

## **CRMJ 384 101**

**Advanced Crim Law Fall 2025**

Prerequisite: CRMJ 254

**Instructor Name: Hudson Miller**

**Office Location:** Liberal Arts 2323

**E-mail Address:** [hmiller@towson.edu](mailto:hmiller@towson.edu)

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Cell Phone:** (443)-477-8891

**Course Classroom:** LA 5303

**Class Meeting Time:** Monday & Wednesday 5:00PM – 6:15 PM

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### **Course Overview**

This course examines the concepts of substantive criminal law through the case method approach; role of common law in the development of criminal law; examination of elements and types of crime, criminal actions, and defenses in relation to criminal law doctrines.

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

When you successfully complete this course, you will be able to:

- Explain fundamental legal concepts of criminal law including (but not limited to) *mens rea*, *actus reus*, accomplice liability, and the legal elements of various crimes and defenses
- Apply criminal law doctrine to new factual scenarios
- Critique the application of substantive criminal law in the criminal justice system.
- Apply substantive criminal law doctrines to real and hypothetical fact patterns.
- Demonstrate competence in traditional elements of legal scholarship including oral defense of opinions, briefing cases, maintaining course outline, and legal essay writing.

### **Required Reading Materials**

- *Advanced Criminal Law and Legal Reasoning: How to think like a criminal attorney taught through case method approach*
- Additional Readings on Blackboard

### **Exam/Written Assignment policy**

Failure to take an exam without an approved excuse results in an “F” for that exam. Approved excuses include: documented illness or injury such that attendance is not possible, recognized religious holiday/observance, participation in university activities such as athletics so long as advance notice is given, or any other verifiable **exigent** circumstance beyond the student’s control. Vacations are not exigent circumstances, no matter how far in advance the trip is

booked or costly it may be. It is the student's responsibility to plan work, travel and vacation schedules around university obligations.

### **Academic Integrity**

The faculty of the Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice expects students to demonstrate academic integrity at all times, and takes a strong stand against academic dishonesty of all forms. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in any class. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, any form of cheating or unapproved help on an exam or academic exercise, copying someone else's written work without citation, presenting fabricated information as legitimate, any unauthorized collaboration among students, or assisting someone to cheat in any way. Penalties for academic dishonesty are determined by the individual faculty member. The minimum penalty for academic dishonesty in this class is a failing grade for the assignment. Students who are charged with academic dishonesty must remain enrolled in the course and cannot withdraw. Instructors will file a report of academic dishonesty with the Office of the Student Conduct and Civility Education, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and to the Chair's Office in the department.

For more information on academic integrity, see the TU Student Academic Integrity Policy (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/appendices/appendix-f-code-student-conduct/>) and the College of Liberal Arts' Academic Integrity and Appeals Information, (<http://www.towson.edu/cla/acadviolations>).

We also encourage students to make use of campus resources to learn more about academic integrity and how to avoid academic dishonesty, such as the resources provided by Cook Library (<http://pages.towson.edu/sara/plagiarism.html#students>).

### **Disability and Support Services**

Students who have, or suspect that they may have, a disability should seek services through Disability Support Services. Students must be registered with DSS and receive written authorization to obtain disability-related accommodations. If you need accommodation due to a disability, please visit DSS for guidance. The office is located at 7720 York Road, Ph: 410-704-2638 or 3475.

### **Mental Health Resources**

Counseling is available through the Health and Counseling Centers, please call 410-704-2512 to schedule an appointment in person or virtually. Towson is committed to providing an accessible and supportive environment, if you are experiencing symptoms of mental illness please tell your professor or contact the Counseling center.

### **Public Health Emergency/General Emergency Contingency Plans/Notifications.**

In the event of a University-wide emergency course requirements deadlines and grading schemes are subject to changes that may include alternative delivery methods, alternative methods of interaction with the instructor, class materials, and/or classmates, a revised attendance policy, and a revised semester calendar and/or grading scheme. In the case of a University-wide emergency, please refer to the following about changes in this course:

Course web page on Blackboard.

- E-mail's from your instructor at [hmiller@towson.edu](mailto:hmiller@towson.edu).
- For general information about any emergency situation, please refer to the following:
  1. Web Site: [www.towson.edu](http://www.towson.edu)
  2. TU Text Alert System: This is a service designed to alert the Towson University community via text messages to cell phones when situations arise on campus that affect the ability of the campus to function normally. Sign up: <http://www.towson.edu/adminfinance/facilities/police/campusemergency/>

## **Final Grades**

The grades that can be issued to students in undergraduate courses are: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, D+, D, F. Note that there is no A+, C-, or D- grade at the undergraduate level. The breakdown for determining grades is: A = 93-100%, A- = 90-92.9, B+ = 87-89.9, B = 83-86.9, B- = 80-82.9, C+ = 77-79.9, C = 72-76.9, D+ = 67-71.9, D = 62.1-66.9, F = 62 and below.

## **Grading**

The Final Grade will be based on the following:

- 2 Short Written Assignments (*Worth 10/200 Points Each*)
- Chapter Assignments (*Worth 10/200 points each*)
- Class Participation (*Worth 20/200 Points*)
- Final Exam (*Worth 40/200 points*)

## **Class Participation/Attendance**

Attendance and participation in class is expected and worth 20 total points. Students will be called on to answer questions and participate in class activities. Each time a student participates meaningfully in discussion that student will earn 1 point. Failure to attend class or failure to participate meaningfully will result in the loss of 1 point. Detraction from class via disruptions from inappropriate cell phone or laptop usage etc. will result in the loss of 1 point. Students will start with 5 out of 20 possible points toward participation. Meaningful participation is gauged by whether it is clear from your response that you have read the material and given thought to your response. Should students request they can ask to be called on for certain questions which will satisfy their participation requirement.