EASTFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION

FUNDAMENTALS OF CRIMINAL LAW

CRIJ-1310-43400/ON-LINE

COURSE SYLLABUS

SPRING-2015

JANUARY 20 /MAY 7, 2015

NOTE: COURSE ENDS AT 5PM ON MAY 7, 2015

@5pm
INSTRUCTOR: George A. DeAngelis

OFFICE: W101H

PHONE: 972-860-7115 (office) 915-252-3323 (cell)

COURSE DATE: JANUARY 20/MAY 7, 2015

TIME: ON-LINE

COURSE NUMBER: CRIJ-1310

CREDIT HOURS: 3.0 Semester Credit Hours

“My purpose is to educate, not accommodate excuses”

WELCOME TO CRIJ-1310 THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CRIMINAL LAW! It is my pleasure to be with you the next sixteen weeks during the SPRING term as we dive into the world of CRIMINAL LAW! This course is designed to provide you a broad and well-balanced introduction to the dynamics of law, with an emphasis on criminal law. The course will cover various chapters from the assigned textbook, supplemental material from various sources, a comprehensive final examination (open-book), three writing assignments and legal/case briefs.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Please read the entire syllabus thoroughly and retain a copy for your future reference. The syllabus contains important information about this course.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify any course requirements and calendar due dates as necessary to effectively manage this course. You are responsible for contacting me after carefully reading the syllabus, and seeking clarification of anything that you do not understand. Most questions you have can be easily answered by carefully reading the entire syllabus!

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A study of the nature of criminal law; philosophical and historical development; major definitions and concepts; classification of crime; elements of crimes and penalties using Texas statutes as illustrations; criminal responsibility.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Explain the historical and philosophical development of the nature of criminal law; describe definitions and concepts of criminal law and the classifications of crimes and penalties using Texas statutes as illustrations; list the elements of crimes using the Texas statutes as an illustration; and discuss criminal responsibilities as they apply to the criminal statutes.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs):

- Develop and awareness of the philosophical and historical development of criminal law
- Become aware of the major definitions and concepts, classification and elements of crimes
- Be able to describe possible penalties using Texas Statutes as illustrations, and criminal responsibility

EXEMPLARY EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

- Students in Criminal Justice will learn to employ the appropriate methods, technologies, and data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
- Students will examine social institutions and process across a range of historical periods, social structures, and cultures.
- Students will learn to use and critique alternative explanatory systems of theories.
- Students will analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the area of study.
- Students will learn to understand the evolution and current role of the criminal justice system in the United States.

CORE CURRICULUM INTELLECTUAL COMPETENCIES

- READING: the ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials at the college level.
- WRITING: the ability to produce clear, correct, and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion and audience at a college level.
- CRITICAL THINKING: think and analyze at a critical level.
- COMPUTER LITERACY: To understand our technological society and use computer based technology in communication and the acquisition of information.
COURSE TEXTBOOK:
Fundamental of Criminal Law Manual by Michael Santiago

May be purchased at the Eastfield College bookstore only

SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTBOOK: Texas Penal Code (on-line)
http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/ (no charge)

Note: The textbook will be your primary source of course content and information.

ECAMPUS ORIENTATION:

The course syllabus, class assignments, additional resources, and grades will be posted on our class web page located on eCampus. You should check this webpage throughout the semester. All students should have access to eCampus. It is your responsibility to gain access to eCampus. Without access to eCampus, you will not be able to successfully complete this course. Therefore, it is not optional but rather a course requirement!

If this is your first on-line course, I have posted an on-line orientation to help you. Please view the orientation BEFORE starting the course. The material can be found under the “Course Tab”, and then click on “COURSE ORIENTATION.”

What is my Username and where can I find it? Your user name is your seven digits ID number that can be found at one of many places such as the registration summary; paid registration receipt, on back of your student ID card, class roll, grade report and transcripts.

