

CRJS / PER JILL REITZ  
11/16/00  
Crim

Lock Haven University  
University Curriculum Committee  
PROPOSAL COVER SHEET

Course #: CRJS 260 Title: Criminal Law 3 sh

Prerequisites:  Yes  No  Not Applicable

<i>W. L. Smith - Hinds</i>	9-20-2000	Approve	Disapprove
Signature: Department Chairperson	Date	Recommendation	

Following departmental approval, the Department Chairperson should deliver this Proposal Cover Sheet and the necessary number of copies of the proposal to the appropriate College Curriculum Subcommittee or Graduate Curriculum Committee. 501 courses bypass the College Curriculum Subcommittee and go directly to the UCC. 701 courses are to be submitted to the appropriate Graduate Curriculum Committee.

<i>[Signature]</i>	9-28-00	Approve	Disapprove
Signature: Chairperson, College Curriculum Subcommittee or Graduate Curriculum Committee	Date	Recommendation	

Following the College Curriculum Subcommittee or Graduate Curriculum Committee evaluation, the Chairperson should deliver this Proposal Cover Sheet and the necessary number of copies of the proposal to the University Curriculum Committee.

<i>Gardner R. Phottoph</i>	10/25/00	Approve	Disapprove
Signature: Chairperson, University Curriculum Committee	Date	Recommendation	

Following University Curriculum Committee evaluation, the UCC Chairperson should send this Proposal Cover Sheet and one copy of the proposal to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

<i>[Signature]</i>	10-28-00	Approve	Disapprove
Signature: Vice President for Academic Affairs	Date	Recommendation	

<i>[Signature]</i>	10/26/00	Approve	Disapprove
Signature: President	Date	Recommendation	

Following administrative approval, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will send a copy of this completed cover sheet to the following:

- Chairperson, Department of Origin
- Chairperson, Graduate Council\*
- Chairperson, Graduate Curriculum Committee\*
- Academic Dean, College of Origin (plus the original syllabus)

- Chairperson, College Curriculum Subcommittee
- Chairperson, University Curriculum Committee
- Assistant Registrar
- Director of Admissions (new programs only)

\* If applicable

sent to all  
10-31-00  
Revised: 2/27/97  
ab

*Crim*  
~~CRJS~~ 260 Criminal Law 9/28/00

I. Introductory Information

- A. Department Name: Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and  
Geography
- B. Department Catalog Number: *Crim* ~~CRJS~~ 260
- C. Course Title: Criminal Law
- D. Semester Hours of Credit: 3
- E. Clock Hours Per Week: 3
- F. Restrictions Upon Student Registration: Prerequisite is  
~~CRJS~~ 102 Introduction to Criminal Justice or permission of instructor.

*Crim*  
II. Description of the Course

A. Catalog Description: Focuses on substantive criminal law. Elements of a crime; parties to a crime; types of offenses; and scope, purpose and definitions of criminal offenses are critically analyzed. The elements of creative problem solving are applied to problems in the field. There is an emphasis on ethical decision making by participants in this part of the system. The general principles of substantive law are studied through the analysis of appeals court decisions.

B. Comprehensive Description: No further description is needed.

III. Exposition

A. Objectives: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

1. explain the difference between substantive and procedural law;
2. name the general elements of crime;
3. name the specific elements of enumerated crimes;
4. explain the difference between an accomplice and an accessory;
5. think critically about criminal law;
6. explain vicarious liability and strict liability;
7. explain inchoate crime;
8. discuss the ethical cannons of criminal law;
9. explain the difference between a justification and an excuse; and
10. explain the major Constitutional limitations effecting substantive criminal law.

B. Activities and Requirements: There will be three examinations during the semester, a comprehensive final examination, a writing project that requires students to compare and contrast two appellate decisions on a related point of law, a case brief, quizzes and class participation.

C. Major Units and Time Allotted:

1. The Nature, Origins and Purposes of Criminal Law (1 week)
2. Constitutional Limits (1 week)
3. General Principles of Criminal Liability (1 week)
4. Parties to Crime (1 week)
5. Inchoate Crimes (1 2/3 weeks)
6. Justifications (1 week)
7. Excuses (1 week)
8. Criminal Homicide (2 weeks)
9. Other Crimes Against Persons (2 weeks)
10. Burglary and Arson (1 week)
11. Property Crimes (1 1/3 weeks)
12. Public Order and Moral Offenses (1 week)

D. Materials and Bibliography

1. Textbooks and other materials may be required. Some examples are:

Gardner, Thomas and Terry Anderson. Criminal Law: Principles and Cases 6th ed. West. St. Paul. 1996. ISBN: 0-314-06731-0.

