

*CRIJ 1310.001 Fundamentals of Criminal Law*

*Location: Main Campus*

### **Professor Contact Information**

*Dwayne Barber,*

*Email: barberd@grayson.edu*

*Office location: Health Science Building room 135*

*Available - Before and after class and Monday-Friday 9-10*

### **Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

*None*

### **Course Description**

The 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, and criminal responsibility.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, student should be able to:

1. To diagram the Texas court system.
2. To list and explain the four purposes of punishment.
3. To compare and contrast civil and criminal law.
4. To list and explain the four culpable mental states.
5. To explain the mens rea doctrine.
6. To gain a working knowledge of the Texas Penal Code.
7. To define probable cause and give examples of when it is present and absent.
8. To provide the student experience in acquiring and using information from a variety of sources.
9. The student is taught to think creatively, make decisions, solve problems, visualize with the mind's eye, reason, and how to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills.
10. To teach the student the importance of: responsibility, self esteem, social skills, self-management, integrity and honesty in personal life and in the work place.

## Required Textbook

### Criminal Law For The Criminal Justice Professional

Author: Garland  
Edition: 3  
ISBN: 0-07-802638-5  
ISBN13: 978-0-07-802638-6

## Suggested Course Materials

*None*

## Required Assignments & Academic Calendar

Each week there will be a reading assignment that will correspond with each week's lecture. Read the chapter of the text each week to prepare for class. See the Course Calendar for more detail.

**In case of inclement weather, emergency closings, or other unforeseen disruptions to scheduled classes, student must log onto their Canvas accounts for directions on where or how to continue their coursework.**

### Table 1 Course Schedule

| Week | Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines                                   |
|------|--|
| 1    | Introduction to Fundamentals of Criminal Law by Mr. Barber                 |
| 2    | Criminal Justice System & Law - Read and Discuss <i>Chapters 1 &amp; 2</i> |
| 3    | Crime & Criminal Responsibility - <i>Read and Discuss Chapter 3 and 4</i>  |

Week Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines

- 4 Parties of a Crime - *Read Chapters 5 and 6*
- 5 Defenses to Crimes - *Read Chapter 5 and 6*
- 6 Punishment & Sentencing - *Read Chapter 6 and Group Discussion*
- 7 Homicide - *Read Chapter 7 and 8*
- 8 Study Guide Review - **Midterm Exam**
- 9 Crimes against Persons - *Read and Discuss Chapter 8*
- 10 Crimes Against Habitations - *Read and Discuss Chapter 9 and 10*
- 11 Property Crimes - *Read and Discuss Chapter 11 and 12*
- 12 White-Collar & Public Safety Offences - *Read and Discuss Chapters 12 & 13*
- 13 Drugs & Alcohol - *Read and Discuss Chapter 14 and 15*
- 14 Obstruction of Justice - *Group work on scenario's for all chapters covered*
- 15 Gangs & Terrorism – FINAL REVIEW - *Final Paper Due*

Final **Final Exam** will be administered during class.

### Methods of Evaluation

The student is required to read chapter assignments, listen and participate in class discussions. In addition, major exams covering text and lecture materials will be given. The student is expected to complete a term paper covering a topic in criminal justice. Several small assignments throughout the semester will be given to count as a participation grade.

### Quizzes

There will be quizzes during the semester. Each quiz will consist of multiple-choice questions and will be administered through Canvas. The first half of the semester, students will have three (3) opportunities to re-take each quiz. After the Mid-Term, students will ONLY have one (1) attempt to pass each quiz.

## **Exams**

There will be **TWO (2)** major exams (Mid-Term / Final) during the semester. In general, these test will consist of FIFTY (5) multiple-choice questions. Each of these questions is worth 2 points each. Each exam will be worth 100 points and 25% combined of your overall grade in the course.

## **Writing Assignment**

There will be a writing assignment for this course. The writing assignment is to be turned in online through Canvas. All information concerning the writing assignment will be extensively covered during this course. The writing assignment is worth 25% of your overall grade in the course

## **Grading**

| <b>Categories</b>                      | <b>Percentage</b> |
|--|-------------------|
| Attendance                             | 15%               |
| On line discussion assignments         | 10%               |
| Paper or court case observation report | 25%               |
| Quizzes & Projects                     | 25%               |
| Exams                                  | 25%               |

## **Methods of Instruction**

Classroom lectures, reading assignments, and independent research

## **Course & Instructor Policies**

### **Class Attendance**

Academic success is closely associated with regular classroom attendance and course participation. All successful students, whether on campus or online, are expected to be highly self-motivated. All students are required to participate in courses regularly and are obliged to participate in class activities and complete and submit assignments following their professors' instructions. Students taking courses during compressed semester time frames such as mini-mester, summer sessions, and mid-semester should plan to spend significantly more time per week on the course. Responsibility for work missed because of illness or school business is placed upon the student. More than two (2) absences are considered to be excessive. In addition, students' eligibility to receive financial aid or live in a College dormitory can be affected by withdrawal from courses. When withdrawal occurs, any tuition refund would be made in accordance with state regulations.

## **Student Conduct & Discipline**

### **Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable.

### **Student Responsibility**

You have already made the decision to go to college; now the follow-up decisions on whether to commit to doing the work could very well determine whether you end up working at a good paying job in a field you enjoy or working at minimum wage for the rest of your life. Education involves a partnership that requires both students and instructors to do their parts. By entering into this partnership, you have a responsibility to show up for class, do the assignments and reading, be engaged and pay attention in class, follow directions, and put your best effort into it. You will get out of your experience here exactly what you put into it – nothing more and nothing less.

## **TITLE IX**

GC policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status.

Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: sexual violence (sexual assault, rape), sexual harassment and retaliation.

For more information on Title IX, please contact:

- Regina Organ, Title IX Coordinator [\(903-463-8714\)](tel:903-463-8714)
- Dava Washburn, Title IX Coordinator [\(903-463-8634\)](tel:903-463-8634)
- Kim Williams, Title IX Deputy Coordinator- South Campus [\(903\) 415-2506](tel:903-415-2506)
- Mike McBrayer, Title IX Deputy Coordinator [\(903\) 463-8753](tel:903-463-8753)
- Marilyn Power, Title IX Deputy Coordinator [\(903\) 463-8625](tel:903-463-8625)
- Website: <http://www.grayson.edu/campus-life/campus-police/title-ix-policies.html>
- GC Police Department: [\(903\) 463-8777](tel:903-463-8777)- Main Campus) [\(903\) 415-2501](tel:903-415-2501)- South Campus)
- GC Counseling Center: [\(903\) 463-8730](tel:903-463-8730)

- For Any On-campus Emergencies: 911

**Grayson College is not responsible for illness/injury that occurs during the normal course of classroom/lab/clinical experiences.**

**These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.**

**Grayson College campus-wide student policies may be found on our Current Student Page on our website:**<http://grayson.edu/current-students/index.html>