Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
Criminal Justice Program  
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CRIMINAL LAW: THEORY AND PRACTICE  
Fall 2012 01:202:309  
Tuesdays/Thursdays 6:40pm-8:00pm  
Lucy Stone Hall, Room A142  
Website: http://nbcjm.rutgers.edu

Learning Goals:  
A Statement of Principles

The Program Committee for the Program in Criminal Justice at Rutgers University in New Brunswick has adopted a series of learning goals for students who complete the major. These goals represent the consensus of the faculty regarding the concepts a student should grasp and the skills a student should acquire in the course of completing the major. These goals guide the choices faculty make about the structure of the curriculum and the requirements for our majors. Moreover, they guide faculty and instructors preparing course material and teaching courses.

The Program in Criminal Justice will provide students with a rich understanding of crime and criminal justice in the United States and abroad through an interdisciplinary approach that blends a strong liberal arts educational experience with pre-professional instruction in the field of criminal justice. Graduates of the program will be well-informed citizens on the topic of crime and justice, and qualified for graduate study or for employment as practitioners in a variety of legal, policymaking, and law enforcement fields.

Criminal justice majors graduating from a research university should be able to use critical thinking, factual inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to individual and group behavior. In addition, students should have an understanding of the legal, political and policymaking processes that affect criminal justice systems in the United States and elsewhere in the world. Finally, students should be familiar with the institutional structures and latest developments in the field in order to engage in meaningful debate about current public policy issues.

Learning Goals for Criminal Justice Majors

1. Competence:
   a.) Theory. Students who complete the major in criminal justice should understand and be able to articulate, both orally and in writing, the core
theoretical concepts that form the foundation of analysis and research in criminology and criminal justice today. Core concepts are derived from explanations of crime from a variety of perspectives, including biogenic, psychological, and sociological approaches. There are myriad theories of crime that are informed by these perspectives, including, classical, control, critical, ecology, labeling, learning, strain, and trait-based approaches. Theoretical literacy should extend to multicultural and international understanding.

b.) **Institutions.** Students who complete the major in criminal justice should understand the special role of three types of institutions: Police, Corrections, and Courts. In addition, students should know how institutional forms vary across jurisdictions and how these institutions interact with and influence each other.

c.) **Research Methods.** Students who complete the criminal justice major should be familiar with the tools, techniques, and data sources necessary for empirical analysis. Students should understand the various ways that empirical analysis is used in the scientific approach: for description, for developing, and for testing theories. They should be able to analyze data using computer applications and should be familiar with basic statistical techniques and regression analysis. They should be able to read and assess research from a wide range of sources, including general interest, academic, and government publications.

2. **Critical Thinking:** Upon completion of the major students should be able to apply their understanding of core concepts and quantitative tools to analyze and research real world problems, and evaluate alternative policy proposals on a range of criminal justice issues, from micro-level analyses relevant to particular cases to management concerns to macro-level analyses of legislative and other broad-scale policies. Accomplishment of this goal will require that students can apply their literacy and numeracy skills to different institutional structures, within the U.S. and across countries.

3. **Scholarship:** Qualified majors should have an opportunity through such avenues as advanced coursework, internships, and faculty interactions to conduct independent research on matters of central relevance to the field of criminal justice.
COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course originally was called by the misnomer “Criminal Law of New Jersey.” It never was taught with that limited Jurisdictional focus and we have therefore renamed it to more accurately reflect its focus on the analysis and close readings of the Model Penal Code and also to state statutes including, Title 2C: The New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice.

Students will be provided with a solid foundation to enable those who will, in greater or lesser degree, participate directly in the process of the criminal law and for others an understanding of the Criminal Law sufficient to bring an informed intelligence to the challenge of solving some of the most vexing problems of our times. Finally, students should be familiar with the institutional structures of the Courts, the Prosecution, the Defense and Law Enforcement in order to engage in meaningful debate about current Public Policy Issues, impacting the Criminal Law and its Processes.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Title 2C: New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice, West Publishing Co. Available at the Rutgers University Bookstore.


