

Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology
Law and Society
Fall 2017 On-Line
CRIJ 4330.03 CRN: 83954



Professor: Cutty T. Gilbert, M.A.
Office: A-113 Beto CJ Center
Phone: (936) 294-3755
Email: Cutty@shsu.edu
Office Hours: Via Email or by Appointment

Required Reading

Walsh, A., & Hemmens, C. (2016). *Law, justice, and society: A sociolegal introduction* (4th Ed.). New York: Oxford Press

Course Description: This is a course designed to examine the nature, functions, limitations and objectives of law. Our focus will be to critically examine the law and to understand how the law impacts everyday lives. The course will examine but not be limited to such legal topics as civil law, civil courts, federal and state courts, criminal law and procedure, juvenile justice, gender and racial issues in the law, along with important issues as they relate to law such as abortion, the death penalty, and euthanasia.

Course Objectives:

The primary objectives of this course are to:

1. To understand the nature and function of law in our society today.
2. To critically think and formulate arguments, both written and oral (if a face to face class), about the complex relationship between law and society.
3. To be able to apply legal reasoning to difficult and novel topics.
4. To evaluate the way law has been utilized to provide social control and change.
5. To understand the influence of law over the course of human history.

Attendance Policy

Participation in online discussions is especially important in this course, and as a result, students will not only be given a score grading the quality of their discussions, but also an “attendance” score for meeting each of the discussion deadlines. In the end, the attendance points will be the “easiest” to earn, and are designed to provide extra motivation to participate in each of the discussions.

Course Requirements:

All students are expected to read the required reading assignments and participate in the online discussions for each course session. Since a substantial portion of this course will entail online discussion, it is especially important that students pay close attention to the readings to promote insightful interactions within the discussion forums. In addition, on each discussion question you are required to present your post to each question, you are required to comment on at least two (2) classmates’ comments.

Exams - there will be three exams. (Make sure you are at a reliable computer when you take your exams. You have to take the exams at one sitting, and consider this notice that you need to make sure you are at a reliable computer, in that you are allowed one attempt to take your exams.)

There will be Discussion Questions. In addition to commenting on each question, you are required to comment on at least two (2) classmates’ comments.

Grading Policy

Exam # 1	100 points	A	360 - 400
Exam # 2	100 points	B	320 - 359
Exam # 3	100 points	C	280 - 319
Discussion Questions (5@20 pts)	<u>100 points</u>	D	240 - 279
	400 points	F	below 239

MAKEUP EXAM POLICY

No make-up exams will be given unless arrangements have been made with the professor prior to the examination date. **Makeup exams must be taken one week following original test date, or they will NOT be given.**

ACADEMIC ETIQUETTE

Students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately, respecting the opinions of others. Given that this course is being delivered in an online environment, try to be conscious of the fact that written comments run a higher risk of being taken out of context or misinterpreted than comments made in person.

STUDENT ACADEMIC POLICIES: concerning Attendance, Academic Honesty, Disabled Student 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.html>
<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html#holyday>

ACADEMIC HONESTY: The Faculty of the College of Criminal Justice expects all students to show honesty and integrity in their academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated and can result in failure of the course and possible dismissal from the University. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. The University's policy on academic honesty and appeal procedures can be found in the manual entitled *Student Guidelines*, distributed by Division of Student Services. (Reference Section 5.3 of the SHSU Student Guidelines).
<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

DISABLED STUDENT POLICY: "Students with a disability which affects their academic performance are expected to arrange for a conference with the instructor in order that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired." The physically impaired may contact the Director of the Counseling Center as chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students by telephone (ext. 1720).
<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS: 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/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html#holyday>

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Fall Term 2017		
Date	Day	Event
August 19 - August 22	Saturday - Tuesday	Residence Halls Open for Occupancy, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM August 19, 20, 21, 22
August 21 - August 22	Monday - Tuesday	Registration for Undergraduate and Graduate Students - (On Campus and Off-Campus) Refer to Schedule of Classes for Details
August 23	Wednesday	First Class Day Full Term (15-Week) and 7 1/2 (A) Week Courses - Daytime on-campus and off-campus classes begin - Late Registration open - Refer to the Registrar's page for details and deadlines - Wednesday Night (WN) classes begin (on-campus and off-campus)
August 24	Thursday	Thursday Night (ThN) Classes Begin (On-Campus and Off-Campus)
August 25	Friday	Friday Night (FN) Classes Begin (On-Campus and Off-Campus)
August 26	Saturday	Saturday Classes Begin (On-Campus and Off-Campus)
August 28	Monday	Monday Night (MN) Classes Begin (On-Campus and Off-Campus)
August 29	Tuesday	Tuesday Night (TuN) Classes Begin (On-Campus and Off-Campus)
August 30	Wednesday	Last Day to Register and to Process Schedule Changes No registration permitted past this deadline
September 4	Monday	Labor Day - Holiday for Students and Faculty
September 8	Friday	Deadline for Fall 2017 Degree Applications Students anticipating graduating in December 2017 must file degree applications in the Registrar's Office by 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 8. Learn how to apply.
September 8	Friday	Last Day to Submit a Graduate Certificate Completion Form to the Office of Graduate Studies
September 8	Friday	Twelfth Class Day - Last Day to Drop Without a "Q" and Receive 100% Refund Note: Dropping a full schedule constitutes a resignation , not a drop. Click the following link to see Sam Houston State University's limitation of Q Drops .
September 21	Thursday	Last Class Day for 4-Week Courses
September 22	Friday	Finals for 4-Week Courses
September 25	Monday	First Class Day for 11-Week Courses
September 29	Friday	Deadline to Submit Draft Thesis/Dissertation to Library for Format and Style Review See Thesis & Dissertation website for more information
October 12	Thursday	Last Class Day for 7 1/2 (A) Week Courses
October 12	Thursday	Last Day to Q Drop 7 1/2 (A) Week Courses