What is my password? The first time you log in to eCampus, your password will be the same as your Username. It is important that you go to the Personal Information section of eCampus the first time you log in, change your password and update all your personal contact information. The most important thing to check at this point is your email address. If this information is not provided in this section, I cannot contact you with important information.

TECHNICAL ISSUES:

If you should have any technical difficulties in starting this class, please send an email to ecampus.support@dcccd.edu or call 972-669-6402. If you have questions about your technical readiness to access or complete an online course, you may go to the Training & Support tab located on the top of the eCampus page.
STUDENT LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

A key to your success in this course is a strong motivation to learn. You will also need to be self-disciplined and able to work independently with minimum direction. Study skills particularly important: (Elkins, 1998) include:

1. Organizing study time
2. Maintaining self-discipline
3. Acquiring necessary working skills
4. Studying efficiently by reading effectively and taking notes
5. Completing assignments on schedule and gaining test-taking skills

If you are motivated, familiar with the delivery system in use, and encouraged and supported by family, etc… you will be a successful student in this course.

EASTFIELD COLLEGE EMAIL POLICY:

Faculty and students must have and use a DCCCD account for all correspondence relating to academic coursework. For information on setting up a DCCCD student email account go to: http://www.dcccd.edyu/netmail/home.html

Emails without a dcccd email address will not be read.

When emailing me, please include your first and last name, along with the complete course number.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES/METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

A variety of learning activities will be used in this class including lecture, on-line interactive activities, class discussions, projects, and research. Emphasis is placed on active participation in each class session. This includes completing all assignments and submitting them on-time.

YOU’RE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COMPLETING THIS COURSE:

1. You must read the assigned textbook, and the syllabus, as well as all announcements posted at the home page of the course very carefully, and follow all instructions about course objectives, grading procedures, etc. I will work with you in all possible legitimate ways to help you do your best but remember, you must put forth the effort too!
2. It is important that you submit all course work on time. *Late work will not be accepted.*

3. Make sure you complete all examinations as scheduled and within the prescribed time allotted. *There are no make-up exams.* Do not call or email me requesting an exception.

4. Submit the research assignment. Particulars about the assignment, and the grading rubric will be provided. Remember to review the College’s policy on honesty and plagiarism. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Appropriate action will be taken to include receiving a zero for the assignment, flunking the course, or being removed from the course.

5. Regularly check eCampus for course announcements, and email from the College or myself

**RESEARCH PROJECT**

A research paper is not required for this course. However, there are three writing assignments and three legal/case briefs that must be completed. More information about these assignments will be provided in class.

**WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT OF ME**

1. As your teacher I will do my best to encourage, challenge, and support you through the course. It is my responsibility to do everything, within reason, to help you be successful.
2. I will promptly answer your emails
3. I will promptly grade assignments and provide you feedback
4. I will be available should you need to see me in person

**DROP PROCEDURE**

If you are unable to complete the course or courses for which you have registered, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally from the course (or courses). Failure to do so will result in your receiving a low performance grade, usually a grade of “F”. The instructor no longer has the ability to drop you for non-attendance.

**EVALUATION PROCEDURE**

The grades in this course will be based upon the following
Final Exam: 200 points
Three Writing Assignments @120 points each 360 points
Three Legal/Case Briefs at 120 points each 360 points
BIO 25 points
Course Summary 35 points
Plagiarism Quiz 20 points

Total points 1000

A=900-1000  B=800-899  C=700-799  D=600-699  F<599

Any inflation of grades at the end of the semester will be at professor’s discretion based on student performance and effort.

Assignments: Any additional assignments are to be completed correctly & on time in order to receive credit. Students are responsible for all assignments. Late work will not be accepted.

Textbook: The textbook is required and assignments should have been read before each class session. It is your responsibility to let the instructor know if you don’t have the required material.

Study Assistance: Students are encouraged to contact the professor when additional assistance related to the course requirements is needed, or to discuss future career goals. If you experience technical difficulties with assessing your online quizzes, exams, or assignments, please contact tech support at 972-669-6402 and ask to speak to a Level II Specialist.