Kaci, Judy. Criminal Law. Copperhouse. Incline Village, NV. 1997. ISBN: 0-942728-82-3.

Klotter, John and Terry Edwards. Criminal Law 5th ed. Anderson. Cincinnati. 1998. ISBN: 0-8704-527-6.

Reid, Sue Titus. Criminal Law 5th ed. McGraw Hill. Boston. 2000.  
ISBN: 0-07-232153-9.

Robinson, Paul. Criminal Law. Panel Publishers. New York. 1997.  
ISBN: 1-56709-495-7.

Samaha, Joel. Criminal Law 6th ed. West Wadsworth. Belmont, CA. 1999.  
ISBN: 0-534-54720-6.

2. Other materials: Cases and materials provided by the instructor.

3. Bibliographic Support:

The following are available in the LHUP library:

Beccaria, Cesare. An Essay on Crimes and Punishments. HV8661 .B32.

Coleman, Phillipson. Three Criminal Law Reformers: Beccaria, Bentham, Rimilly.  
K5001.P55 1970.

Donnelly, Richard, Joseph Goldstein and Richard Schwartz. Criminal Law:  
Problems for Decision in the Promulgation, Invocation and Administration  
of the Law of Crimes. KF9923 .A7 D6 1962.

McWilliams, Peter. Ain't Nobody's Business if You Do: The Absurdity of  
Consensual Crimes in a Free Society. KF9434.M2 1993.

Turk, Austin. Criminality and Legal Order. HV6041 .T8.

The following are available in a personal library:

Clinard, Marshall and Richard Quinney. Criminal Behavior Systems, 2d ed.  
Anderson. Cincinnati. 1986.

Friedman, Lawrence. A History of American Law. Simon and Schuster. New  
York. 1973.

Kappler, Victor. Critical Issues in Police Civil Liability. Waveland. Prospect  
Heights, IL. 1993.

Klotter, John. Legal Guide for Police: Constitutional Issues 3d ed. Anderson.  
Cincinnati. 1992.

Related Internet Sites  
(sites checked 8/25/00)

[www.courttv.com](http://www.courttv.com)  
[www.nolopress.com](http://www.nolopress.com)  
[www.findlaw.com](http://www.findlaw.com)  
[www.lawofficer.com](http://www.lawofficer.com)  
[www.law.cornell.edu](http://www.law.cornell.edu)  
[www.duhaime.org/dict-f.htm](http://www.duhaime.org/dict-f.htm)  
[www.vls.law.vill.edu](http://www.vls.law.vill.edu)  
[www.visalaw.com](http://www.visalaw.com)  
[www.kentlaw.edu](http://www.kentlaw.edu)  
[www.alltheweb.com](http://www.alltheweb.com)

IV. Standards: Student achievement will be evaluated and graded in this course by the following:

1. mid term and final examinations,
2. class participation,
3. regular quizzes,
4. a case brief, and
5. a research paper on a topic related to criminal law.

V. Rationale and Impact:

A. Explain why the proposal is Necessary: Knowledge of substantive criminal law is central to the work of professionals in the criminal justice field. This course is the only course in the program that deals with this issue.

B. Describe for Whom it is Specifically Designed: This course is specifically intended for second year students who have completed introductory courses in sociology and criminal justice and who have yet to take criminal procedure.

C. Identify Who Else Will be Permitted to Take it: Any student enrolled at LHUP who has satisfied the prerequisites will be permitted to take the course.

D. Explain How Existing Academic Programs or Departments Will be Affected: It is expected that this course will draw students away from some sociology and possibly political science courses. However, the Admissions Office of LHUP feels that this program will draw many students who currently do not come to LHUP so it is possible there will be no actual drop in numbers in sociology or political science courses.

VI. Cost and Staff Analysis:

A. Effect on University Resources: Actually if the Admissions Office is correct in predicting that criminal justice will draw new students to the university, courses such as this will make up for projected reductions in other areas and thus enhance university resources.

