

**SPRING 2004 SYLLABUS  
CRIMINAL LAW  
CRJU-C405-Z51**

Professor Melissia A. Buckhalter  
Lecture: Thursdays 6:15-10:15 PM BO 219  
Office Hours: Wednesdays & Thursdays 5:00-6:00 PM  
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**Course Description**<sup>1</sup>: This course examines the various crimes that are outlined in the Louisiana Criminal Code. The students will study the various concepts regarding criminal culpability. Additionally, discussion will be had concerning legal defenses including: self defense, defense of others, infancy, insanity, intoxication and entrapment. The students are assigned Louisiana Supreme Court and Appellate Court cases to read and brief. They are called upon to make oral presentations as to the facts, issues and ultimate holdings of these cases. Finally, discussion will also focus on concepts of "proof beyond a reasonable doubt," criminal intent, criminal negligence, and defenses to criminal activity.

**Grading Policy:** The students' grades will be broken down as follows:  
Midterm: 40%  
Class Participation: 10%  
Final Examination: 50%

100-95 = A+; 94-90 = A; 89-85 = B+; 84-80 = B;  
79-75 = C+; 74-70 = C; 69-65 = D+; 64-60 = D; anything below 60 = F.

**Attendance Policy:** Students cannot miss more than two classes, or final grade will be lowered by one letter grade.

**Exams:** Exams will include items on all assigned readings and material covered in class. Make-up exams will be given only at the discretion of the instructor and reserved for demonstrable situations beyond the control of the student.

**Assignments:** Prior to coming to class, the students should read and brief the assigned cases that will be discussed on that particular day and be prepared to discuss the same.

**Reading:** One text is required: Louisiana Criminal Law Cases and Materials, Edmonds, Harges and LeCesne. It can be purchased at Loyola Central Reproductions.

**Disability** Students with disabilities who believe that they may need

accommodations

**Statement:** in this class are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services at 865-2990 as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Class**

Overview of course and relevant statutes for course. Read Chapter 1 for next class.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Class**

Chapter 1, The Louisiana Criminal Code—Definitions and Interpretation.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Class**

Chapter 2, The Guilty Mind. Review of Criminal Intent and Criminal Negligence.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Class**

Chapter 3, Justification and Excuse. Review of Defenses of Insanity, Intoxication, and General Provisions of Justification.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Class**

Chapter 3, Continued. Justification and Excuse. Review of Defenses of Self-Defense, Defense of Others and Defense of Property.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Class**

Chapter 4, Parties to a Crime. Review of concepts of Principals, Accessory after the fact, Attempt, and Solicitation.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Class**

Chapter 5, Homicide. Review of First Degree Murder, Second Degree Murder, Manslaughter, Negligent Homicide and Vehicular Homicide.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Class**

**Midterm Examination.**

### **9<sup>th</sup> Class**

Chapter 6, Assault and Battery. Review of Aggravated battery, Second Degree Battery, Aggravated Assault, and Simple Assault.

### **10<sup>th</sup> Class**

Chapter 7, Sexual Offenses. Review of Aggravated Rape, Forcible Rape, and Carnal Knowledge of a Juvenile (statutory rape).

### **11<sup>th</sup> Class**

Chapter 8, Kidnapping. Review of Aggravated Kidnapping, Second Degree Kidnapping, and Simple Kidnapping.

### **12<sup>th</sup> Class**

Chapter 9, Arson. Review of Aggravated Arson and Simple Arson.

### **13<sup>th</sup> Class**

Chapter 10, Burglary. Review of Aggravated Burglary, Simple Burglary and Unauthorized Entry of an Inhabited Dwelling.

### **14<sup>th</sup> Class**

Chapter 11, Theft and Robbery. Review of Theft, Armed Robbery, First Degree Robbery and Simple Robbery.

### **15<sup>th</sup> Class**

Conclusion and review.

### **16<sup>th</sup> Class**

#### **Final Examination**

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#### **FOOTNOTE:**

This course has been taught for many years by Judge Waldron. In teaching this course, I will adopt Judge Waldron's course description.