Criminology 13

Course # 59298

The Constitution and Your Individual Rights (3 units)

Fall 2020

**DISTANCE LEARNING EDUCATION (ONLINE COURSE)**

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Course Credits/Class Hours: 3

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

* The course start date is AUGUST 11, 2020.  End date is DECEMBER 11, 2020.
* No shows will be dropped by AUGUST 14, 2020 at 11:59 pm.
* On the start date, access the course via Canvas.
* Pre-scheduled live meetings will be held via Zoom.
* Regular and effective substantive contact between instructor and student will be initiated through any of the following means:
  + Canvas discussion board
  + Synchronous zoom meetings
  + Announcements
  + Assignment feedback
  + Asynchronous activity (video lectures)
  + Emails
* Regular and effective contact between students will occur via:
  + Canvas discussion board
  + Assign students to Canvas groups
* Video content will be closed-captioned or transcriptions will be available, documents and online pages will meet accessibility requirements.

Objectives: Students will apply logic and critical thinking to written and oral communication in the study of the fundamental rights of all citizens as protected by the United States Constitution.  Case studies will be used as examples of the application of law.

What is this course about?

This course examines the history and development of the United States Constitution and places particular emphasis on how the document informs Supreme Court cases. More specifically, the course analyzes the interpretive reasoning utilized by Supreme Courts Justices in making constitutionally based decisions. Also, there is a concentration on the historic protection of individual rights contrasted with the inherent power of the government.

What should you be able to know and do by the end of this course?

**Student Learning Outcomes**:

By the end of the semester you will:

1. Relate the history and content of the US Constitution.

2. Describe the historical role of the US Supreme Court.

3. Appraise the reasoning of the Supreme Court on issues of individual rights.

**Learning Objectives**:

In the process of completing this course, you will:  
1. Relate why the colonists resisted the actions of “Mother England.”

2. Connect the importance of the Magna Carta to the Declaration of Independence.

3. Distinguish between the balance of powers in the American Government.

4. Appraise the Bill of Rights as it relates to the United States Constitution.

5. Relate how the United States Constitution ensures individual liberty.

6. Summarize why American law is said to be a living law.

7. Illustrate the difference between the adult and juvenile justice systems.

8. Understand the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the United States.

9. Identify how the Supreme Court Justices receive their appointments.

10. Translate what a legal citation is from legal language to lay understanding.

11. Discuss how a case brief is constructed and complete an assigned case brief.

What materials do I need for this course?

Important Note: Assignments and all information necessary for quizzes and exams are embedded in the required textbook. You are encouraged to purchase or familiarize yourself with the campus resources available. Acquisition of the required materials will increase the likelihood of successfully completing the course. While I do understand that the cost of textbooks can be significant, the text selected for this course will afford you a greater opportunity to develop an appropriate understanding of the course learning objectives and therefore strengthen your learning and retention of the material.

**MATERIALS:**

*Constitutional Law and the Criminal Justice System, 7th Edition*

J. Scott Harr | Kären M. Hess | Christine H. Orthmann | Jonathon Kingsbury

Cengage Publishing

ISBN-13: 9781305966468   
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Available at campus bookstore.

**Class Format:**  
In an online course, the majority of our communication takes place in the course forums visible to all. However, when we have a need for communication that is private, whether personal, interpersonal, or professional, we will use individual email.

**Netiquette:**  
In an online classroom, our primary means of communication is written. The written language has many advantages: more opportunity for reasoned thought, more ability to go in-depth, and more time to think through an issue before posting a comment. However, written communication also has certain disadvantages, such a lack of the face-to-face signaling that occurs through body language, intonation, pausing, facial expressions, and gestures. As a result, please be aware of the possibility of miscommunication and compose your comments in a positive, supportive, and constructive manner.

**Grading**:

Individual Assignments: 75 points  
Group Discussions: 130 points  
Quizzes: 65 points  
Current Events: 65 points  
Individual Learning Project: 75 points  
Group Learning Project: 75 points

FINAL EXAM: 25 points

**Grade Scale**:  
90 – 100% = A  
80 – 89% = B  
70 – 79% = C  
60 – 69% = D  
00 – 59% = F

**Reading:**  
All assigned reading is required.  Text reading is due each week.

**Class Drop Policy:**  
The student is responsible for dropping the class. Be aware of deadlines for dropping courses.

**Academic Integrity:**  
Students are expected to submit work that is based upon the student’s individual effort alone. Please see the Code of Student Conduct for details. Students who plagiarize (cheat) will receive a grade of 0 on the relevant quiz, assignment, or project.

**Disabilities:**  
Students with disability or medical conditions or concerns which require an accommodation should notify the instructor. Students should also contact the Access and Ability Center for additional information as soon as possible.

**Course changes**:  
As the instructor, I reserve the right to make changes on this syllabus, but will discuss any changes and their implications to you before they are implemented. Please review this course in Canvas and check your e-mail daily as I regularly use these methods to communicate information to students.

 If for ANY reason you are having trouble in this class (i.e., change in life circumstance, not understanding material, etc.) please contact me immediately. There are a number of services available to assist you at College of the Sequoias. Your success in this class is very important to me and I will work with you to assist you in succeeding in this course. However, you must remember that success in this course cannot happen without you doing everything you need to do to succeed.

**Disclaimer**:  
Due to the nature and reality of work in the criminal justice system, real life examples, verbal and non-verbal expression and role-playing by the instructor may be used to demonstrate to students important learning points. These examples are not meant to demean or insult any group or individual, but simply to give students an understanding of the reality that exists in this profession and prepare them to deal with different types of people and situations in a professional manner.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**:

Week 1- August 11  
Introduction: Course Information

Week 2- August 17  
Chapter 1  
August 21: Last Day to Drop a Class for a full refund.

Week 3- August 24  
Chapter 2  
August 28: Last Day to Drop a Class Without a "W."

Week 4- August 31  
Chapter 3

Week 5-September 7  
Chapter 4

Week 6- September 14  
Bill of Rights Project

Week 7- September 21  
Chapter 5

Week 8- September 28  
Mid-term Examination

Week 9- October 5  
Chapter 6

Week 10- October 12  
Chapter 7  
October23: Fall Final Drop Date

Week 11- October 19  
Chapter 8

Week 12- October 26  
Chapter 9

Week 13- November 1  
Chapter 10

Week 14- November 9  
Chapter 11

Week 15- November 16  
Chapter 12

Week 16- November 23  
Chapter 13  
BEGIN GROUP SURVEY PROJECT

Week 17- November 30  
FINALIZE GROUP SURVEY PROJECT

Week 18- December 7-11  
FINALS WEEK