B. Note the Expected Frequency and Rotation of the Proposed Course: This course will be offered annually.

VII. Approval by University President

\_\_\_\_\_

date

## VIII. Course Outline

### I. The Nature, Origins and Purposes of Criminal Law

A. The nature of criminal law

B. The general and special parts of criminal law

C. Classifying crimes

1. crimes and torts
2. social harm
3. felony, misdemeanor, offense
4. mala in se and mala prohibita
5. subject classification

D. Punishment

1. retribution
2. rehabilitation
3. deterrence
  - a. specific
  - b. general
4. reintegration

E. Sources of Criminal Law

1. common law
2. codes
3. administration

### II. Constitutional Limits

A. Legality

B. Void for Vagueness

C. Equal Protection

D. Ex Post Facto

E. Privacy

F. Free Speech

G. Cruel and Unusual

H. How to Find, Read, and Analyze Cases

### III. General Principles of Criminal Liability

A. Actus Reus

B. Mens Rea

C. Concurrence

D. Causation

E. Harm

F. Grading of Offenses

### IV. Parties to Crime

A. Principal

B. Accomplice

C. Accessory

D. Vicarious Liability

1. corporate crime
2. non-corporate crime

E. Strict Liability

### V. Inchoate Crimes

A. Attempt

1. history
2. elements
3. impossibility
4. abandonment
5. substantial steps

B. Conspiracy

1. actus reus
2. mens rea

C. Solicitation

VI. Justifications

A. Self Defense

1. elements
2. Retreat Doctrine
3. Defense of Others
4. Defense of Home and Property

B. Execution of Public Duties

C. Resisting Unlawful Arrest

D. Choice of Evils

1. elements
2. economic necessity

E. Consent

VII. Excuses

A. Duress

B. Intoxication

C. Mistake

D. Age

E. Entrapment

F. Insanity

1. Right Wrong Test
2. Irresistible Impulse Test
3. Substantial Capacity Test
4. Burden of Proof

G. Diminished Capacity

H. Syndromes

VIII. Criminal Homicide

A. Elements

B. Types

C. Degrees

D. Manslaughter

1. voluntary
2. involuntary
3. negligent

IX. Other Crimes Against Persons

A. Robbery

B. Criminal Sexual Conduct

C. Rape

D. Assault and Battery

E. False Imprisonment

F. Kidnapping

X. Burglary and Arson

A. Elements of Burglary

B. Grading of Burglary

C. Arson

XI. Property Crimes

A. Theft and Larceny

B. Embezzlement

C. Theft by Deception

D. Receiving Stolen Property

E. Forgery and Uttering

F. Shoplifting

G. Extortion

XII. Public Order and Moral Offenses

A. Gangs

B. Prostitution

C. Sleeping in Public

D. Panhandling

## IX. Bibliography

- American Law Institute. Model Penal Code and Commentaries. American Law Institute. Philadelphia. 1985.
- Cullen, Francis, William Maakestad and Gray Cavender. Corporate Crime Under Attack. Anderson. Cincinnati. 1987.
- Dershowitz, Alan. The Abuse Excuse and Other Cop-Outs, Sob Stories, and Evasions of Responsibility. Little Brown and Co. Boston. 1994.
- Durkheim, Emile. The Division of Labor in Society. Free Press. New York. 1933.
- \_\_\_\_\_. American Law. Norton. New York. 1984.
- Gardner, Thomas. Criminal Law: Principles and Cases 4th ed. West. St. Paul. 1989.
- Hall, Daniel. Criminal Law and Procedure 2d ed. Delmar Publishers. Albany. 1996.
- Jacobs, James. Drunk Driving: An American Dilemma. University of Chicago Press. Chicago. 1989.
- Katz, Leo. Bad Acts and Guilty Minds. University of Chicago Press. Chicago. 1987.
- Loey, Arnold. Criminal Law. West. St Paul. 1987.
- Reiman, Jeffrey. The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Prison, 2d ed. Wiley. New York. 1984.
- Skogan, Wesley. Disorder and Decline. Free Press. New York. 1990.
- Stephen, James. A History of the Criminal Law of England. reprint. Burt Franklin. New York. 1973.
- von Hirsch, Andrew. Doing Justice. Hill and Wang. New York. 1976.
- Weiss, Mike. Double Play. Addison-Wesley. Reading, MA. 1984.
- Wilson, James and Richard Hernstein. Crime and Human Nature. Simon and Schuster. New York. 1985.