FALL 2017
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
GULF COAST CAMPUS
COURSE: CJ 330-G001 CRIMINAL LAW
INSTRUCTOR: MICHAEL W. McPHELL
MONDAY NIGHT CLASS 6:30 p.m.-9:15 p.m.
FLEMING EDUCATION CENTER

THIS COURSE DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALL
PLANS, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

CJ 330-G001—CRIMINAL LAW (3 HOURS)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: (FROM THE USM CATALOG) Criminal Justice (CJ) 330. 3 hours,
Prerequisite: CJ 200. A survey of applied criminal law with emphasis on the most common
criminal offenses.

STUDENT ACCESS TO INSTRUCTOR—MEETINGS SCHEDULED BY APPOINTMENT:
Contact 601-545-6075 or e-mail at michael.mcphail@usm.edu to arrange an appointment. Feel
free to e-mail any questions or concerns. Always make sure you “subject” the e-mail with phrase
“CJ 330-G001.” That way I will open the e-mail and respond. Also, I will be available before
class and after class on most scheduled dates for any questions or concerns.

Michael W. McPhail
County and Youth Court Judge
Post Office Box 190
Hattiesburg, MS 39403-0190
Phone: 601-545-6075 Fax: 601-545-6105
USM e-mail: michael.mcphail@usm.edu
Office e-mail: jmcphail@netdoor.com

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND READING MATERIALS:

  Jones & Bartlett

• Instructional supplements and other resources handed out during the semester

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

• Students completing this class will understand the significance, historical
development, and structure of criminal law.
• Students completing the course will gain the requisite skills for rationally assessing and critically thinking through varying situations in the field of criminal justice and the law.

• Students should gain both a strong theoretical and ethical foundation for the concept of law and justice administration within the framework of a constitutionally mandated process.

• Students should be able to describe the criminal justice system and the major steps in the criminal court process.

• Students should be able to identify and address contemporary issues and the various federal and state court rulings affecting criminal law.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Students will have numerous grading opportunities by testing and assignments. A student is required to satisfactorily fulfill the following performance objectives in each category:

Class Participation and General Objectives:

• Students are expected to read assigned material. Some additional readings and written assignments, not included in this Syllabus, will be assigned during the semester.

• Students are expected to demonstrate suitable reading, writing and oral communication skills.

• Students are expected to demonstrate the ability to use standard English grammar, punctuation, spelling and usage.

• Students are expected to demonstrate the ability to connect course content to other disciplines and/or to real life situations.

GRADING SYSTEM

Examinations: There will be two (2) major tests/exams and a final examination. Examinations will be given in accordance with the class schedule. The final examination will be comprehensive in nature for the content covered throughout the semester.

Minor Grades: There will be four (4) minor grades that will be given over the semester on participation in class discussion, minor tests, case briefings, homework and special assignments.
The semester average will be determined as follows:

Four (4) Minor Grades (25%)
Two (2) Major Grades (40%)
One (1) Final Exam (35%)

DATE OF FINAL EXAM: Monday, November 27: 6:30 p.m.– 9:15 p.m.

GRADING SCALE:
A  90-100 – Excellent
B  80-89 – Good
C  70-79 – Average (Satisfactory)
D  60-69 – Poor (Unsatisfactory)
F  59 or Below – Failure

WITHDRAWAL FROM CLASS: The last day to add/drop without Academic/Financial Penalty is August 23rd. After this date, no tuition refund whatsoever will be issued, and all approved drops will result in a grade of W. After October 27th, no course withdrawals are permitted (meaning the student will receive an actual grade in the course).

GRADE APPEAL: A student who is not satisfied with the final grade received for a course should first consult with me, the instructor of the course. If this consultation does not resolve the situation, the student should then consult the Director of the School of Criminal Justice offering this course.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY SYLLABUS STATEMENT: All students at The University of Southern Mississippi are expected to demonstrate the highest levels of academic integrity in all that they do. Forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to):

• Cheating (including copying from others’ work)
• Plagiarism (representing another person’s words or ideas as your own; failure to properly cite the source of your information, argument, or concepts)
• Falsification of documents
• Disclosure of test or other assignment content to another student
• Submission of the same paper or other assignment to more than one class without the explicit approval of all faculty members’ involved
• Unauthorized academic collaboration with others
• Conspiracy to engage in academic misconduct

Engaging in any of these behaviors or supporting others who do so will result in academic penalties and/or other sanctions. If a faculty member determines that a student has violated our Academic Integrity Policy, sanctions ranging from resubmission of work to course failure may occur, including the possibility of receiving a grade of “XF” for the course, which will be on the student’s transcript with the notation “Failure due to academic misconduct.”
For more details, please see the University’s Academic Integrity Policy: https://www.usm.edu/institutional-policies/policy-acaf-pro-012 Note that repeated acts of academic misconduct will lead to expulsion from the University.

STUDENT’S CONDUCT: USM expects appropriate conduct of students at all times.