Ecampus: Students are required to use Ecampus Blackboard to supplement classroom lectures, manage email, check announcements, and gradebook. This is not optional. Students who do not utilize Ecampus generally record lower performance and thus earn a lower grade. Ecampus is a great student resource!

ADA SERVICES:
If you are a student with disability and/or special needs who require ADA accommodations, please contact Eastfield College Disability Services Office at 972-860-8348. For any testing accommodation, you must go through the EFC Disability Services Office.

FINANCIAL AID STUDENTS:
If you are receiving Financial Aid grants or loans, you must begin attendance in all classes. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid Office. Changes in your enrollment level and failing grades may require that you repay financial aid funds. Failure to contact the instructor will result in your name being submitted to the financial Aid Office as a “non-attendee.” All students receiving financial aid should open an e-mail account.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS
Students who will be absent from class for the observance of a religious holiday must notify the instructor in advance. Refer to the college catalog section on Student Responsibilities.

EMERGENCY/INCLIMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE:
In case of emergency or inclement weather conditions, students should refer to the Eastfield College web page www.eastfieldcollege.com for the inclement Weather announcement under the Features area of the front page. This announcement will be posted immediately following the decision to close the college. Students are also advised to monitor other local radio and television stations. REMEMBER under no circumstances are you to place yourself in harm’s way. Please use extreme safety precautions when traveling to and from campus.
http://video.dcccd.edu/rtv/DO/emergency_dccc.wmv

ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT
Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.
As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the DCCCD Code of Student Conduct published in the DCCCD Catalog at http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm
Cheating includes copying from another student’s test or homework paper, using materials not authorized, collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test, knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing or soliciting the contents of an unadministered test, and substituting for another person to take a test. Plagiarism is the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the acknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work. Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense in college. You can be given a failing grade on an assignment or test, can be failed for the class, or you can even be suspended from college.

OBTAINING GRADES AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER: Grade reports are no longer mailed. Convenient access is available online or by telephone. Use your student ID # when you log in to e-connect or call DCCCD Touch Tone Services. Web site address: http/econnect.dcccd.edu/. Telephone number 972-613-1818
SEXUAL HARASSMENT: Eastfield College has a zero tolerance policy on sexual harassment. All students shall report complaints of sexual harassment informally to the college Human Resource Director or formally to the Vice Chancellor of Educational Affairs.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY:
Students who are unable to complete this course must withdraw through the Admissions Office by the withdrawal date. You will not be dropped if you stop coming to class. You will receive a performance grade of “F.” You must fill out the necessary paperwork to withdraw to avoid it affecting your GPA. Sometimes students drop a class when help is possible that would enable them to continue. I hope that you will discuss your plans with me should you decide to withdraw. Note, students who are receiving financial aid should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

STOP BEFORE YOU DROP RULE
For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “W” Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access: https://ww1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops

DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES
The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a statewide program designed to ensure that students enrolled in Texas public colleges and universities have the basic academic skills needed to be successful in college level course work. The TSI requires assessment, remediation (if necessary), and advising of students who attend a public college or university in the state of Texas. The program assesses a student’s basic academic skills in reading, writing, and math. Passing the assessment is a prerequisite for enrollment in many college level classes such as English 1301/1302, History 1301/1302, Math 1414, etc. Students who do not meet assessment standards may complete prerequisite requirements by taking developmental courses in the deficient area and passing them with a grade of C or higher. In some cases retesting will also be required. It is up to each student to be aware and informed about requirements that are subject to change. Additional information is available from the TSI Office. https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0910/admiss/tsi.cfm?loc=4

*Note Students who first enroll in a Level I or II certificate program such as the 15hr or 30hr certificate in Criminal Justice are temporally waived from taking the (TSI)

STUDENT E-MAIL:
A student e-mail account is free. You may set one up by going to www.dcccd.edu and click on Student Services, Online Services, and Student NetMail. All students receiving financial aid must open a student NetMail account.

