

CCJS 230 CRIMINAL LAW
Fall 2019

Instructor:	Cortney Fisher, JD, PhD	Course Time:	M/W/F, 10:00 am – 10:50 am
Office:	To meet as requested	Course Location:	Tawes Art, Room 0310
Email:	cfisher3@umd.edu	Office hrs:	By appointment
TA:	Hayley Wolf hayleywolf16@yahoo.com		

Course Objective

This course is designed to introduce the student to the crime victim as a part of our larger society and as a part of the criminal justice system. Students will develop an understanding of the impact of crime on the victim and the victim's role and rights in the criminal justice system.

Required Texts

1. Criminal Law
Kathryn Russell – Brown & Angela Davis
ISBN: 978-1-4129-7789-0

Course Requirements

This is the formula that you need to use to calculate your grade. Do NOT use ELMS to calculate your grade. Plug your grades into the formula below.

Quizzes 100 points x 2 = 200 points

 10 points per quiz x 10 quizzes = 100 points

There will be 10 quizzes throughout the session. Each quiz is worth 10 points. Each quiz will be taken on ELMS. The quizzes will be announced at least one class period preceding the date that the quiz is due. Students will have until 11:00 pm on the date that the quiz is due to complete the quiz. Quizzes are open note and open book and will be heavily based on the material that we reviewed in class. It is highly recommended that you attend class to do well on the quizzes.

There are no excuses for missed quizzes. I do not accept late quizzes under any circumstances. It is your responsibility to make sure that you are following emails from the class and getting notes from classmates if you've missed class.

Your first quiz is a quiz that tests your knowledge on the contents the syllabus. This syllabus is a contract between each of you and me. Completing the 10 point quiz posted on ELMS certifies to me that you have read and understand the requirements of this course. Please do not take quiz until you are able to certify that this is true. You will be held to the requirements of this course.

The quiz is due to be completed on ELMS on Wednesday, September 11 at 11:00 pm. Late quizzes will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Mid-Term Exam 100 points x 3 = 300 points

If you have an excused absence: I will excuse absences for medical necessity, family emergencies, religious observances, interviews with proper documentation, university-sanctioned events, or court appearances. All excused absences must have a note from the appropriate authority, e.g. doctor, court, university official, interviewer. If your absence is excused, you will have the opportunity to make-up the exam within one week of the absence. There will be no exams made up by the student after one week. It is solely the student's responsibility to learn whether an exam was given on the day the student was absent and to arrange with professor to complete the exam.

Final Exam 100 points x 4 = 400 points

Engagement 100 points x 1 = 100 points

Engagement in the course is worth 10% of your grade, and refers to your relationship as a student to the course. An engaged student is one who is fully absorbed by and enthusiastic about the course and so takes positive and consistent action to further the student's understanding of the material.

Engagement may be reflected by consistent (and meaningful) participation in class, completion of optional assignments, ongoing discussion with me as to the content of the course, and consistent, on-time completion of the out-of-class assignments.

The grade given for engagement is at the discretion of the Instructor. Points in this category may be earned or may be lost. You may lose points for engagement if you are actively disengaged during the class period, e.g. texting, chatting online, etc., or if you have a pattern of not attending class.

Engagement Grading Scheme: Each student begins the class with between a 70-75 in the Engagement Grade. Whether the grade is a 70, 72, or 75 depends on the overall participation of the class at large. If the class (as a whole) is very participatory, the class, as a whole, will receive a 75 as a baseline for Engagement. If the class (as a whole) is not very participatory or engaged, the class as a whole will receive a 70 as a baseline for Engagement.

From that number, you can increase your Engagement grade by answering questions in class, asking questions in class, reading and taking note of criminal law-related issues in the news and bringing them to me (or the class), or being present in class on a consistent and regular basis. This is not an exclusive list, but it is a list that can guide you in increasing your Engagement grade.

From the baseline Engagement grade, you can decrease your Engagement grade by routinely not attending class, being disrespectful to the class (and me) when in class, texting, snapchatting, looking at your phone or computer for reasons not associated with class, or being offensive in your comments. This is also not an exclusive list, but it is a list that can warn you about what behavior is not acceptable in my class.

NOTE: Attendance in this class is not mandatory. I do not need to see an excuse when you're absent, nor do you need to tell me if you're not going to be in class. However, at random times throughout the semester, I will take attendance. This attendance does not "give you" points, nor does the attendance "take points away." Attendance is meant as an objective gauge of who is attending (and therefore more engaged in) the class. If you miss a day of class when attendance is taken, you do not need to show me an excuse; it will not change your status as absent. Simply be mindful to attend class on a more regular basis. If you actively participate in class, I likely won't even look at your attendance when determining the Engagement grade.

50-55: Your experience with this course was very poor. Your classroom behavior was rude and disruptive, OR you never (or very rarely) attended class, and you never attended any optional events.

