Course Objectives: This course is a study of substantive issues in criminal law. Throughout the semester, we will be exploring the fundamental concepts and the evolution of criminal law through the use of lecture materials and case briefings. In addition, you will learn the elements of specific crimes and their related defenses. Specific consideration will be given to the historical development of criminal law and the constantly changing social and legal definitions of crime, and the nature of criminal sanctions.

Course Materials:
2) RECOMMENDED Reference Book: Black’s Law Dictionary.

Course Policies

Class Conduct: This class will be conducted as close to a law school class as possible. That means you should come prepared for class every time – readings read, briefs prepared, and ready to answer my questions. I will use a soft version of the Socratic Method. Each student will be expected to answer when called upon.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous manner, both in their interactions with other students and with the professor. During this class you will probably hear many differing views and opinions on different subjects; be open-minded and courteous, as this is how you want to be treated when you speak in class. Rude comments, note writing, reading the newspaper, sleeping, and other inappropriate behavior will result in your being asked to leave the class. Please do not talk while others are talking, do not read leisure material or other class material in class, do not go on Facebook, do not listen to your iPod or iPad and TURN YOUR CELL PHONES OFF! This will be a technology free classroom – please print out the Powerpoints ahead of time to aid in your note taking.

Be on time to class please! I understand that this is a quick mini-semester, but you must be on time and show up to class every day. You will fall behind very fast if you don’t show up prepared for every class session. Since we only have a handful of class days to meet, I will make the most out of every lecture. It is a pet peeve of mine when students are late and interrupt the flow of class. If it is exam day, make sure that you arrive on time or maybe even a few minutes early. If you late for the exam, you still have until the end of the exam period like everyone else. I won’t give you extra time. Do not leave lecture after breaks.
**Split Classroom:** As you may be aware, this is a split classroom with sections in Tyler and in Longview. The class will use Zoom technology and will be taught out of the Tyler classroom, with the Longview section serving as a remote classroom. Given that this is a short semester, I will only lecture out of the Tyler classroom. The Longview students will have technology support staff present for classes, and will have exams and activities proctored from the Longview center.

**Course Grade**

Your course grade for the semester is dependent on the work that you put into the class. I do not curve grades, no do I offer extra credit at the end of the semester. Please do not ask for extra points at the end of the semester that would boost you to the next letter grade – they will not be given.

This semester will be broken up into three units; each of which will conclude with an exam. You will be responsible for the assigned readings. I will not take attendance, but due to the small nature of the class I will be able to tell if you don’t show up to class or if you decide to leave halfway through. I wouldn’t recommend either option, as you will miss valuable class material since we are only here for thirteen days.

**Exams:** You will have three written exams this minimester. Each exam will be worth 100 points. They will take place on each Friday and you will be free to leave after those exams are complete.

Because this is a short semester, I do not expect you to be able to adequately prepare for the exams in the same way that you would if it was the Fall or the Spring – there is not enough time. Therefore, I will allow you to use your textbook and any notes that you would want to use for the exam. All of your materials MUST be in hard-copy format. You are not permitted to use any electronic materials for the exam. If you are on your phone, laptop, or tablet once the exam begins, it will be an automatic failure for that exam – No questions asked.

The exams will be in multiple choice and essay format. You will be given an offense scenario and several follow-up questions. You will be required to write as much as is necessary to answer all parts of the prompt. While exams are not necessarily cumulative in the traditional sense, you may be required to pull in information from earlier lectures due to the building natures of these concepts.

I will review this all with you again before the first exam, so that everyone is clear as to how the format will be given. Makeup exams will only be given with a medical note to excuse the student, and if the professor is informed within 2 days of the exam that the student is ill. I do not allow students to make up exams simply because they forgot or were unprepared.

**Case Briefs:** This Maymester, we will be reviewing state and US Supreme Court cases that explain the topics covered it that day’s readings. Students will be assigned to work in pairs to complete case briefs during the class period. We will work on the case briefs for roughly a half hour and then will review them as a class. You are responsible for showing up to class each day – do not leave your partner to complete these assignments alone. If you are absent on a case brief day, your grade will suffer for it and only your partner will receive credit for the assignment.
Each pair will be responsible to discussing various parts of the brief. I will ask you follow-up questions regarding the brief and how it ties into the day’s lectures. The more thorough your brief is, the less that I will have to ask you.

If you have never completed a brief before this class, there is a how-to guide posted on Blackboard. We will go over how to brief during the first days of class. Although I know that no one in this class would ever do such a thing, there are online briefs of these cases. Do not find them and plagiarize. I will know. I will provide the case and templates to complete the brief in class. Do not show up with a completed brief. There will be four briefs to complete this Maymester and each brief will be worth 25 points.

