

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS

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

SEMESTER/LOCATION: 2002 Fall Day Term, Main Campus, Henry Hall 102.

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

CLASS DAYS/TIMES: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.

TELEPHONE: 735-4882 or CJ office 735-4703 (Michelle)

E-MAIL: clau@chaminade.edu.

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 7:30-9:00 a.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays 11 a.m. to noon or by appointment. My office is always open to students to discuss the class, your degree plans or anything else of import to the student.

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 worked two terms as an Independent Counsel to the Oahu Grand Jury.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The study of the American legal system and various subject areas of law. Areas include: criminal law, criminal procedure, contracts, property, torts, business and family law.

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,
- > obtain an appreciation of the various provisions of the United States Constitution.

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

TEXTBOOKS:

RECOMMENDED BOOK: Any affordable law dictionary. As an alternative, you may download a basic law dictionary (about 50 pages) from the website Ajurist.law.pitt.edu or access searchable law dictionaries at websites like: AFindlaw, Nolo.com or Lectlaw.com.

ATTENDANCE and 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 repeated 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 a 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. Messages may be left by the student on voice or e-mail at any time. A student who misses a session or deadline and is allowed by the instructor to take do a make-up must be prepared to take it promptly (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.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS: All formal writing assignments must seek to adhere to the writing standards that are stated in the Chaminade General Catalog for 2002-2003 on pages 50-1.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS: Students are expected to comply with the standards related to attendance that are outline on page 50 of Chaminade General Catalog for 2002-2003.

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/PARTICIPATION.....	100 Points.

Exams are given after generally after approximately three, four or five 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.

<u>GRADING:</u>	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)

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, repeated late arrivals or total 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.

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