Students are expected to demonstrate professional behavior during class sessions. The measure for assessing unprofessional behavior is the reasonable anticipation test, defined as anything for which an average student should anticipate as unprofessional. Examples of unprofessional behavior include, but are not limited to, disrespect toward the instructor or fellow student, gossip, disrupting instruction or class discussion, using unapproved electronic devices, or eating in class. All student activities in the University, including this course, are governed by the University’s Policy on Classroom Responsibilities of Faculty and students which may be found on the website of the Office of Provost. See also Student Handbook, 2017-2018, prohibited conduct. Students who engage in behavior that disrupts the learning environment may be asked to leave the class and are subject to appropriate disciplinary measures, including failure, disenrollment from the class and/or suspension from the University.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Students are expected to attend class. Attendance and participation are components in the determination of the student’s final grade. A record of class attendance will be kept. Excessive absences may seriously affect the work of the whole class as well as that of the individual students who are absent. Students are expected to not only attend the entire class, but devote out-of-class time to reading and using other resources. CJ 330 is primarily a lecture class; however, students are expected to participate in meaningful class discussions. Attendance is mandatory. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class. Students are required to sign the roll sheet which is passed out at the beginning of each class. It is the responsibility of each student to sign the roll. This method is utilized in order to eliminate disputes about actual attendance. A student leaving class without dismissal will be counted absent.

There are 13 classes this semester, excluding holidays and the final exam. The final course grade may be reduced for excessive absences, as follows:

- 3 absences – 1 letter grade reduction
- 4 absences – 2 letter grades reduction
- 5 absences – class failure

TARDINESS: Class begins at 6:30 p.m. Students are expected to be in the classroom at 6:30 p.m. A student who is tardy will not be allowed to sign the on-time roll and will be noted on the tardy class roll. Chronic tardiness will be used in consideration of the student’s final grade with a reduction in letter grade(s).
MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS AND LATE WORK: If a student has to miss class, on the day the student returns to class, he or she has the responsibility of contacting the instructor in order to schedule any make-up work.

A student may make up work missed if valid reasons for missing, such as illness, accident, or other extenuating circumstances are accepted by the instructor. A student has one week after returning to class to schedule make-up work unless circumstances indicate that extra time is needed. Regular scheduled tests and examinations missed without a valid reason will be recorded as a grade of zero.

LAPTOP COMPUTERS MAY BE USED IN CLASS.

TAPING LECTURES: Students at USM may tape lectures.

Students who wish to tape lectures of a class or classes should notify the instructor of their intention of taping the lecture. The taping of the lecture should not disrupt the class activities.

CELL PHONES AND PAGERS MUST BE TURNED OFF DURING CLASS. Absolutely no text messaging. Violation of this policy will result in a request to leave the class and noted on the class attendance roster as an absence.

USM POLICY ON DISABILITY: If a student has a disability that qualifies under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies.

Students can contact ODA at 228-214-3232 or visit the website at usm.edu/oda(hbg).

Mailing Address:  
The University of Southern Mississippi  
Office for Disability Accommodations  
118 College Drive #8586  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001

Contact Information:  
Telephone: (601)-266-5024  
TTY: (601)-266-6837  
Fax: (601) 266-6035

Modifications and Deviations:

Syllabus: Instructor may modify this syllabus in any or all or all respects on timely notice to student.
COURSE CALENDAR

**Instruction:** Instructor may deviated from the course calendar and/or prescribed course of instruction during any class period or periods, at his discretion.

**AUGUST 2017**

Monday, August 21  
Class Begins: Introduction to class  
Declaration of Independence (pp. 267-269), Constitution and Bill of Rights of the United States (pp. 270-280) and  
Chapter 1: Substantive Criminal Law: Principles and Working Vocabulary (pp. 1-20)

Monday, August 28  
Chapter 1: continued (pp. 1-20) and  
Chapter 2: Crime and Punishment: Constitutional Limitations and Protections (pp. 21-44)

**SEPTEMBER 2017**

Monday, September 4  
NO CLASS— LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Monday, September 11  
Chapter 10: Defenses to Criminal Responsibility (pp. 197-226) and  
Chapter 9: Inchoate Offenses and Party Liability (pp. 179-196)

Monday, September 18  
Chapter 3: Theft Offenses and Fraudulent Practices (pp. 45-66)

Monday, September 25  
FIRST MAJOR EXAM

**OCTOBER 2017**

Monday, October 2  
Chapter 4: Crimes Against Habitation, Robbery and Assault (pp. 67-92)

Monday, October 9  
Chapter 5: Criminal Homicide (pp. 93-118)

Monday, October 16  
Chapter 5: continued (pp.93-118)

Monday, October 23  
Chapter 6: Sex Offenses (pp. 119-140)
Monday, October 30  
Chapter 7: Crimes Against Moral Values (pp. 141-160)  
and  
Chapter 8: Crimes Against the Administration of Justice  
and Public Order (pp. 161-178)

NOVEMBER 2017

Monday, November 6  
Chapter 11: Organized Crime and Terrorism (pp. 227-246)  
and  
Chapter 12: White Collar Crime (pp. 247-264)

Monday, November 13  
SECOND MAJOR EXAM

Monday, November 20  
Review

Monday, November 27  
FINAL EXAM (6:30 p.m.– 9:15 p.m.)

The Fall 2017 full-term Academic Calendar may be found online at USM– Office of the Registrar.