SUGGESTED READING

Understanding Criminal Law by Joshua Drossier (Mathew Bender, 2nd Ed. 1995)
Textbook of Criminal Law by Glanville Williams (2nd Ed. 1983).
Rethinking Criminal Law by George Fletcher (Little Brown 1978).

DISABILITY POLICY & ACCOMMODATIONS

- Full disability policies and procedures are at http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/

- Students with disabilities requesting accommodations must follow the procedures outlined at: http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/request.html
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Rutgers University has a well defined academic integrity policy, which will strictly enforced in this class. All students in this class should review and be familiar with the policy of the university, which can be found at: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/files/documents/AI_Policy_9_01_2011.pdf

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/ to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An e-mail is automatically sent to me. You are expected to have the material read for the respective class.

COURSE OUTLINE

As in previous course at the 200 series, the substantive materials continue to focus on imparting an understanding of those basic principles and doctrines that come into play across the range of special offenses (for example, Actus Reus, Mens Rea and the various Justifications and Excuses). While we do not believe that mastery of the detailed elements of many particular crimes is an appropriate goal for a basis undergraduate criminal law course. Nevertheless, it is important that students obtain an understanding of the basis principles as reflected in the detailed case studies of some particular offenses.

Therefore we have detailed two offense categories Rape and Homicide. The growing complexity and importance of Sentencing Procedure and Sentencing Guidelines pose a dilemma for a basis undergraduate course but the subject is too important to be ignored. We have provided a texture summary of current Sentencing Procedures and the Jurisprudential Issues underlying them.

I. HOW GUILT IS ESTABLISHED
   *An overview of Criminal Trial Procedure
   *The Adversary Trial Process
   *Conviction by Guilt Plea

   CASE STUDIES:
   People v. Zackowitz
   Duncan v. Louisiana
   U.S. v. Dougherty
   Nix v. Whiteside

II. JUSTIFICATION OF PUNISHMENT
   *Perspectives on Punishment
CASE STUDIES:
- Regina v. Dudley
- U.S. v. Milken
- U.S. v. Gemewtera
- U.S. v. Jackson

*What to Punish
- Bowers v. Hardwick
- Lawrence v. Texas

III. DEFINING CRIMINAL CONDUCT-THE ELEMENTS OF JUST PUNISHMENT
*Actus Reus – Culpable Actions
*Omissions
*Mens Rea - Culpable Mental Status
*Mistakes of Fact
*Mistake of Law
*The Abandonment of Mens Rea
*New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice 2C:3-1 thru 2C: 3-11, 2C:2-1 thru 2C:2-12

CASE STUDIES
- Martin v. State
- People v. Newton
- Pope v. State
- Jones v. U.S.
- Barber v. Superior Court
- Regina v. Cunningham
- Regina v. Faulkner
- State v. Hazlewood
- U.S. v. Jewell
- People v. Olsen
- Morissette v. U.S.
- Staples v. U.S.
- State v. Guminga
- State v. Baker
- Cheek v. U.S.

IV. RAPE
*New Jersey Code 2C:14-4 thru 2C:14-2
*Actus Reus
*Deception
*Mens Rea
*Force, Nonconsent, and Resistance
*The Marital Exemption
*Problems of Proof
*Cross-Examination and Shield Laws
CASE STUDIES:
State v. Rusk
People v. Evans
Boro v. Superior Court
Commonwealth v. Sherry
Commonwealth v. Fischer
People v. Liberta
United States v. Wiley
State v. DeLawder
Government of Virgin Islands v. Scuito

V. HOMICIDE
*New Jersey Code 2c:11-1 thru 2C:11-4
*The Premeditation - Deliberation Formula
*The Provocation Formula
*The Distinguishing Civil and Criminal Liability
*The Line Between Murder and Manslaughter
*The Felony-Murder Doctrine
*The Death Penalty

CASE STUDIES:
Commonwealth v. Carroll
State v. Guthrie
Girouard v. State
Maher v. People
People v. Casassa
Commonwealth v. Welansky
State v. Williams
Commonwealth v. Malone
U.S. v. Fleming
People v. Phillips
People v. Stewart
Hines v. State
People v. Burton