**Final Grade**

Your grade will consist of points awarded to the successful completion of the following components:

- 3 written exams (100 points each)  
  300 points
- 4 case briefs (25 points each)  
  100 points

*(400 total points)*

Letter Grades will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400 – 360</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>359.5 – 320</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319.5 – 280</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>279.5 – 240</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>239.5 and below</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Policies**

**Email Policy**

I like to keep open lanes of communication between students and myself. If you need to ask any questions or discuss anything class related, please do not hesitate to email me or call me during office hours. As I said before, please include CRIJ 3326 in the subject line so I know that it is class related. Please do not send any messages through the Blackboard system itself since I do not spend the majority of my time on the website. Also, it is polite to address your instructors by their chosen title. Do not email and simply say “Hey,” as it does not make me the happiest of professors. Proper introductions to emails and a little professionalism go along way with me and with all of your other instructors and professors as well.

You are responsible for checking your email daily. I frequently email students individually or as a group – if I send you an email I assume that you have read it and are informed with the message. It is a pet peeve of mine when students do not check their email – I will not hound you trying to get you to reply to my emails. At most, I will send you two email and if I do not have a response in a reasonable amount of time then I will assume you have chosen not to reply to me and I will act accordingly. For instance, if you submit a paper and I cannot open the attachment I will email to send me another copy of the paper. I will always include a reasonable deadline – if you do not respond
by that deadline that I will not grade the paper and you will not receive credit for it. So please check your email.

**Students Rights and Responsibilities**
To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:
http://www2.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php

**Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**
Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar. Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (May 12th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:
• Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
• Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
• Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
• Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
• Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement:
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation:
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Plagiarism and Cheating
Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else’s work as your own. 1) When you borrow someone else’s facts, ideas, or opinions and put them entirely in your own words, you must acknowledge that these thoughts are not your own by immediately citing the source in your paper. Failure to do this is plagiarism. 2) When you also borrow someone else’s words (short phrases, clauses, or sentences), you must enclose the copied words in quotation marks as well as citing the source. Failure to do this is plagiarism. 3) When you present someone else’s paper or exam (stolen, borrowed, or bought) as your own, you have committed a clearly intentional form of intellectual theft and have put your academic future in jeopardy. This is the worst form of plagiarism.

Here is another explanation from the 2010, sixth edition of the Manual of The American Psychological Association (APA): Plagiarism: Researchers do not claim the words and ideas of another as their own; they give credit where credit is due. Quotations marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Each time you paraphrase another author (i.e., summarize a passage or rearrange the order of a sentence and change some of the words), you need to credit the source in the text.

The key element of this principle is that authors do not present the work of another as if it were their own words. This can extend to ideas as well as written words. If authors model a study after one done by someone else, the originating author should be given credit. If the rationale for a study was suggested in the Discussion section of someone else’s article, the person should be given credit. Given the free exchange of ideas, which is very important for the health of intellectual discourse, authors may not know where an idea for a study originated. If authors do know, however, they should acknowledge the source; this includes personal communications. (pp. 15-16).

Consult the Writing Center or a recommended guide to documentation and research such as the Manual of the APA or the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers for guidance on proper documentation. If you still have doubts concerning proper documentation, seek advice from your instructor prior to submitting a final draft.
Penalties for Plagiarism: Should a faculty member discover that a student has committed plagiarism, the student will receive a grade of 'F' in that course and the matter will be referred to the Honor Council for possible disciplinary action. The faculty member, however, has the right to give freshmen and sophomore students a “zero” for the assignment and to allow them to revise the assignment up to a grade of “F” (50%) if they believe that the student plagiarized out of ignorance or carelessness and not out of an attempt to deceive in order to earn an unmerited grade. This option is not available to juniors, seniors, or graduate students, who cannot reasonably claim ignorance of documentation rules as an excuse.

Penalties for Cheating: Should a faculty member discover a student cheating on an exam or quiz or other class project, the student will receive a “zero” for the assignment and not be allowed to make the assignment up. The incident must be reported to the chair of the department and to the Honor Council. If the cheating is extensive, however, or if the assignment constitutes a major grade for the course (e.g., a final exam), or if the student has cheated in the past, the student should receive an “F” in the course, and the matter should be referred to the Honor Council. Under no circumstances should a student who deserves an “F” in the course be allowed to withdraw from the course with a “W.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings and Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 11th</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
<td>Chapter 1 (pg. 1-20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Nature, Purpose and Function of Law</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 12th</td>
<td>Constitutional Limitations</td>
<td>Chapter 2 (pg. 21-43)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Tuesday, May 19th</td>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>Chapter 7 (pg. 145-166)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Wednesday, May 20th</td>
<td>Sex Crimes</td>
<td>Chapter 8 (pg. 167-194)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Thursday, May 21st</td>
<td>Crimes Against Property</td>
<td>Chapter 9 (pg. 195-229)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 25th</td>
<td>MEMORIAL DAY – NO CLASS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 26th</td>
<td>White-Collar and Organized Crime</td>
<td>Chapter 10 (pg. 231-257)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 27th</td>
<td>Public Order and Morality</td>
<td>Chapter 11 (pg. 259-281)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 28th</td>
<td>Social Order and Morality</td>
<td>Chapter 12 (283-308)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, May 29th</td>
<td>Last Day of Class</td>
<td>EXAM 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The syllabus is subject to change at my discretion. If I change the syllabus, an updated version will be provided to you on Blackboard.

** No office hours on the days listed.