University of North Texas at Dallas
FALL 2016
SYLLABUS for Distance Learning

CJUS 3201D: CRIMINAL LAW (3 Hrs)

Department of	Criminal Justice	School of	Liberal Arts and Sciences

Instructor Name:	*Gretchen Hackard, J.D., M.S.C.J.*
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Office Hours:	**TBD**
Virtual Office Hours:	*TBD*

Contacting Dr. Hackard outside of office hours:

For **course-related questions and information** (e.g., grades, questions about an assignment or exam, etc.), you **must use Blackboard messaging** to contact me. Course-related messages that are sent to my general UNT Dallas email address will not be answered. Please only use Skype during my virtual office hours. If it is urgent, please see my phone policy below. I generally check Blackboard at least once daily during the workweek, and at least once during a weekend. I will do my best to respond to Blackboard messages within 1 business day. If I am unable to answer a question immediately, I will respond and let you know that I am working on it.

For non-course information (e.g., career information, prelaw advising, internship opportunities, etc.), you may use the email address in my contact information above, but are also free to use Blackboard as well.

PHONE: If you have an urgent question and I have not responded in Blackboard, you may contact my work cell. For my cell, texts are preferred initially. You MUST identify yourself and the class you are in when you send your first text. If the conversation needs to go beyond a reasonable text length, then we can talk. I do not check office phone messages remotely, so if you leave a message on my office phone, it may not be returned until the next time I am in the office (which could be as much as a few days). *Please understand that I may not always be available at the very moment you need assistance, but will do my best to respond promptly when I am available to do so.*

Classroom Location:	**Learn.untdallas.edu**
Class Meeting Days & Times:	**ONLINE – ASYNCHRONOUS**

Course Catalog Description:	This course examines the constitutional and statutory bases and theories of criminal law and jurisprudence.

Prerequisites:	**None**
Co-requisites:	**None**

Required Text:	Dowling, Jerry L. Texas Criminal Law: Principles and Practices (2nd Ed.). Upper Saddle River: Pearson, 2016 ADDITIONAL RESOURCES POSTED ONLINE WITHIN COURSE

Recommended Text and References:	**Texas Penal Code (available online); access to Lexis/Nexis or Westlaw through UNT Dallas library electronic resources**

Access to Learning Resources:	Please refer to the "UNTD Student Resources" link in Blackboard

Course Goals or Overview:	
	This course focuses on substantive criminal law: i.e., basic crimes and criminal defenses. In this connection, we will explore the traditional common law and Texas statutory definitions of the crimes and defenses.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will be able to:	
1	Define the elements of Texas and common law crimes
2	Differentiate between common law and statutory definitions
3	Evaluate different fact scenarios and apply the elements of crimes to those facts
4	Demonstrate how to research and locate applicable statutes, including those under consideration by the Texas Legislature (during semesters when the legislature is in session)

Course Schedule and Requirements

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated via announcements or emails in Blackboard. You are also responsible for reading through the course information on Blackboard.

- Unit 1 (located inside the "Start Here" tab) is an introduction to the course. There is an introductory quiz about the online environment and the syllabus that must be completed with a score of 20 before you can begin the academic content section of the course (this counts as your first quiz grade, so everyone gets an A out of the gate – after that, it's up to you).

- The academic content contains 4 modules with units (chapters) within each module. Each unit has its own readings, assignments, and quiz; and each module has its own exam. You will not be able to take the module exam until you have completed at least one attempt on all the unit quizzes within the module.

- The exam grade will NOT be counted into your final average, but you must achieve at least **70%** in order to get 100% credit for the points earned for the quizzes within that module. If you achieve between 60-69% on the module exam, you will receive 75% of the points earned for the quizzes within that module. You receive no points for the quizzes if your highest module exam score is below 60% or if you simply do not take the exam.

- Quizzes may be taken an unlimited number of times before the deadlines. You may take the exam for each module twice as long as you complete it before the deadlines below.

