

Angelina College
Technology & Workforce Division
LGLA 2371, ADVANCED CRIMINAL LAW
SPRING 2018 – 9:30 am to 10:45 am
General Syllabus

I. BASIC COURSE INFORMATION:

A. Course Description:

LGLA 2371 – Three (3) hours credit. This course provides an overview of the American criminal justice system, focusing primarily on the procedural aspects of criminal investigation, and how cases proceed through the court system.

B. Intended Audience:

Sophomore level course.

C. Instructor:

Name: Dawn Armstrong, J.D.

Office Location: Room 150 – Technology & Workforce Building – Angelina College, Lufkin

Office Hours: see posting on office door

Phone: 936-633-5329 (instructor's office) or 936-633-5246 (division office), **or 936-676-2899** (Cell, texting is preferred)

E-mail Address: darmstrong@angelina.edu

II. INTENDED STUDENT OUTCOMES:

A. Core Objectives:

- 1. Critical Thinking Skills** – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- 2. Communication Skills** – to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- 3. Personal Responsibility** – to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

B. Learning Outcomes

1. The students will learn the sequence of how a criminal case proceeds through the Texas criminal justice system.
2. Students will understand police investigative procedures, including search warrants, search and seizure, pre-trial investigation, and interrogation procedures and techniques.
3. The students will have a working knowledge of arrests, booking, bail, examining trials, grand jury proceedings, indictments, arraignment, plea bargaining, pre-trial motions, courtroom proceedings, and the appellate process.

III. ASSESSMENT MEASURES

A. Assessments for the Core Objectives

- 1. Critical Thinking:** Students will engage in assigned readings and will be presented with oral and visual lecture content. The student will be able to demonstrate the ability to think creatively, to innovate, inquire, analyze, evaluate and synthesize information. Students will correctly answer embedded exam questions testing their knowledge, interpretation, and synthesis of comparative theories, current

research, and social issues. Outcome will be assessed using a rubric which incorporates the Angelina College Institutional Rubric for Critical Thinking Skills.

2. Communication: Students will write a legal brief of a criminal case. Students will present their findings to the class as a whole via an oral presentation. Communication skills will be assessed using a rubric which incorporates the Angelina College Institutional Rubric for Communication Skills.

3. Personal Responsibility: Students will be required to make choices in the completion of course written assignments and/or exams that demonstrate their ability to connect choices and actions, engage in ethical decision-making, and understand its consequences. A rubric will be used to assess personal responsibility as demonstrated through embedded questions on standardized exams.

B. Assessments for Course Learning Outcomes

Readings, video presentations, and lectures will be used to address police investigative procedures (including initial investigation, interrogation, Miranda warnings, arrest, book-in, line-ups, search and seizure) , and state court systems (including examining trials, grand jury proceedings, indictments, arraignment, plea-bargaining, pre-trial motions, court room proceedings, and the appellate process). These topics will be discussed and analyzed in their entirety. Students will demonstrate their understanding through group discussions, questioning (Socratic), and successful completion of major exams. Additionally students will be assigned a criminal case to read and brief, and report their findings to the class as a whole. Assessment of this project will be graded using the Angelina College Institutional Rubric for Communication Skills.

IV. INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES:

Methodologies that may be utilized in presenting course content will include a combination of lectures, small group exercises, written and oral presentations, videos, guest speakers, field-trips, reading assignments, and major exams. Internet research as well as Lexis research may be required for this course at various times. All criminal justice courses whether online or in-person will have an online Blackboard feature that allows students to access power-point presentations, assignments, the course syllabi and other relevant information.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES:

A. Required Textbook(s) and Recommended Readings, Materials and Equipment:

Required Textbook:

1. Criminal Procedure, Law and Practice

Most current edition. Rolando V. del Carmen and Craig Hemmens, Cengage Learning

B. Course Policies:

Academic Assistance:

Academic Assistance – If you have a disability (as cited in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) that may affect your participation in this class, you should see Maria Lopez or Steve Hudman in room 200 of the Student Center. At a postsecondary institution, you must self-identify as a person with a disability; Ms. Lopez and Mr. Hudman will assist

you with the necessary information to do so. To report any complaints of discrimination related to disability, you should contact Mr. Steve Hudman, Dean of Student Affairs, in Room 101 of the Student Center. You may also contact Dean Hudman by phone at [\(936\) 633-5292](tel:936-633-5292) or by email shudman@angelina.edu.