60-65: You did something to indicate to me that you were not engaged in the course. Your classroom behavior may have been poor or disruptive, your attendance may be poor, you may have missed a lot of quizzes, and/or you made no effort to make up work through extra credit.

70-75: This is the baseline grade at which each student begins the course. If you do nothing more and nothing less, this will be your grade at the end of the course.

80-85: You distinguished yourself somehow. I received some Engagement from you. Your attendance was acceptable when taken in class.

90-95: Your Engagement was good. You made sure that I knew that you were engaged with the material, either through spoken, in-class engagement, email engagement, or after-class/before-class conversations.

100: Your Engagement was exceptional.

Total points 1000 points

Extra Credit Points to be added to the END of your point total, as calculated above

At times during the course of the semester, extra credit opportunities will be offered to students. These will depend on events that are occurring on or near campus. Students are able to earn up to fifty (50) points in extra credit during the course of the semester. Extra credit can be ad hoc events, as offered during the semester, or case briefs, as described below.

Students will also be able to complete up to two (2) case briefs for extra credit during the course of the semester. Each case brief has a maximum value of 25 points, for a maximum of 50 extra credit points. For the purposes of this class, case briefs involve answering the questions immediately following certain cases that are highlighted in the book. If a student wishes to do a case brief for extra credit, the case brief is due on ELMS the day that the readings for that chapter are due in class.

EXAMPLE: On Monday, October 7, Chapter 4 is due for the class. On that day, any student who wishes to do so should submit a case brief through ELMS on any case that is highlighted during that chapter. If the case is highlighted in the chapter is in printed in the Detailed Contents of your book in CAPITAL LETTERS, BOLDED, AND ITALICIZED. In this example, there was one case brief submitted for PEOPLE VS. RIZZO and three submitted for PEOPLE VS. EPTON. No late case briefs will be accepted, and all dates on the syllabus, as published in the beginning of the semester should be observed.

A+ = 975-1000	B+ = 865-894	C+ = 765-794	D+ = 665-694	F = below 595
A = 935-974	B = 825-864	C = 725- 764	D = 625-664	
A- = 895-934	B- = 795-824	C- = 695-724	D- = 595-624	

University Policies

<http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>

Classroom Behavior

Class discussion, questions, expression of viewpoints, concerns, and opinions are encouraged. This classroom and my style are very informal. However, I require that all students speak in a non-offensive manner to other students, to the TA (if there is one), and to me. Using language that is offensive, being disruptive or disrespectful, or failing to treat other students and me with respect will result in a reduction of the Engagement grade.

Special Guest Speakers. At various times during the semester, there will be special guest speakers who are relevant to the subject that we are discussing. Behavior and attendance during a special guest speaker is

extremely important. I will not tolerate inappropriate behavior during a special guest speaker, and I will remove up to 25 points from your Engagement grade for inappropriate behavior. Inappropriate behavior includes texting from your cell phone, chatting or using Facebook on your laptop, or talking to other students while the guest speaker is speaking. Further, attendance at special guest speaker appointments is mandatory. The information provided by the guest speakers will be quizzed and tested heavily.

Use of Personal Technology

The use of personal technology, e.g. personal laptop computers, tablets, SmartPhones, is encouraged in this class to facilitate efficient notetaking and use of class time. Course notes and outlines will often be made available to students prior to each class period. Students are encouraged to download those materials and to use them during class time. If students are found to be using personal technology devices in any way that is not specifically related to the day's class discussion, then I may deduct up to 10 points from the student's engagement grade for the first offense. On the second and subsequent offenses, students will be referred to the Departmental Director of Undergraduate Programs and/or the Office of Student Conduct for violating course policy on the use of personal computers in the classroom.

Medically Necessitated Absences from Class

The University shall excuse class absences that result from a student's illness, provided the student complies with the procedures below. Procedures vary depending on the length and frequency of the absence and whether the absence occurs during a Major Scheduled Grading Event.

Major Scheduled Grading Events and Prolonged Absences. All Major Scheduled Grading Events are indicated on the attached schedule. Students who miss a Major Scheduled Grading Event due to illness or who have a prolonged absence due to illness (multiple consecutive absences due to the same illness) shall be required to provide his or her instructor with written documentation of the illness from the University Health Center or from his or her own health care provider. The University Health Center or health care provider shall verify dates of treatment and indicate the dates the student was unable to meet academic responsibilities.

Excused Absences from Class. Except during a Major Scheduled Grading Event, students may be excused from a single lecture, recitation or laboratory session one time per course per semester for a medically necessitated reason. The student should make a reasonable attempt to inform the instructor of his/her illness prior to the class, and present his or her instructor with a self-signed note attesting to the date of his or her illness. This note must include an acknowledgement: (a) that the information provided is true and correct, and (b) that the student understands that providing false information to University officials is a violation of Part 9(h) of the Code of Student Conduct.