**Eastfield College Email Policy**

Legal privacy issues prevent your instructor from discussing your work or your grades on commercial e-mail accounts. If you wish to send your papers or work as an attachment to an e-mail with the instructor’s permission, or if you have a question about your grade, you must open a student e-mail account as noted below. Faculty and students must have and use a DCCCD account for all correspondence relating to academic coursework. For information on setting up a DCCCD student email account go to http://www.dcccd.edu/netmail/home.html

**Repeating This Course: (Third Attempt to Enroll in a Course)**

Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. All third and subsequent attempts of the majority of credit and Continuing Education/Workforce Training courses will result in additional tuition to be charged. Developmental Studies and some other courses will not be charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 Semester. See Third Attempt to Enroll in a Course at: http://www.dcccd.edu/thirdcourseattempt/

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)**

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy act of 1974 (FERPA), the College may release information classified as “directory information” to the general public without the written consent of the student. Directory information includes. (1) student name, (2) student address, (3) telephone numbers, (4) date and place of birth, (5) weight and height of members of athletic teams, (6) participation in officially recognized activities or sports, (7) dates of attendance, (8) educational institution most recently attended, and (9) other similar information, including major field of study and degrees and awards received. Students may protect their directory information at any time during the academic year. If no request is filed, directory information is released upon written inquiry. No telephone inquiries are acknowledged. No transcript or academic record is released without written consent from the student, except as specified by law.

**PRINTING ON CAMPUS**

Printing in the Computer Lab (L108), Library, and Learning Assistance Center will cost 5 cents per page. Students must bring a $1.00, $5.00, $10.00 or $20.00 bill to the lab to create an account. Accounts must be created before attempting to print. No change is made in the lab. Once the money is in the bill acceptor, it cannot be retrieved. Cash refunds are not possible. Accounts stay active as long as the account has value.

**Course Schedule & Assignments**
Fall Session Jan.20-May 07,2015

Week 1 January 20-January 25, 2015
Chapter 1 The Nature of Criminal Law (textbook)
BIO due
Review Plagiarism PowerPoint
Take Plagiarism Quiz

Week 2 January 26-February 1, 2015
SWAT 1 Assignment due
Chapter 2 General Provisions of Texas Penal Code (textbook)

Week 3 February 2-February 8, 2015
General Provisions of Texas Penal Code (textbook)

Week 4 February 9-February 15, 2015
Legal Brief #1 due

WEEK 5 February 16-February 22, 2015
Chapter 3 Burden of Proof (textbook)

Week 6 February 23-March 1, 2015
SWAT 2 due

Week 7 March 2-March 8, 2015
Chapter 4 Multiple Prosecutions (textbook)
Chapter 5 Criminal Responsibility (textbook)

Week 8 March 9-March 15, 2015
SPRING BREAK-NO CLASSES

WEEK 9 March 16-March 22, 2015
Legal Brief #2 due

WEEK 10 March 23-March 29, 2015
Chapter 6 Culpability Generally (textbook)
Chapter 7 Criminal Responsibility for Conduct of Another (textbook)
Chapter 8 General Defenses to Criminal Responsibility (textbook)

**WEEK 11 March 30-April 5, 2015**

Chapter 9 Justifications: Excluding Criminal Responsibility (textbook)
Chapter 10 Use of force, Related Definitions & Concepts (textbook)

**Week 12 April 6-April 12, 2015**

SWAT 3 due

**WEEK 13 April 13-April 19, 2015**

Chapter 11 Punishments (textbook)
Chapter 12 Preparatory Offenses (textbook)

**WEEK 14 April 20-April 26, 2015**

Legal Brief #3 due

**Week 15 April 27-May 3, 2015**

Chapter 13 Elements of Crimes and Penalties (textbook)

Course Summary Due

**Week 16 May 4-May 7, 2015**

Final Exam

**TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE**

Instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to the course schedule. In the event adjustments are made, students will be notified via Ecampus and in class.