- If you pace yourself, you will complete more or less one unit per week (with some slight variations). Module course material will remain available throughout the course after the module becomes available, but the quizzes and exams will only be available through the deadline for each module.

  Module 1 – Module 1 consists of Units 2-5 and begins after the introduction quiz at the beginning of the course; Module quizzes and exam must be completed no later than **11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, September 14**.

  Module 2 – Module 2 consists of Units 6-8 and begins at 12:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 15; Module quizzes and exam must be completed no later than **11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, October 5.**

  Module 3 – Module 3 consists of Units 9-11 and begins at 12:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 6 Module quizzes and exam must be completed no later than **11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, October 26**.

  Module 4 – Module 4 consists of Units 12-15 and begins at 12:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 27; Module quizzes and exam must be completed no later than **11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23.**

Additional important Dates:
- Wednesday, 9/7/16 – Last day to drop without a W
- Friday, 9/4/16 – Last day to drop with instructor consent
- Friday, 11/18/16 – Last day to withdraw from all courses

Legislative Inquiry Assignment:

For this assignment, you will be required to locate, identify, and interpret legislative actions.
Further details for this assignment, including guidelines and a rubric, are provided in the course page in Blackboard labeled "Legislative Inquiry."

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)
Unit quizzes (15)	20 points each (300 points total)
Legislative Inquiries (2)	100 points each (200 points total)
Total:	**500 points**

To determine your grade, divide your total number of points earned by 600.

A = 90 = 100%
B = 80 – 89%
C = 70 – 79%
D = 60 – 69%
F = less than 60%

University Policies and Procedures

Emergencies:

If you have a university-recognized emergency during the semester that prevents you from timely completing a portion of the course (e.g., module exam, quizzes, etc.), you must notify me immediately of the reason you were unable to fulfill the requirement on time. Access to the material after the deadline has passed will be granted on a case-by-case basis.

Incompletes:

Pursuant to University policy, incompletes will not be given unless ALL of the following conditions have been met:
(1) the student has completed 3/4 of the class
(2) the student is currently passing the course, and
(3) the request for an incomplete is pursuant to a University-recognized reason (medical emergency or military deployment).

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any

time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at http://www.untdallas.edu/disability. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDdisability@untdallas.edu or at Building 2, room 204.

Blackboard Learn Accessibility Statement:
University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. Blackboard Learn course management system's accessibility statement is also provided: http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluation Policy:
Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at
http://www.untdallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf
for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection*:* Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Classroom Policies

Online Attendance and Participation:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Blackboard classroom and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. .

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Blackboard, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to

http://www.untdallas.edu/registrar for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course

Inclement Weather and Online Classes: Online classes may or may not be effected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Online "Netiquette:
In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights Responsibilities and Conduct at http://www.untdallas.edu/osa/policies. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:
Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

Technology Requirements: In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements.

Blackboard Learn 9.1 is the platform software for this course. Blackboard Learn supports major web browsers such as Windows Internet Explorer, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox, and Google Chrome. However, since the latter two are updated continually, some recent versions may not be compatible. If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Internet Explorer. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- http://www.untdallas.edu/dlit/ecampus/requirements
- https://blackboard.secure.force.com/publickbarticleview?id=kAB700000008Oom
- https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check_full.html

Legal Questions:

In my capacity as the instructor of record for this course, it would create a potential conflict of interest if I were to render legal opinions regarding specific circumstances. As such, if you have specific questions of a legal nature, please seek appropriate legal advice. For those meeting certain qualifications, the Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program is a good way to get affordable help (http://dallasvolunteerattorneyprogram.org/). Alternatively, you can get referrals from the Dallas Bar Association (if you have a legal issue that arises within Dallas County - http://www.dallasbar.org/lawyerreferralservice) or through the State Bar of Texas referral service for legal issues arising outside of Dallas County (http://www.texasbar.com). There are also clinical programs and law libraries at the courthouse and UNT Dallas, SMU and Texas A&M University law schools that might have resources available to assist you.