Attendance:

The official Angelina College attendance policy will be followed. A student will be dropped from class after 3 consecutive absences or 4 cumulative (total) absences. This does not include absences for college-authorized activities, but it does include absences for illness. If a student obtains their 4th or additional absence after the drop date for the semester, 4 points will be deducted from the final course average PER ABSENCE.

For the purposes of all Criminal Justice classes an absence is defined as follows: failure to attend class, failure to sign class attendance log, leaving class early, talking, sleeping, or any other disruptive behavior in class.

Additional Policies Established by the Individual Instructor:

Student Behavior:

Criminal Justice is an academic discipline and career choice that requires a high degree of professional character and moral conduct. Students are expected to engage in pro-social, ethical, and legal conduct both on campus and in private life. Additionally college is a time for personal growth and personal responsibility. All students who are going to be successful in Criminal Justice courses will be required to display observable qualities that display personal responsibility.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:

Please see the Student Handbook for Angelina College's definition of and policies regarding plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Students engaging in any form of plagiarism or academic dishonesty – which is the unacknowledged use of anyone else's work (published or unpublished) or cheating of any kind, will result in immediate and irrevocable failure of the entire course. Criminal Justice is not a major or profession for cheaters and such behavior will not be tolerated at Angelina College.

All cell-phones must be turned off upon entering the classroom. If an emergency situation requires the monitoring of a cell phone during class time, prior notice to the instructor is required. During exams, nothing will be allowed in proximity to the student except the exam and Scantron. If any student is observed using a cell phone, iPod, computer, headphones, or any other unnecessary object/device during an exam, the student will be excused from the classroom and will receive a zero on the exam in question.

Students will properly dispose of all trash in the appropriate receptacle adjacent to the door.

VI. EVALUATION AND GRADING:

A. Grading Criteria:

<u>1. Tests :</u>	<u>Point Value:</u>
a. Exam #1	100 points (25%)
b. Exam #2	100 points (25%)
c. Exam #3	100 points (25%)
d. Final Exam	100 points (25%)

2. Late Assignments or Missed Exams:

No late assignments will be accepted. No questions, no exceptions. Missed exams may be approved for make-up on a case by case basis only if satisfactory documentation is provided. Any approved make-up exam will be administered at the end of the semester on a day set aside for make-up exams. The make-up exam will be different than the original exam (see attached course schedule for make-up date and time). If you do not take a missed exam on the exam make-up day you will receive a zero on the exam in question. There will be NO MAKE UP for the final exam due to end of semester deadlines. Additionally, the Final Exam will only be given at the assigned time (see syllabus and/or Angelina College's published Final Exam Schedule for specific details related to this course). If you miss the final exam for ANY reason, you will receive a zero (0) for a final exam grade.

B. Determination of Grade:

The four exams given throughout the semester will be averaged and will count equally (25% each) toward your final course grade.

Computation of Course Grade:

90-100:	A
80-89:	B
70-79:	C
60-69:	D
0-59:	F

Additional Information on Determination of Grade:

Your grade will be a strict interpretation of your earned exam / assignment scores. There will be NO extra credit opportunities available in ANY criminal justice course. Your grade will reflect what you earn; this then is a reflection of the work you put into class attendance, class participation, and studying.

VII. SYLLABUS MODIFICATION:

The instructor may modify the provisions of the syllabus to meet individual class needs by informing the class in advance as to the changes being made. These changes may take place at any time for any reason as determined by the instructor.

VIII. ANGELINA COLLEGE TECHNOLOGY & WORKFORCE DIVISION STUDENT INFORMATION:

As a student enrolled in a Technology & Workforce program, you will encounter certain risks while you are in a classroom, laboratory experience, or in a clinical or practicum setting. In the event that you sustain an injury and/or require any medical testing or care, all resulting medical expenses (hospital, ambulance, or physician fees), are your financial responsibility and not the responsibility of Angelina College or the clinical/practicum site.

IX. COURSE OUTLINE:

SEE COURSE CALENDAR HANDED OUT