

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINOLOGY
COURSE: CRIJ 4332 LEGAL ASPECTS OF CORRECTIONS

CRIJ 4332.01 (Main Campus – CJ Center - Classroom C210)

Semester/Year: Fall 2017 Tuesdays/Thursdays Time: 11:00am –12:20pm
Credit Hours: 3

Professor: Rissie Owens
Office: C204
Phone: 936-577-6546

Hours: Available via Email/Cell Phone/or After Class
Email: rao003@shsu.edu

Required Textbook

Del Carmen, Rolando V. 2008. Briefs of Leading Cases in Corrections. (5th Edition). Anderson Publishing.

Course Description

This course will provide a basic overview of United States Supreme Court case briefs relating to incarceration and corrections. It will include discussions about court cases decided by the Supreme Court through June 2008, and how the Constitution impacts confinement. In the end, it is hoped that you will come away with a better understanding of the types of cases offenders (prisoners) file, and how such cases impact corrections and the incarceration of offenders.

Course Objectives

1. Explore the relationship between the United States Constitution and the confinement of offenders.
2. Discover how offender case filings result in decisions by the Supreme Court.
3. Understand case brief terminology and definitions.
4. Relate Supreme Court cases to current correctional policies and procedures.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Course Grading

Possible Points (550):

1. Group Project = 100 points (4 x 25 = 100 points)
2. Exams = 300 points (3 exams to include the final exam - 100 points each)**

Exams (including the final) may consist of short answer essay questions, and may include true/false, and/or multiple choice responses. Exams will usually include only the specific information found in your textbook reading assignments, but may include information from class discussions and activities.

A = 400-360 B = 359-320 C = 319-280 D = 279-240 F = 239 and Below

Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend class as required by University policy. Review the University attendance policy at <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/acadeic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>.

Make up Exams/ Illness

Make up exams will be given only if a student has [1] contacted the instructor prior to the exam; and [2] has a University recognized absence which includes illness documented by a physician, religious observance, and participation in University activities at the request of University authorities. Official documentation must be provided.

Academic Dishonesty

Students are expected to do their own work on all assignments and exams, unless otherwise noted. Some of your written coursework submitted may be evaluated for signs of plagiarism. Violations of academic integrity will result in a grade of "F" on parts of the course, a failure of the entire course, or a recommendation for suspension from the University. See policy at Dean of Student's Office at http://www.shsu.edu/~slo_www/.

Student Academic Policies

Student Academic Policies concerning Attendance, Academic Honesty, Disabled Students and Services for Disabled Students, and Absences on Religious Holy days may be found at: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students>.

Students with Disabilities

If you are visually, hearing or physically impaired, have a learning disability, and/or have a communication disorder that may affect your performance in this class, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Office at 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, by email disability@shsu.edu, or visit website at www.shsu.edu/disability for information. Please also notify your advisor and/or professor as soon as possible so that provisions may be made to better ensure that you will have an equal opportunity to meet the requirements of the class. Also see <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf> for the disabled student policy.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Day Policy

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student who is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-curriculum.html>

Email

Emails sent through the University email system will be responded to via your student email account. It is YOUR responsibility to check your emails regularly, and to make sure you are receiving messages. Always place your full name, class number, and section number in the subject line, when sending an email to the instructor.

Cell Phones/Text Messaging in Academic Classrooms/Facilities

Please review <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-curriculum.html>.

Academic Success Center Services/Writing Center

You may contact the Academic Success Center or Writing Center at asc@shsu.edu or call 936-294-3680 to schedule an appointment or inquire about services. Writing tutors will work with you one-on-one to help you generate, organize, or revise a draft of any assignment in any subject. Students are responsible for abiding by all published rules and regulations as printed in the "Undergraduate Catalogue, Student Guidelines," and in other official university publications.

COURSE TOPICS/SCHEDULE:

***Subject to change at the discretion of the professor to keep up with pace of the class.**

****Students are responsible for the assignments as listed, unless otherwise instructed.**

*****May include tours of prison, prison museum, movie, guest speaker, dates TBD.**

Week 1: August 24 Introduction/Syllabus/Course Requirements

Assignment: Group Assignment & Review of List of Cases with “Capsule” (xix-xxxvi)

Week 2: August 29-August 31

Assignment: Chapter 1 – Access to Courts/Prisons & Jails

8/29 Lecture 8/31 Lecture/Group Time

Week 3: September 05– September 07

Assignment: Chapter 1 – Prisons and Jails

9/5 Lecture 9/7 Lecture/ Group Time

Week 4: September 12 – September 14

Assignment: Chapter 1 – Prisons and Jails

9/12 Lecture 9/14 Group Presentation

Week 5: September 19 – September 21 NIC

Assignment: Chapter 1 – Prisons & Jails

9/19 EXAM # 1 9/21 Group Time

Week 6: September 26 – September 28

Assignment: Chapter 2 – Probation

9/26 Exam Review/ Lecture 9/28 Lecture/ Group Time

Week 7: October 03 – October 05

Assignment: Chapter 2 Probation / Chapter 3 Parole Decision Making

10/3 Lecture 10/5 Lecture/ Group Time

Week 8: October 10 – October 12

Assignment: Chapter 3 – Parole Decision Making / Parole Review

10/10 Lecture 10/12 Lecture /Group Presentations

Week 9: October 17 – October 19

Assignment: Chapter 4 – Death Penalty

10/17 Lecture 10/19 Lecture/ Group Time

Week 10: October 24 – October 26

Assignment: Chapter 4 – Death Penalty/ Wrongful Convictions

10/24 Lecture 10/26 Lecture/ Group Time

Week 11: October 31 - November 2

Assignment: Chapter 4 – Death Penalty

10/31 Group Presentations 11/2 Lecture /Exam Review #2

Week 12: November 7 – November 9

Assignment: Chapter 5 –Juvenile Justice

11/7 Exam 11/19 Exam Review/ Lecture (Juvenile Justice

Week 13: November 14 – November 16

Assignment: Chapter 5 – Juvenile Justice

11/14 Juvenile Justice/ Group Time 11/16 Group Presentations

Week 14: November 21 – November 23 (holiday 24)

Assignment: TBA

11/21 Group Time 11/23 Holiday (Happy Thanksgiving)

Week 15: November 28 – November 30

Assignment: Chapter 6 – Sexual Assault Offender Laws

11/28 Group Presentations 11/30 Group Presentations/ Final Review

Week 16: SHSU FINAL EXAM WEEK (December 4-7)

*****FINAL EXAM FOR THIS COURSE WILL BE ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7,
12:00PM - 2:00PM*****

CLASS ACTIVITIES

1. Bureau of Justice statistics and information on Parole, Probation, Death Penalty, etc.
2. News articles related to the course content
3. Group Projects involving group discussions and presentations of the case briefs to the class
4. Major Assignments involving more in depth research of the case briefs
5. You Tube videos related to the course content
6. Guest Speakers