For this course, all quizzes are not considered to be Major Scheduled Grading Events. When the student does not meet the quiz time limits or misses a quiz, the student will forfeit the opportunity to take the quiz and will receive a zero.

Because attendance is not recorded for lectures, there is no need for a student to provide a self-signed note or advanced notification for missing a lecture.

Students with Disabilities

I will make every effort to accommodate students who are registered with the Disability Support Services (DSS) Office and who provide me with a University of Maryland DSS Accommodation form. I am not able to accommodate students who are not registered with DSS or who do not provide me with documentation that has not been reviewed by DSS. Also, any student who wishes to take exams under the supervision of DSS must advise me at least one week prior to the exam.

Lecture Material

The lecture I deliver in this class and the course materials I create and distribute are protected by federal copyright law as my original works. My lectures are recorded or delivered from written lectures in order to insure copyright protection. You are permitted to take notes of my lectures and to use course materials for your use in this course. You may not record,

reproduce or distribute my lectures/notes for any commercial purpose without my written consent. Persons who sell or distribute copies or modified copies of my course materials, possess commercial copies of my notes (i.e., Terpnotes), or assist another person or entity in selling or distributing those materials may be considered in violation of the University Code of Student Conduct, Part 9 (k).

Academic Integrity

Don't cheat. All cases of suspected cheating will be submitted to the Student Honor Council and the Office of Judicial Programs.

CCJS 230: Criminal Law, Fall 2019		
Class Date	Topic	Assignment Due
Monday, August 26	Course Introduction	
Wednesday, August 28	Introduction to Criminal Law	Criminal Law , Chapter 1
Friday, August 30	Introduction to Criminal Law	
Monday, September 2	LABOR DAY BREAK	
Wednesday, September 4	Constitutional Limits on Criminal Law	Criminal Law , Chapter 2
Friday, September 6	Guest Speaker: Burke Miller, Esq.	
Monday, September 9	Guest Speaker: Spencer Cantrell, Esq.	
Wednesday, September 11	Guest Speaker: Spencer Cantrell, Esq.	QUIZ 1 DUE NO LATER THAN 11:00 PM
Friday, September 13	Guest Speakers: Tova Zimm and Rebecca Grbinich	
Monday, September 16	Constitutional Limits on Criminal Law	
Wednesday, September 18	Constitutional Limits on Criminal Law	
Friday, September 20	Constitutional Limits on Criminal Law	
Monday, September 23	Elements of a Crime	Criminal Law , Chapter 3
Wednesday, September 25	Elements of a Crime	
Friday, September 27	Guest Speaker: Spencer Cantrell, Esq.	
Monday, September 30	Elements of a Crime	
Wednesday, October 2	Elements of a Crime	
Friday, October 4	Elements of a Crime	
Monday, October 7	Elements of a Crime/Incomplete Crimes	Criminal Law , Chapter 4
Wednesday, October 9	Incomplete Crimes	
Friday, October 11	Incomplete Crimes	
Monday, October 14	Incomplete Crimes	
Wednesday, October 16	Incomplete Crimes	
Friday, October 18	Wrap-Up/Q&A Review	
Monday, October 21	Mid-Term Exam: Major Scheduled Graded Event	
Wednesday, October 23	Theft and Property Crimes	Criminal Law , Chapter 5
Friday, October 25	Guest Speaker: Laurie Duker	
Monday, October 28	Theft and Property Crimes	
Wednesday, October 30	Theft and Property Crimes	
Friday, November 1	Rape and other Violent Crimes	Criminal Law , Chapter 7
Monday, November 4	Rape and other Violent Crimes	
Wednesday, November 6	Rape and other Violent Crimes	
Friday, November 8	Rape and other Violent Crimes; Criminal Homicide	Criminal Law , Chapter 8
Monday, November 11	Criminal Homicide	
Wednesday, November 13	Criminal Homicide	
Friday, November 15	Criminal Homicide	
Monday, November 18	Criminal Homicide; Justification Defenses	
Wednesday, November 20	Justification Defenses	Criminal Law , Chapter 9
Friday, November 22	Guest Speaker: Erin Pollitt, MHA, BSN, RN, FNE-A, SANE-A	
Monday, November 25	Justification Defenses	
Wednesday, November 27	THANKSGIVING RECESS	
Friday, November 29	THANKSGIVING RECESS	
Monday, December 2	Excuse Defenses	Criminal Law , Chapter 10
Wednesday, December 4	Excuse Defenses	
Friday, December 6	Excuse Defenses	
Monday, December 9	Wrap-Up/Q&A Review	
FINAL EXAM: TBD (Major Scheduled Graded Event)		