VI. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF RESULTING HARM
*New Jersey Code 2C:5-1 and 2C:5-3
*Causation
*Attempt
*Impossibility

CASE STUDIES:
People v. Acosta
People v. Arzon
People v. Campbell
People v. Kevorkian
Stephenson v. State
Commonwealth v. Atencio
Smallwood v. State
People v. Rizzo
McQuirter v. State
U.S. v. Harper
U.S. v. Joyce
State v. Davis

VII. **EXCULPATION**
*New Jersey Code 2C:3 and 2C:4
*Principles of Justification
*Protection of Life Person
*Protection of Property and Law Enforcement
*Choice of the Lesser Evil-The Residual Principle of Justification
*Principles of Excuse
*Duress
*Intoxication
*Mental Disorder
*Changing Patterns of Excuse

CASE STUDIES:
People v. Goetz
State v. Kelly
State v. Norman
State v. Abbott
U.S. v. Patterson
People v. Ceballos
Durham v. State
Tennessee v. Garner

VIII. **DISPOSITION OF CONVICTED OFFENDERS**
*New Jersey Code 2C:43
*Procedure at Sentencing
*Constitutional Requirements
*Challenging the Presentence Report
*Appellate Review
*Parole Revocation
*Determinate – Sentence Movement
RESEARCH PAPER REQUIRED OF ALL STUDENTS.
PAPER DUE DECEMBER 4, 2012. PAPER LENGTH 20 PAGES INCLUDING FOOTNOTES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY.

TERM PAPER OUTLINE

1. Cover Sheet (Title, your name, course name, and course number)

2. Table of Contents

3. Statement of the problem to be discussed and its background

4. The argument for your contentions supported by relevant research and facts

5. Conclusions

6. Bibliography (the bibliography reference methods may be somewhat easier for you)

7. Appendixes as needed

Please number all pages bottom center, and fasten firmly together by staples, rings, or some other kind of binding method.

Prepare a well-reasoned and researched paper on any one of the following topics:
RESEARCH PAPER TOPICS

1. Prepare a well-reasoned public policy argument for the proposition that the criminalization of a pregnant woman ingesting illegal drugs, without also criminalizing other forms of fetal neglect such as excessive consumption of alcohol, aspirin, or caffeine, or inadequate diet or improper activities, violates the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. [See Dorothy Roberts 104 Harvard Law Review 1419 (1991); and Lynn M. Paltrow 62 Albany Law Review 999 (1999)].

2. Prepare a well-reasoned public policy argument for the proposition that non-violent homosexual advances as a matter of law should not constitute sufficient provocation to reduce an intentional killing from murder to manslaughter. [See 80 Cal. Law Review 133 (1992); 85 Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology 726 (1995)].

PROFESSOR LENNOX S. HINDS

PROGRAM IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

ANY STUDENT FOUND GUILTY OF PLAGIARISM WILL RECEIVE A FAILING GRADE FOR THE TERM PAPER!

Please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy found on the following site:
http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu
STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the representation of the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or by appropriate indentation and must be promptly cited in the text or in a footnote. Acknowledgement is required when material from another source is stored in print, electronic, or other medium and is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in one's own words. To acknowledge a paraphrase properly, one might state: "to paraphrase Plato's comment..." and conclude with a footnote identifying the exact reference. A footnote acknowledging only a directly quoted statement does not suffice to notify the reader of any preceding or succeeding paraphrased materials. Information which is common knowledge, such as names of leaders of prominent nations, basic scientific laws, etc., need not be footnoted; however, all facts or information obtained in reading or research that are not common knowledge among students in the course must be acknowledged. In addition to materials specifically cited in the text, only materials that contribute to one's general understanding of the subject may be acknowledged in the bibliography. Plagiarism can, in some cases, be a subtle issue. Any questions about what constitutes plagiarism should be discussed with the faculty member.

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey Campus
Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students, page 10.

ref. bg/plag.