The mission of Motlow State Community College is to enrich and empower its students and the community it serves.

CRMJ 1020  Introduction to The Legal Process

This Course Outline is subject to change with notice.

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: None

Catalog Description:
This course addresses the structure and function of the judicial system and the major problems and needs of the judicial segment of the criminal justice system. Major emphasis is placed on the basic concepts of criminal law and administration.

Group for Whom the Class is Intended: This course is intended for students pursuing the following degrees and programs of study: Students following the Criminal Justice Associate of Arts (A.A.) or Associates of Science (A.S.) Tennessee Transfer Pathway (TTP); students following the Pre-Law area of emphasis; students aspiring to careers in law enforcement, the judicial system, and/or the correctional system; and for those interested in the subject of criminal justice.

Instructor Information:
Name, Rank, and Title: 
Office Location: 
Office Hours: 
Academic Advising Hours: 
Office Phone Number and Email Address: 

Required Texts:
Please refer to the official Departmental Textbook Information document which is located on the Social Sciences Home page

Program Learning Goals:
1. Students will examine the history and philosophy underlying America’s court system.
2. Students will analyze the impact of the Bill of Rights upon the criminal justice system.
3. Students will analyze the impact of the judicial system within and upon the criminal justice system.
4. Students will explore how the judicial branch is organized, its role and its impact on society.
5. Students will explore how judges are selected.
6. Students will analyze judicial decisionmaking and judicial policymaking.

Course Objectives: Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to:

1. Identify the basic decision making concepts present in a common law system.
2. Define private law and identify the following categories with it: contract law, tort law, family law, commercial law, business enterprises law.
3. Define public law and identify the following categories within it: constitutional law, administrative law.
4. Distinguish between civil law and criminal law.
5. Identify and describe the Bill of Rights.
6. Explain the process of selective incorporation.
7. Discuss the concept of the right to privacy contained in the 4th Amendment
8. Describe the warrant requirement and the eight exceptions thereto.
9. Discuss the 5th Amendment right against self-incrimination
10. Discuss the exclusionary rule
11. Describe the historical origins of the American court system
12. Discuss the concept of federal jurisdiction.
13. Identify the current structure of the federal court system.
14. Describe the process in which federal judges are chosen.
15. Discuss the structure of the various states’ court systems.
16. Describe the processes in which state court judges are chosen.
17. Describe procedural aspects of the federal court system.
18. Identify and describe the writs and ceritiorari and habeas corpus.
19. Describe the hierarchy and duties of federal court prosecutors.
20. Identify and describe the various types of prosecutorial discretion.
21. Discuss the role of the defense attorney.
22. Discuss the process of judicial decisionmaking from both a legal and political perspective.
23. Discuss the concept of judicial policymaking.

**Major Assignments and Method for Calculating the Final Grade:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework/Current Events Assignments/Quizzes</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Examination</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Grading Policies:**

**Grading Scale:**

A = 94 - 100
B = 84 - 93
C = 72 - 83
D = 60 - 71
F = 0 - 59
Course Policies:

Academic Misconduct Policy:
Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly, through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. Based on their professional judgment, instructors have the authority to impose the following academic sanctions: (a) require the student to repeat the assignment for full or partial credit; (b) assign a zero, an F, or any other grade appropriate for the assignment or examination; (c) assign an F for the course. In addition, disciplinary sanctions may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures. For more information, see MSCC Policy 3:02:00:03.

Classroom Misconduct Policy:
The instructor has the primary responsibility for maintenance of academic integrity and controlling classroom behavior, and can order temporary removal or exclusion from the classroom of any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct that violates the general rules and regulations of the institution for each class session during which the conduct occurs. Extended or permanent exclusion from the classroom, beyond the session in which the conduct occurred, or further disciplinary action can be effected only through appropriate procedures of the institution.

Disruptive behavior in the classroom may be defined as, but not limited to, behavior that obstructs or disrupts the learning environment (e.g., offensive language, harassment of students and professors, repeated outbursts from a student which disrupt the flow of instruction or prevent concentration on the subject taught, failure to cooperate in maintaining classroom decorum, etc.), text messaging, and the continued use of any electronic or other noise or light emitting device which disturbs others (e.g., disturbing noises from beepers, cell phones, palm pilots, lap-top computers, games, etc.). For more information, see MSCC Policy 3:02:00:03.

Emergency Procedures Policy: see MSCC Policy 1:07:10:00

Educational Technology:

Accessing Campus Computers or the MSCC Library from off Campus:
Your Username format is your First Initial, Last Name and Month and Day Birthday in the Format of MMDD. Example: Marcia Smith born on April 11, 1992 - Username: msmith0411. Your Pin will be the numeric pin you created when you initially applied to Motlow College.

Using D2L:
For help with D2L including how to submit materials to a Dropbox, see this page: http://www.mscc.edu/techtube.aspx

Technical Support/Assistance:
Students having problems logging into a course, timing out of a course, using course web site tools, or any other technical problems, should contact the MSCC Technology Help Desk at 931-393-1510 or toll free 1-800-654-4877, Ext. #1510 (or d2lhelp@mscc.edu)

Disability Services/Accommodations:
Motlow College is committed to meeting the needs of qualified students with disabilities by providing equal access to educational opportunities, programs, and activities in the most integrated setting appropriate. This commitment is consistent with the College's obligations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). Together, these laws prohibit discrimination against qualified persons with disabilities. To this end, the Director of Disability Services for Motlow College coordinates services and serves as an advocate and liaison for students with disabilities attending Motlow College. Contact the Director of Disability Services here: http://www.mscc.edu/disability/index.aspx.

Students with disabilities who would need assistance in an emergency evacuation should self-disclose that need to the instructor no later than the second day of class or second group meeting.

Confidentiality of Student Records:
The education records of current and former students at Motlow State Community College are maintained as confidential records pursuant to The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 as amended. For further information, see MSCC Policy No. 3:02:03:00.

Student Success:
Tutoring:
MSCC Instructors can guide students to specific resources regarding Tutoring in their discipline. In particular, students may find help with Math and Essay Writing via each campus’ Learning Support labs. Students should contact the labs on their campus to schedule appointments for help. For additional help, see the Student Success page: http://www.mscc.edu/student_success/index.aspx

Academic Advisement:
MSCC Instructors can guide students to specific resources regarding Advisement. For additional help, see the Academic Advisement page: http://www.mscc.edu/advisement/index.aspx

Class Schedule of Assignments:
I. The common law system Chap. 1 Tarr
II. Categories of law Chap. 1 Tarr
III. Bill of Rights Chap. 7 Adler
IV. 4th Amendment Chap. 7 Adler
V. 4th, 5th Amendment Chap. 7 Adler
VI. 5th Amendment, exclusionary rule Chap. 7 Adler
VII. History of court system Chap. 8 Adler Chap. 2 Tarr

MIDTERM EXAMINATION
VIII. 12 Federal Jurisdiction Chap. 8 Adler Chap. 2 Tarr
IX. State court systems " "
X. Federal court system " "
XI. Appellate process Chap. 8 Adler
XII. Prosecutors Chap. 9 Adler Chap. 6 Tarr
XIII. Defense Attorneys " "
XIV. Judicial Selection Chap. 3 Tarr
XV. Judicial Decisionmaking Chap. 8, 9 Tarr
XVI. Judicial Policymaking " "

FINAL EXAMINATION