

## CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS

**COURSE TITLE & NUMBER:** CJ 223: Introduction to Law.

**SEMESTER/LOCATION:** 2001 Summer **II** Day Term, Main Campus.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Collin K. C. Lau, J. D.

**TELEPHONE:** 735-4882 or CJ office 735-0703 (Michelle)

**E-MAIL:** Clau@chaminade.edu.

**OFFICE HOURS:** M/W/F 7:30-9:00 a.m., M/F 10-11 a.m. or by appointment. Behavioral **Science**  
Office 110.

**BIOGRAPHY:** Mr. Lau is a full-time lecturer in the Criminology and Criminal Justice department at Chaminade University. He received a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Hawaii and a Juris Doctorate from the Richardson School of Law. Mr. Lau has worked as a law clerk for the Hawaii Supreme Court, a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, a Deputy Corporation Counsel and in the private practice of law. Mr. Lau also as an Independent Counsel to the Oahu Grand Jury.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Chaminade University offers its students an education in a collaborative learning environment that prepares them for life, work and service. Guided by its Catholic, Marianist and liberal arts educational traditions, Chaminade encourages the development of moral character and personal competencies, and the commitment to build a just and peaceful society.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Nature and origins of criminal law, general principles of criminal liability and defenses, and the elements of various crimes such as persons, property, **habitation**, and public order and morals.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:** Upon completion of the course, the student will:

- > have been exposed to the American system of government,
- > gain an understanding of the American legal systems,
- > learn about the various areas of civil lawsuits,
- > be introduced to process of legal analysis that is conducted by the courts,
- > learn general principles and elements of various crimes,
- > learn about the various provisions of the United States **Constitution**.
- > realize that there can be diverse ways to look at legal problems.

**REQUIRED** Walston-Dunham, *Introduction to Law*, (3rd edition, 1999).

**TEXTBOOKS:**

**ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION:** Class participation is an expected and essential requirement of the course. A student's **participation** in each session is considered important to the learning process. Missing a session is not an excuse for not being prepared for the next session. A student's absence from or late arrivals to a session will impact the student's grade. In general, there is no make-up procedure for missed examinations or assignments. Students who have advanced knowledge that they will miss an session or deadline should contact the instructor to make arrangements to take the examination at another time. The decision to allow a make-up assignment under these circumstances rests with the instructor and will be made on a case-by-case basis. If a student did not have advanced notice that **s/he** would miss a session or assignment deadline, **s/he** must contact the instructor within 24 hours. A message may be left by the student on voice mail at any time. A student who misses an session or deadline and is allowed by the instructor to take do a make-up must be prepared to take it immediately (usually within 48 hours).

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**READING AND WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:** All assignments must be completed prior to class or the student will not be prepared to participate meaningfully in class discussions. Classes are prepared on the assumption and expectation that the student has read the assigned materials and completed any required assignments. It is particularly important that assigned cases are read for presentation in the upcoming class. Written assignments are expected to meet the **“Writing Across the Disciplines”** standard stated on pp. 50-1 of the General Catalog of Chaminade University (2001-2002 edition).

**COURSE EVALUATIONS:** Final grades are based on the following factors:

FIRST MID-TERM EXAM.....	100 Points
SECOND MID-TERM EXAM .....	100 Points
FINAL EXAM.....	100 Points
CLASS ASSIGNMENTS/ATTENDANCE.....	100 Points.

Exams are given after generally after approximately four chapters are completed. Exams will typically consist of objective questions that seek to test your understanding of course materials and your ability to apply that understanding to short case hypotheticals.

**GRADING:** A = 90% or more of the possible 400 total points. (360+)  
B = 80% or more of the possible 400 total points. (320+)  
C = 70% or more of the possible 400 total points. (280+)  
D = 60% or more of the possible 400 total points. (240+)  
F = less than 60% of the possible points. (<240)  
FA = failure due to excessive un-excused absences  
(4 or more under regular schedule).

Note: a grade calculated by the percentage of possible examination points may be reduced to the next lower grade in the event of excessive absences or failure of class participation.

**Disclaimer:** The instructor reserves the right to make slight modifications to the course syllabus if and only if the circumstances require or warrant it. Any modification will be made known to the student.

End of syllabus.

## Assessment of Student Learning

### Instructions

The following **instrument** is being administered to gather information on students' perceptions of **learning**. The information provided will not influence in any way your grade in this class. The information you provide is not confidential. When analyzed, the data will be incorporated with that collected from all the other classes at CUH, but without the identity of **individuals**. Should you be apprehensive about using your name, may I suggest that you the last four digits of your Social Security number. This instrument will be administered twice: once at the beginning of semester and again at the end of the semester. We ask you to identify yourself the same on both **instruments** to be able to match your first response to your last response. If you have any questions, please ask the instructor before beginning this assignment.

1. Name (ID):
2. Gender: M F (circle one)
3. Age:
4. Class: CJ 223.
5. Location: On campus Off campus (circle one).
6. Have you been or are you presently employed full-time or part-time in any component or agency of the criminal justice system? No Yes (circle one)
7. Number of semester hours in criminology and criminal justice that you have completed not including this semester. Total:

Please answer the following questions with short answers.

8. The American governmental system is made up of branches and they are:
9. Explain how the American legal system is structured:
10. The difference between criminal and civil court cases is:
11. What is your understanding of what "litigation" is?
12. Explain how there may be a relationship between culture and the formulation of laws.

End.