		<p>Deadline to Drop 7 1/2 (A) Week Fall Courses or Labs with a "Q" grade</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students will not be permitted to drop 7 1/2 (A) week courses after this date - they will receive the grade they have earned - Dropping full schedule constitutes a resignation, not a drop - Limitation of Q Drops at Sam Houston State University
October 13	Friday	Final Examinations for 7 1/2 (A) Week Courses
October 16	Monday	12:00 Noon - Deadline for Filing 7 1/2 (A) Grades with Registrar's Office
October 16	Monday	First Class Day 7 1/2 (B) Week Courses
October 27	Friday	<p>Last Day to Complete a Public Defense of the Thesis/Dissertation. Start Electronic Route Sheet. Letter Requesting a Permanent Embargo for Electronic Thesis/Dissertations Must Be Submitted to the Dean of Graduate Studies by This Date.</p> <p>See Thesis & Dissertation website for more information</p>
November 8	Wednesday	<p>Last Day to Submit Defended and Approved Thesis/Dissertation to the Library Through Vireo. Last Day to Submit Thesis/Dissertations with Approved Embargoes.</p> <p>See Thesis & Dissertation website for more information</p>
November 10	Friday	<p>Last Day to Drop Full-Term Courses with a "Q"</p> <p>Deadline to Drop 15-Week Fall Courses or Labs with a "Q" grade</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students will not be permitted to drop 15-week courses after this date - they will receive the grade they have earned - Dropping full schedule constitutes a resignation, not a drop - Limitation of Q Drops at Sam Houston State University
November 15	Wednesday	<p>Last Day to Submit All Completed Thesis/Dissertation to the Library (Through Vireo or in Print) and Electronic Route Sheet to the Director of the Library</p> <p>See Thesis & Dissertation website for more information</p>
November 17	Friday	<p>Last Day to Q Drop 7 1/2 (B) Week Courses</p> <p>Deadline to Drop 7 1/2 (B) Week Fall Courses or Labs with a "Q" grade</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students will not be permitted to drop 7 1/2 (B) week courses after this date - they will receive the grade they have earned - Dropping full schedule constitutes a resignation, not a drop - Limitation of Q Drops at Sam Houston State University
November 22 - November 24	Wednesday - Friday	Thanksgiving Holidays for Students and Faculty
November 27	Monday	Classes Resume
November 28	Tuesday	Last Day to Make All Final Copies of Print Thesis/Dissertation and Submit to NGL For Binding. Last Day to submit Electronic Route Sheet to the Dean of Graduate Studies, verify that the document has been published electronically.
December 1	Friday	Last Class Day. Last Day to Resign by 5:00 PM in the Registrar's Office. - Resignation Policies

December 4 - December 7	Monday - Thursday	Final Examinations Includes Monday Night (MN), Tuesday Night (TuN), Wednesday Night (WN), Thursday Night (ThN), Friday Night (FN) and Saturday Classes Examinations
December 8 - December 9	Friday - Saturday	Commencement, Bernard G. Johnson Coliseum Schedule is Considered TENTATIVE Until the Order of Ceremonies Is Finalized within the Term of This Event. Refer to Registrar's Office webpage for Commencement Schedule.
December 8	Friday	Residence Halls Close at 12:00 Noon
December 11	Monday	12:00 Noon - Deadline for Filing Grades with the Registrar's Office for all students, including all grades due for degree candidates (SH course grades, correspondence grades, and transfer grades). Fall Term ends.

COURSE CALENDAR

WEEK OF	ASSIGNED READINGS:	ISSUES OF DISCUSSION:
Monday, August 21	REVIEW SYLLABUS and BLACKBOARD	DISCUSSION 1
Monday, August 28	Chapter 1	Law: Its Function and Purpose
Monday, September 4	Chapter 2	Justice and the Law
Monday, September 11	Chapter 3	Making Law DISCUSSION 2
Monday, September 18	Chapter 4	Federal and State Courts
Friday, September 22 – 24th	EXAM 1 Chapters 1-4	EXAM I Opens 22nd @ 12:01 a.m. Closes 24th @ 11:59 p.m.
Monday, September 25	Chapter 5	Crime and Criminal Law DISCUSSION 3
Monday, October 2	Chapter 6	Criminal Procedure
Monday, October 9	Chapter 7	Civil and Administrative Law
Monday, October 16	Chapter 8	Juvenile Justice

Monday, October 23	Chapter 9	The Law and Social Control
Friday, October 27 – 29	EXAM 2 Chapters 5- 9	EXAM 2 Opens 27th @ 12:01 a.m. Closes 29th @ 11:59 p.m.
Monday, October 30	Chapter 10	The Limits of Social Control DISCUSSION 4
Monday, November 6	Chapter 11	The Law Social Change, and the Class Struggle
Monday, November 13	Chapter 12	Women and the Law
Monday, November 20	Chapter 13	Racial Minorities and the Law DISCUSSION 5
Thursday and Friday November 23/24	Thanksgiving Holiday	Thanksgiving Holiday
Monday, November 27	Chapter 14 Review for Final	Comparative Law in Other Cultures
December 4 – December 5 Monday - Tuesday to take final	EXAM 3 FINAL EXAM Chapters 10 – 14	Final - EXAM 3 Opens December 4 @ 12:01 a.m. Closes December 5 @ 11:59 p.m.

THE ABOVE SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE, AND IS SUBJECT
TO CHANGE AT THE PROFESSOR'S DISCRETION