

**Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology
Law and Society
Spring 2018 On-Line
CRIJ 4330.04**



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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: Syllabus requirement. 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:

Spring Term 2018		
Date	Day	Event
November 10 - December 11	Friday - Monday	Advance Registration Begins Advanced registration for the Spring 2018 term begins on Friday, Nov. 10. See the Advance Registration Schedule for details on registering by classification and the breakdown of registration times by alpha schedule.
January 12 - January 16	Friday - Tuesday	On-Campus Registration for Undergraduate and Graduate Students Refer to Schedule of Classes for Details
January 13 - January 14	Saturday - Sunday	Residence Halls Open for Occupancy, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM Residence halls will open for the Spring term at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 13. All halls also will be open for move-in from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 14, and Tuesday, Jan. 16.
January 15	Monday	University Holiday - Martin Luther King Day SHSU will be closed on Monday, Jan. 15, in recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. University business will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 16, at 8 a.m.
January 16	Tuesday	Residence Halls Open for Occupancy, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM
January 17	Wednesday	First Class Day of 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)
January 18	Thursday	Thursday Night (ThN) Classes Begin (On-Campus and Off-Campus)
January 19	Friday	Friday Night (FN) Classes Begin (On-Campus and Off-Campus)
January 20	Saturday	Saturday Classes Begin (On-Campus and Off-Campus)
January 22	Monday	Monday Night (MN) Classes Begin (On-Campus and Off-Campus)
January 23	Tuesday	Tuesday Night (TuN) Classes Begin (On-Campus and Off-Campus)
February 1	Thursday	Deadline for Spring 2018 Degree Applications Students anticipating graduating in May 2018 must file degree applications in the Registrar's Office by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1.

		Learn how to apply .
February 1	Thursday	Last Day to Submit a Graduate Certificate Completion Form to the Office of Graduate Studies
February 1	Thursday	<p>Twelfth Class Day - Last Day to Drop Without a "Q" and Receive 100% Refund</p> <p>Thursday, February 1, is the 12th class day of the Spring term and represents the last day to drop a course without a "Q" grade and receive a 100% refund.</p> <p>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.</p>
February 12	Monday	<p>Academic Advisement Opens for Summer and Fall 2018 Terms</p> <p>Students may contact the SAM Center to schedule an advising appointment.</p>
February 16	Friday	<p>Last Day to Q Drop 7 1/2 (A) Week Courses</p> <p>Deadline to Drop 7 1/2 (A) Week Spring 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
March 1	Thursday	Deadline to Submit Draft Thesis/Dissertation to Library for Format and Style Review
March 8	Thursday	Last Class Day 7 1/2 (A) Week Courses
March 9	Friday	Finals for 7 1/2 (A) Week Courses
March 12 - March 16	Monday - Friday	Spring Recess for Students and Faculty
March 19	Monday	Classes Resume
March 19	Monday	First Class Day for 7 1/2 (B) Courses
March 30	Friday	Good Friday - Holiday for Students and Faculty
April 3	Tuesday	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.
April 6	Friday	<p>Last Day to Drop Full Term Spring Courses with a "Q"</p> <p>Deadline to Drop 15-Week Spring 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
April 11	Wednesday	Last day to Submit Defended and Approved Thesis/Dissertation to the

		Library Through Vireo. Last Day to Submit Thesis/Dissertations With Approved Embargoes.
April 18	Wednesday	Last Day to Submit All Completed Thesis/Dissertations to the Library (Through Vireo or in Print) and Electronic Route Sheet to the Director of the Library
April 20	Friday	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 Documentation Has Been Published Electronically.
April 25	Wednesday	Last Day to Q Drop 7 1/2 (B) Week Courses Deadline to Drop 7 1/2 (B) Week Spring Courses or Labs with a "Q" grade Notes: - 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
May 4	Friday	Last Class Day - Last Day to Resign by 5:00 PM in the Registrar's Office - Resignation Policies
May 7 - May 10	Monday - Thursday	Final Examinations Includes Monday Night (MN), Tuesday Night (TuN), Wednesday Night (WN), <u>Thursday Night (ThN)</u> , Friday Night (FN), and Saturday Classes Final
May 10 - May 12	Thursday - 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 the Registrar's Office webpage for commencement schedule.
May 11	Friday	Residence Halls Close at 12:00 Noon
May 14	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). Spring Term ends.

COURSE CALENDAR

WEEK OF	ASSIGNED READINGS:	ISSUES OF DISCUSSION:
Monday, January 15	REVIEW SYLLABUS and BLACKBOARD	DISCUSSION 1
Monday, January 22	Chapter 1	Law: Its Function and Purpose

Monday, January 29	Chapter 2	Justice and the Law
Monday, February 5	Chapter 3	Making Law DISCUSSION 2
Monday, February 12	Chapter 4	Federal and State Courts
Friday, February 16-18th	EXAM 1 Chapters 1-4	EXAM I Opens 16th @ 12:01 a.m. Closes 18th @ 11:59 p.m.
Monday, February 19	Chapter 5	Crime and Criminal Law
Monday, February 26	Chapter 6	Criminal Procedure DISCUSSION 3
Monday, March 5	Chapter 7	Civil and Administrative Law
Monday, March 12	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
Monday, March 19	Chapter 8	Juvenile Justice DISCUSSION 4
Monday, March 26	Chapter 9	The Law and Social Control
Monday, April 2	EXAM 2 Chapters 5- 9	EXAM 2 Opens April 6 @ 12:01 a.m. Closes April 8 @ 11:59 p.m.
Monday, April 9	Chapter 10	The Limits of Social Control
Monday, April 16	Chapter 11	The Law Social Change, and the Class Struggle
Monday, April 23	Chapter 12	Women and the Law DISCUSSION 5
Monday, April 30	Chapter 13	Racial Minorities and the Law Review for Final

May 6 – May 8 Sunday - Tuesday to take final	EXAM 3 FINAL EXAM Chapters 10 – 13	Final - EXAM 3 Opens May 6 @ 12:01 a.m. Closes May 8 @ 11:59 p.m.
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THE ABOVE SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE, AND IS
SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE PROFESSOR'S
DISCRETION