

## Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement (CRIJ 2323) Online



**Credit:** 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture)

**Prerequisite/Co-requisite:** Completed the Online Orientation and answered 7+ questions correctly on the Online Learner Self-Assessment:  
<http://www.lit.edu/depts/DistanceEd/OnlineOrientation/OOStep2.aspx>

### Course Description

The course defines police authority and explains the responsibilities and constitutional restraints as enumerated in the Texas Constitution, United States Constitution, and Bill of Rights. The course outlines the laws of arrest and search and seizure developed through court decisions and describes the criminal and civil liability that results from improper acts and/or the failure to act. *This course is time-bound, structured and completed totally online.*

### Required Textbook and Materials

1. *Criminal Procedure* by Rolando V. Del Carmen, 9th edition, Cengage Learning

### Course Objectives

1. Define the goals and objectives of police authority
2. Demonstrate ability to conduct proper criminal case investigations through the laws of arrest, search and seizure developed through court decisions.
3. Acquires knowledge of the “rule of law” through the U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights and Code of Criminal Procedure.

### Course Outline

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| <p>A. Syllabus</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Introduction of Faculty and students</li><li>2. Instructor Resume</li><li>3. Comments</li></ol> <p>B. The Court System and Sources of Rights an Overview</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Federal Court System</li><li>2. The State Court System</li><li>3. The Constitution</li><li>4. Rule of Law</li><li>5. Case Law/Court Rules</li></ol> <p>C. Overview of the Criminal Justice Process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Procedure before Trial</li><li>2. Procedure during Trial</li><li>3. The Procedure after Trial</li></ol> | <p>D. Probable Cause and Reasonable Suspicion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Definitions</li><li>2. Arrest and Search and Seizure</li><li>3. Search Warrant Affidavit</li></ol> <p>E. The Exclusionary Rule</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Historical Development and Purpose of the Rule</li><li>2. Determining what is admissible and not admissible</li><li>3. Exceptions to the Rule</li><li>4. When the rule does not apply</li></ol> <p>F. Stop and Frisk</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Definitions – Two separate acts</li><li>2. Applications in residences/vehicles</li><li>3. Stationhouse Detention</li></ol> <p>G. Arrests and Use of Force</p> |
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Approved 1/2014

## **CRIJ 2323 Online**

### **Course Syllabus**

1. Arrest Defined
  2. Elements of Arrest
  3. Arrests with and without warrant
  4. What Police can do and cannot do after arrest
  5. Use of Force During an Arrest
  6. Non-deadly versus Deadly Force
- H. Searches and Seizures
1. Definitions
  2. Searches with and without a warrant
  3. Specific search and seizure issues
- I. Motor Vehicle Stops, Searches and Inventories
1. Vehicle Stops
  2. Vehicle Searches
  3. Vehicle Inventory Stops
- J. Plain View, Open Fields, Abandonment and Border Searches
1. Plain View defined
  2. Issues in Searching and Abandonment
- K. Lineups and other means of Pretrial Identification
1. Lineups
  2. Photograph Identification
  3. Problems with Eyewitness Identification
  4. Other means of identifying suspects
- L. Confessions and Admissions
1. Miranda and its use
2. The historical case of Miranda
  3. Situations where Miranda is not needed
- M. Basic Constitutional Rights of the accused during trial
1. The right to a jury trial
  2. The right to counsel
  3. The Right to due process
  4. The right against self-incrimination
  5. The right to a fair and impartial trial
- N. Sentencing, the death penalty and other forms of punishment
1. Types of sentences
  2. Probation and revocation proceedings
- O. Legal Liabilities of Public Officers
1. Lawsuits against the police
  2. Civil liability
  3. Consequences of police misconduct
- P. Terrorism and Electronic Surveillance
1. The USA Patriot Act (2001)
  2. The USA Patriot Act (2006)
  3. The Department of Homeland Security
  4. Terrorism and the Police
  5. Legal Issues
  6. Electronic Surveillance

### **Grade Scale**

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

### **Course Evaluation**

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

1. Module Assignments      20%
2. Module 1 Test              10%

## **CRIJ 2323 Online**

### **Course Syllabus**

3. Final Exam	20%
4. Research Paper	20%
5. Course Project	20%
6. Module Discussions	10%

### **Course Requirements**

1. Students will complete a written report based on the criteria described by the instructor.
2. Students will prepare an assigned project. This project **MUST** be approved by the course instructor **BEFORE** the student begins working on it.
3. Students will complete one module test.
4. Students will complete module assignments and discussions
5. Students will complete the Final Exam.

### **Course Policies**

1. Students will complete online assignments and tests in Blackboard. Grades will be posted in Blackboard.
2. NO late assignments will be accepted.
3. Tests. Students that miss a test are not allowed to make up the test. Students that miss a test will receive the score of the next scheduled exam. Students who miss two major exams cannot pass the course.
4. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an 'F' in the course.
5. The Instructor will respond to e-mail communication within 48 hours Monday through Friday.

### **Technical Requirements**

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, software, Java, etc. can be found online at:

<http://kb.blackboard.com/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=25368512>

A functional internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of the online technology and resources.

### **Disabilities Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the office in Student Services, Cecil Beeson Building.

<http://www.lit.edu/depts/stuserv/special/default.aspx>

## CRIJ 2323 Online

### Course Syllabus

#### Course Schedule (subject to change)

Week	Topic	Reference
1	Course Introduction and Policies Discussion of Syllabus Chapter 1: The Court System and Sources of Rights	Online: Orientation Online: Module 1 Textbook: pp. 1 - 29
2	Chapter 1: continued Chapter 2: Overview of the Criminal Justice Process	Online: Module 1 Textbook: pp. 30- 64
3	Chapter 3: Probable Cause and Reasonable Suspicion	Online: Module 1 Textbook: pp. 65-89
4	Chapter 4: The Exclusionary Rule Review Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4. <b>Module 1 Exam (Chapters 1-4)</b>	Online: Module 1 Textbook: pp. 90-120
5	Chapter 5: Stop and Frisk and Stationhouse Detention	Online: Module 2 Textbook: pp.121-148
6	Chapter 6: Arrests and the Use of Force	Online: Module 2 Textbook: pp. 149-189
7	Chapter 7: Searches and Seizures	Online: Module 2 Textbook: pp. 190-233
8	Chapter 8: Motor Vehicles Stops, Searches and Inventories <b>Research Project Due</b>	Online: Module 2 Textbook: pp. 234-271
9	***SPRING BREAK***	
10	Chapter 9: Searches and Seizures, Plain View, Abandonment and Border Searches	Online: Module 3 Textbook: pp. 272-301
11	Chapter 10: Lineups and Other Means of Pre-Trial Identification Practical Problem (Lineups)	Online: Module 3 Textbook: pp. 302-336
12	Chapter 11: Confessions and Admissions A Study of Miranda vs. Arizona	Online: Module 3 Textbook: pp.337-379
13	Chapter 12: Basic Constitutional Rights of the Accused During the Trial <b>Course Project Due</b>	Online: Module 3 Textbook: pp. 380-412
14	Chapter 13: Sentencing, The Death Penalty and other Forms of Punishment	Online: Module 4 Textbook: pp. 413-441
15	Chapter 14: Legal Liabilities of Public Officers Final Exam Review	Online: Module 4 Textbook: pp. 442-473
16	<b>Final Exam (Chapters 13 and 14)</b>	

#### Contact Information Varies by Instructor