

COURTS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CJUS 250 01 074

Contact information

Alton Braddock, 207 Stubbs Hall, 342-1404, braddock@ulm.edu
Office Hours: 0800 to 1000 MWF and 0730 to 0800 & 1100 to 1230 TR

I. Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

CJUS 101 or approval of the program director (department head)

II. Course Description

Examination of the court component of the Criminal Justice System. Emphasis on structure, roles and functions of courts and their relationship to other system components and social institutions. Prerequisite 101 or approval of department head (program director).

III. Course Objectives and Outcomes

The student will become intricately familiar with local, state, and federal court systems in America. The student will likewise develop an understanding of the interlocking relationship between the courts and all other components of the criminal justice field. An understanding of the centrality of the court system to the criminal justice system will be demonstrated. Outcomes will be determined and measured by scores on three or four objective examinations.

IV. Course Topics

Law and Crime
Federal Courts
State Courts
The dynamics of courthouse justice
Prosecutors
Defense Attorneys
Defendants & Victims
Arrest to Arraignment
Bail
Disclosing and Suppressing Evidence
Negotiated Justice and the plea of guilty
Trials and Juries
Sentencing

V. Instructional Methods and Activities

This class is neither on-line or hybrid. Class attendance is strongly encouraged. Additionally, university policy is that a student's unexcused absences cannot exceed 10% of regularly scheduled classes. This class meets 45 times during the semester. Therefore a student's unexcused absences cannot exceed 4 (See Section VIII-B for more detail on attendance).

Instructional methods will be focused on classroom activities (See Section IX for a weekly detail of activity). The instructor will utilize lectures, audio/visual aids, outside guest speakers, and other types of instructional activities as may be deemed appropriate. There will be no research papers to write. Most research on significant court cases will be limited to those cases discussed in the text.

VI. Evaluation and Grade Assignment

There will be several unit examinations and one final examination in the class. Unit exams will be announced at least one week in advance of the examination. The final examination will be on Wednesday December 5 at 0800 hours. All exams including the final test will have 100 points. Final grade averages will be posted on-line for students to view via Arrow. Final grade averages and corresponding letter grades will be as follows:

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 – 69	D
Below 60	F

Undergraduate mid-term grades will be posted on-line via Arrow. Mid-term grades indicate a student's status at mid-semester only and do not indicate the final performance outcome of a student.

VII. Class Policies and Procedures

At a minimum, all policies stated in the current ULM Student Policy Manual & Organizational Handbook should be followed (see <http://www.ulm.edu/studentpolicy/>). Additional class policies include:

A. Textbook and materials:

AMERICAN COURTS AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM (9th edition) by Dr. David Neubauer. The text is published by Thomson/Wadsworth. The ISBN# is 0-495-09540-8. No other materials are required. Recording devices are permitted during regular class sessions only!

B. Attendance Policy: Class attendance is required!. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting. Excused absences will be for legitimate and documented purposes only and must be supported by court orders, physician' excuses, military orders, etc. Not sufficient are statements from parents, spouses, room mates, or others attesting to your not feeling well on a particular day.

C. Make-up Policy: Those who miss examinations due to verifiable, unavoidable reasons will be allowed to take the exam during a time specified by the instructor. The exam may or may not be the same exam that was originally administered.

D. Academic Integrity: Faculty and students must observe the ULM published policy on Academic Dishonesty (see Page 4 in ULM Student Policy Manual -- <http://www.ulm.edu/studentpolicy/>). (Also, include any additional policy information.)

E. Course Evaluation Policy: At a minimum, students are expected to complete the on-line course evaluation. (Also, include any additional course-specific policies related to evaluation of the course.)

F. Student Services: Information about ULM student services, such as Student Success Center (<http://www.ulm.edu/cass/>), Counseling Center (<http://www.ulm.edu/counselingcenter/>), Special Needs (<http://www.ulm.edu/counselingcenter/special.htm>), and Student Health Services, is available at the following Student Services web site <http://www.ulm.edu/studentaffairs/>.

G. Emergency Procedures: All students who anticipate any type of emergency should make the instructor aware of any action the instructor should take. For example, any students

who may anticipate emergencies associated with a medical condition should indicate what action s/he wishes to be taken. Otherwise, medical emergency personnel will be summoned to the scene of the emergency

- H. Discipline/Course Specific Policies: Students who are Criminal Justice majors are reminded that they must have a grade of C or better in all Criminal Justice classes.

VIII. Tentative Course Schedule

Contact Information: Alton Braddock who telephone # is 342-1404, who e-mail address is braddock@ulm.edu and whose office is 207 Stubbs Hall.

IX. Schedule:

The following schedule by week details the topics to be covered in each week.

THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVISE THIS SCHEDULE AS NEEDED!

<u>Week of:</u>	<u>Topic:</u>
August 20	Law and Crime
August 27	Federal Courts
Sept. 4	State Courts
Sept. 10	The dynamics of courthouse justice
Sept 17	Prosecutors
Sept 24	Defense Attorneys
October 1	Judges
October 8	Defendants & Victims
October 15	Arrest to Arraignment
October 22	Bail
October 29	Disclosing and Suppressing Evidence
November 4	Negotiated justice and the Plea of guilty
November 12	Trials and Juries
November 19	Sentencing
November 26	Appellate Courts
December 5	Final Test