



Purpose: It is the intention of this Administrative-Master Syllabus to provide a general description of the course, outline the required elements of the course and to lay the foundation for course assessment for the improvement of student learning, as specified by the faculty of Wharton County Junior College, regardless of who teaches the course, the timeframe by which it is instructed, or the instructional method by which the course is delivered. It is not intended to restrict the manner by which an individual faculty member teaches the course but to be an administrative tool to aid in the improvement of instruction.

Course Title – Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement

Course Prefix and Number – CRIJ 2323

Department – Criminal Justice

Division – Social and Behavioral Science

Course Type: (check one)

- Academic General Education Course (from ACGM – but not in WCJC Core)
- Academic WCJC Core Course
- WECM course (This course is a Special Topics or Unique Needs Course: Y or N)

Semester Credit Hours #: Lecture hours#: Lab/other hours # 3:3:0

Equated Pay hours for course - 3

Course Catalog Description - Police authority; responsibilities; constitutional constraints; laws of arrest, search, and seizure; police liability.

Prerequisites/Co requisites - CRIJ 1306 and 1310 recommended. THEA reading and writing requirements met.

List Lab/ Other Hours
Lab Hours
Clinical Hours
Practicum Hours
Other (list)

Approvals – *the contents of this document have been reviewed and are found to be accurate.*

Prepared by G.G. Hunt	Signature <i>gghunt</i>	Date 8-3-11
Department Head G.G. Hunt	Signature <i>gghunt</i>	Date 8-3-11
Division Chair G.G. Hunt	Signature <i>gghunt</i>	Date 8-3-11
Vice President of Instruction or Dean of Vocational Instruction Leigh Ann Collins	Signature Lac	Date 11-19-12



I. Topical Outline – Each offering of this course must include the following topics (be sure to include information regarding lab, practicum, and clinical or other non-lecture instruction):

- A. The Court System, Court cases, and Source of Rights
- B. Probable Cause
- C. The Exclusionary Rule
- D. Stop and Frisk and Stationhouse Detention
- E. Arrest and Use of Force
- F. Searches and Seizures of Things
- G. Motor Vehicle Stops, Searches and Inventories
- H. Plain View, Open Fields, Abandonment and Border Searches
- I. Lineups and Other Means of Pre-trial Identification
- J. Confessions and Admissions: Miranda vs. Arizona
- K. Constitutional Rights of the Accused during Trial
- L. Legal Liabilities and other Consequences of Police Misconduct

II. Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcome	Method of Assessment
1. Define police authority and explain the responsibilities and constitutional restraints as enumerated in the Texas Constitution, United States Constitution, and Bill of Right. 2. Outline the law of arrest and search and seizure developed through court decisions 3. Describe the criminal and civil liability that result from improper acts and/or the failure to act	All learning outcomes are measured by testing based on assigned text readings, participation in class discussion, and relevant portions of the Texas Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure, and other codes as deemed appropriate. Additionally, scenario-based questions are embedded in each exam to evaluate critical thinking skills.

III. Required Text(s), Optional Text(s) and/or Materials to be Supplied by Student.

- A. Del Carmen, Roland; Criminal Procedure: Law and Practice; Thomson Publishing;
- B. Optional text: Texas Code of Criminal Procedure
- C. Internet access to social science databases, journals, and legal documents
- D. Access to a computer and printer for preparing and submitting assignments

IV. Suggested Course Maximum - 35

V. List any specific spatial or physical requirements beyond a typical classroom required to teach the course.

Instructor must have access to all appropriate technology for ITV and online sections of this course.

VI. Course Requirements/Grading System – Describe any course specific requirements such as research papers or reading assignments and the generalized grading format for the course

Students in Criminal Justice courses must have a 70% average to receive a passing grade!

Grading System:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

F = 0-69

Minimum requirements include the following:

1. Attend class in accordance with college policy and as stipulated by the instructor.
2. Complete appropriate reading assignments made by the instructor
3. Complete appropriate writing assignments based on the readings, classroom presentations and discussion (if assigned by instructor)
4. Complete oral presentations (if assigned by instructor)
5. Complete appropriate tests (quizzes, major examinations, and a final examination
6. Completion of assigned case scenarios/applications

Assessment will be conducted using a variety of methods. Objective questions such as multiple-choice, matching, true/false and fill-in-the blank may be used as well as subjective questions which may demand lengthy narrative responses, and also critical thinking as applied to application-based and scenario-based assignments. Students will be tested on materials presented in class and are expected to develop listening and note-taking skills. The weight, style, and nature of the specific assessment tool is left to the discretion of the individual instructor, but each instructor must place emphasis on the development of critical thinking skills.

VII. Curriculum Checklist

- **Academic General Education Course** (from ACGM – but not in WCJC Core)
No additional documentation needed

- **Academic WCJC Core Course**
Attach the Core Curriculum Checklist, including the following:

- Basic Intellectual Competencies
- Perspectives
- Exemplary Educational Objectives

- **WECM Courses**
If needed, revise the Program SCANS Matrix & Competencies Checklist.