

Austin Peay State University
Summer 2021

Course Overview

Course Title:	Constitutional Law (CRJ 3000)
Time and Location:	Web
Instructor:	Dr. James F. Prescott
Office Hours:	By Appointment Room 213 APSU Education Center ECO 203, Ft. Campbell Campus Telephone: (931) 221-1469 E-Mail: prescottj@apsu.edu
Required Text:	Jacqueline R. Kanovitz, Jefferson L. Ingram, and Christopher J. Devine, Constitutional Law for Criminal Justice, 15 th Edition, New York, Routledge/Taylor and Francis Group, 2019.

Course Details

Course Description:

The course description contained in APSU's Bulletin indicates that Constitutional Law (CRJ 3000) "...is an intense analysis of federal and state court decisions that interpret the United States Constitution as to the authority and process of criminal justice agencies. Topics include a historical overview; the Bill of Rights; trial and punishment; civil remedies and constitutional conduct; constitutional and civil rights in the workplace." Thus, the course examines that part of American constitutional law that applies most directly to law enforcement and corrections agencies.

Course Objectives:

- To introduce the definitions and fundamental concepts of behind American constitutional law
- To understand the evolution of constitutional law over time through the study of judicial review and precedent
- To analyze both early and contemporary jurisprudence and legal reasoning
- To help the student of criminal justice to understand the constitutional rights of all persons with regard to criminal procedure and criminal evidence
- To examine constitutional law relating to searches and seizures, arrests, and confessions and admissions as they apply to law enforcement and prosecution
- To identify the constitutional limitations involved in custodial interrogation, searches, and seizures of criminal suspects
- To differentiate between the constitutional rights of due process of law and equal protection of the law as they apply to criminal suspects
- To understand key cases, legal terms, clauses, and chronologies in American constitutional law
- To articulate informed opinion with regard to important controversial constitutional issues
- To appreciate the scholarly study of law and its application

General Education Goals:

In addition to the objectives listed above, the more general goals of this course are to provide the student with the tools with which to develop his or her own potential and abilities.

- This course will help to develop the student's analytical thinking capabilities by comparing and applying theories and concepts to American constitutional law at both the state and federal levels of government
- The student's literacy skills will be enhanced through assigned readings, weekly assignments, class discussions, and examinations
- The student's understanding of methodology will be enhanced through gaining substantive knowledge of the techniques of judicial review of police actions and criminal prosecutions and trials employed in the American system of criminal justice

- The student's understanding of the scientific method will be enhanced through the comparative analysis of constitutional law doctrines and appellate court decisions applying criminal law and criminal procedure to particular individuals and factual situations
- By considering and examining the impact of constitutional law upon individuals in the United States, the student should develop a better understanding of public policy and human behavior
- This course should be useful in increasing the student's awareness of the cultures and experiences of persons in our diverse society, as the application of constitutional law impacts various groups differently in our society
- The course utilizes topical and historical perspectives to help students understand the evolutionary development of American constitutional law during the past 200 years
- This course will prepare the student for more advanced studies in law and criminal justice

Course Rules and Policies

Student's Responsibilities:

It is very important that the student read the assigned materials, participate in class discussions, and complete the exams and weekly assignments on time.

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to fully participate each week and to complete and submit the weekly assignments and exams on time. If a deadline must be missed, the student should seek prior permission from the instructor. At that point, arrangements may be made to submit the required work at a later time.

Academic and Classroom Misconduct:

Students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately at all times. Academic and classroom misconduct may result in disciplinary sanctions imposed by the University. Students are encouraged to read the APSU Student Code of Conduct.

Plagiarism and Cheating:

As students will be future leaders and practitioners in professional fields, cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students found cheating or plagiarizing by the Dean of Students will receive a grade of F on the assignment for the first offense. A second offense will result in a grade of F in the course, in addition to any other sanctions that may be imposed by the University. It is a common occurrence for some students to download materials obtained from the internet without proper citations. The instructor utilizes software to check for plagiarism, so the likelihood of being caught is high.

Disability Services:

Austin Peay State University abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which stipulates that no student shall be denied the benefit of an education “solely by reason of a handicap.” Disabilities covered by the law include, but are not limited to, learning disabilities, hearing, sight, or mobility impairments. If you have a documented disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you require accommodations, communicate with the instructor or with the Office of Disability Services in Morgan University Center 114 at 931-221-6320 or 931-221-6278 (V/TTY), so that such reasonable accommodations may be arranged.

Make-Up Examinations:

Students are expected to take both examinations when scheduled. Make-up examinations will be allowed only for legitimate reasons. Approved make-up examinations will be given at a time and place designated by the instructor outside of scheduled class periods. Make-up examinations taken after the scheduled examination time may be in the form of essay and short-answer questions. Students are also expected to submit all six weekly assignments via the dropbox on time. Late submissions will not be accepted without a legitimate reason unless previous arrangements were made with the instructor. The makeup midterm examination must be taken prior to August 6, 2021 or a grade of F will be assigned. Grades of I (Incomplete) will be assigned only if requested by the student in writing prior to August 6, 2021 and if the student has a passing grade (60% or higher) on the midterm examination and combined grades of 60% on the

weekly assignments. A student with a failing grade on the midterm examination who does not take the final examination on or before August 6, 2021 will be assigned a grade of F.

Assessments and Grading

Grading/Evaluation System:

Grades will be determined by two (2) examinations and three (3) weekly assignments. The two examinations will be worth 150 points each (300 points combined) and will be composed of multiple choice and true-false questions. The exams will cover only the material since the last examination. Therefore, the final examination will not be comprehensive. The two exams combined will be worth a total of 66.7% of the final grade. The three weekly assignments will be in the form of short answer questions (80% of the weekly assignment grade) and discussion questions and responses (worth 20% of the weekly assignment grade). Students must post one response and respond to at least one student posting in addition to completing each written question on the weekly assignment in order to receive full credit on each week's discussion and weekly assignment. The Weekly assignments and accompanying discussions will be worth a total of one hundred fifty (150) points, or 33.3% of the final grade. Final grades for the course will be assigned as follows: A=100%-90%; B=89%-80%; C=79%-70%; D=69%-60%; and F=59% or below. Participation in class discussions will be considered in determining the student's final course grade.

Course Outline and Assignments

Schedule of Lectures and Assignments:

Week 1

July 6-12 Introduction; Constitutional Interpretation; Chapter 1:
Constitutional History and Content

Week 1 Assignment Due (Dropbox under Assignments)
by 11:59 PM Monday 07/12/21

Week 2

July 13-19 Chapter 2: Freedom of Speech; Chapter 3: Authority to Detain and Arrest

Week 2 Assignment Due (Dropbox under Assignments) by 11:59 PM Monday 07/19/21

Week 3

July 20-26 Chapter 4: Search and Seizure; Chapter 5: Laws Governing Police Surveillance

MIDTERM EXAMINATION (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, Introduction, Constitutional Interpretation)

The Midterm Examination must be completed by 11:59 PM Monday 07/26/21

Week 4

July 27-Aug. 2 Chapter 6: Interrogations and Confessions; Chapter 7: Compulsory Self-Incrimination; Chapter 8: Right to Counsel

Week 5 Assignment Due (Dropbox under Assignments) by 11:59 PM Monday 08/02/21

Week 5

August 3-6 Chapter 9: Trial and Punishment; Chapter 10: Rights and Liabilities in the Workplace

FINAL EXAMINATION (Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10)

The Final Examination must be completed by 11:59 PM Friday 08/06/21