



CJ 375 Contemporary Issues in CJ
On-Line

Instructor: Nova C. Akau, MSCJA, MSW Candidate
Contact Number: 234-8210 (no calls after 8:00 p.m)
E-Mail Addresses: nova.akau@adjunct.chaminade.edu or nova96734@yahoo.com

Textbook: Weinreb, L.L. (2012). *Leading constitutional cases of criminal justice*. New York, NY: Foundation Press.

Objective: This is an examination of the issues currently faced by the criminal justice system focusing on contemporary issues which are projected to have a major impact upon the quality of life for the community and the ability of the criminal justice system to provide to the community (Catalog Description).

Grading: Grades will be based on the following:

Attendance/Discussions/Participation (20%)	A = 90 - 100
Assignments (20%)	B = 89 - 90
Research Paper & Presentation (30%)	C = 79 - 70
Exams/Quizzes (30%)	D = 69 - 60
	F = 59 - 50

Attendance: Attendance/Discussions is mandatory, essential, and will fall within school guidelines -- meaning it will and can affect your final grade. Attendance is measured via the discussions. If you do not participate for a two-week period, which means you missed 20% of the class, you will likely be dropped from the class. Late discussion submissions will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and must be discussed with the instructor prior to the due date.

ADA Accommodations: Any accommodations requested under the American Disability Act must be conducted through the Counseling Center.

Class Participation: Each student is required to participate during discussions and be respectful of opinions that others may have. Every week, you will be required to post a discussion (topic given by instructor) and respond to at least three of your fellow classmates. Your participation is mandatory.

Assignments: Application is key to comprehension. Be prepared. The purpose of assignments is to demonstrate understanding, writing skills, and provoke thought. All assignments for the drop box are to be typed, using 12-point font, one-inch margins, and be double spaced. Please have your name in the upper left hand corner along with the date the assignment was due. As for the threaded discussions, the points earned will be based on content (thoughtfulness of entry) and responses to

your fellow students. Late assignments will be accepted on a case-by-case basis and must be discussed with the instructor prior to the due date. Reported computer problems resulting in late submissions will also be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be discussed with the instructor prior to the due date.

Articles: Each week, you will submit two articles that contain the summary of the article and your reaction/response to them. You will submit the article itself to the Weblibliography for your fellow students to review. Submission of article reaction papers is to the dropbox. The articles must relate to the topic of the week, demonstrate the class objective, and must be within the past five years. The length of your reaction paper varies. Grades are not based on length but on content. The source of your article must be provided and its degree of reliability will be evaluated.

Case Briefs: Each week, you will submit two case briefs that relate to the topic of the week using the assigned textbook. The case briefs will be submitted via the dropbox. A sample case brief is located in the Course Home section.

Research Paper: The topic of your paper will reflect the topics of the class and must be approved by the instructor prior to the start of your research. The format of your paper must be APA. The minimum amount of pages is five. You must use a minimum of five scholarly resources. You will be graded on knowledge of the topic, analysis, resources used, presentation, and the ability to abide by the stated structure. Resources will be reviewed to determine reliability and credibility.

Presentations will be submitted to Doc Sharing for your peers to review and allow feedback. The presentations will be in a power point type format.

Any paper that is plagiarized will result in an automatic failure for the class. Late papers will be accepted on a case-by-case basis and must be discussed with the instructor prior to the due date.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students will demonstrate and understanding of:

1. The primary U.S. Constitution amendments affected by police, courts, and corrections
2. The role of the U.S Supreme Court in setting policies and procedures for the CJ system
3. The leading constitutional cases of the criminal justice system
4. The current effects of the amendments on police, courts, and corrections.
5. The current impact of the policies and procedures of police, courts, and corrections unto the community thus public safety
6. The impact of the current economy to the CJ system and community
7. The impact of the current media approach to the CJ system and the community

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: Please answer each of the following questions on a separate sheet of paper:

1. What are the primary amendments to the U.S. Constitution that affect police, courts, and corrections?
2. What is the role of the U.S. Supreme Court in setting policies and procedures for the CJ system?
3. What are the leading constitutional cases of the criminal justice system?
4. What are the current effects of the amendments on police, courts, and corrections?
5. What is the current impact of the policies and procedures of police, courts, and corrections onto the community and how does it affect public safety?
6. What is the impact of current economy to the CJ system and community?
7. What is the impact of the current media approach to the CJ system and community?

Academic Policies: Students are expected to comply with the standards related to academic honesty and plagiarism that are stated in the Chaminade General Catalog. Failure to adhere to these policies can result in a failing grade.

General Chaminade Matters: The five characteristics of a Marianist Education are:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith.
2. Provide an Excellent Education.
3. Educate in Family Spirit.
4. Educate for Service, Justice, and Peace.
5. Educate for Adaptation to Change.

Selected from Characteristics of Marianist Universities: A Resource Paper, Published in 1999 by Chaminade University of Honolulu, St. Mary's University and University of Dayton. Each of these characteristics is integrated, to varying degrees, in this course.

Exams: Two exams given, midterm and final, in essay format.

Of Note: The Syllabus and Course Outline may change at instructor's discretion. Due dates and other details are located in Course Home section. This is a general guide to what each week will entail.

Course Outline:

Week One: Introduction of Students, Overview of the Class & Class Exercise Questions

Week Two: *Due Process*
Two Due Process Case Brief Due
Articles 1 & 2 Due
Questions
Class Discussion/Exercise
Research Paper Topics Due

- Week Three *Fourth Amendment & Surveillance*
Two Case Briefs Due
Articles 3 & 4 Due
Questions
Class Discussion/Exercise
- Week Four: *Right to Counsel & Self-Incrimination*
Two Case Briefs Due
Articles 5 & 6 Due
Questions
Class Discussion/Exercise
- Week Five: Midterm
- Week Six: *Lineups & Prosecution*
Two Case Briefs Due
Articles 7 & 8 Due
Questions
Class Discussion/Exercise
- Week Seven: *Plea Bargaining & Trial*
Two Case Briefs Due
Articles 9 & 10 Due
Questions
Class Discussion/Exercise
- Week Eight: *Sentence & Imprisonment*
Two Case Briefs Due
Articles 11 & 12 Due
Questions
Class Discussion/Exercise
- Week Nine: All Research Papers Due via the drop box
Presentation of Papers Due via the Doc Sharing
- Week Ten: Final