July 24, 2020: 8-Week Summer Session ends.

June 5, 2020: 8-Week Summer Session “W” period begins.

June 19, 2020: Last day to drop an 8-Week Summer class or withdraw from the regular Summer I Session.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic Integrity

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with the university Academic Honor Code and the ASU Student Handbook.

Accommodations for Disability

The Student Life Office is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Student Life Office at (325) 942-2191 or (325) 942-2126 (TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at Student.Life@angelo.edu to begin the process. The Student Life Office will establish the particular documentation requirements necessary for the various types of disabilities.
Student absence for religious holidays

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

Title IX at Angelo State University

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Boone, J.D.
Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.