Course Title: Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement
Course Number: CRIJ 2323
Credit Hours: 3.0 Semester Credit Hours
Course Schedule: Online
Prerequisite: NONE

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

Student Learning Outcomes: Define police authority and explain the responsibilities and constitutional restraints as enumerated in the Texas Constitution, United States Constitution, and Bill of Rights. Outline the law of arrest and search and seizure developed through court decisions and describe the criminal and civil liability that result from improper acts and/or the failure to act.

Upon Completion of this course the student will be able to:

Quarter 1
Chapter 1 Bill of Rights
Upon Completion of this Chapter the student will be able to:
• Discuss the history of the Bill of Rights
• Discuss and define democracy and liberty
• List and discuss the original natural rights
• List and discuss First Ten Amendments (Bill of Rights)
• List and discuss other relevant Amendments
• Define and discuss Writ of Habeas Corpus

Chapter 2 the Exclusionary Rule
Upon Completion of this Chapter the student will be able to:
• Summarize the history of the Exclusionary Rule
• Discuss the purpose of the Exclusionary Rule
• List and discuss the consequences of allowing illegally obtained evidence into a court proceeding
• The student will be able to list, discuss and brief relevant cases.

Quarter 2
Chapter 3 PROBABLE CAUSE, DETENTION, AND ARREST
Upon Completion of this Chapter the student will be able to:
• Summarize the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the Texas Constitution.
• Define probable cause to arrest.
• Identify valid indicators that serve as building blocks of probable cause.
• Define suspicion, identify examples of suspicious circumstances, and identify appropriate responses.
• Define temporary detention and the elements required for lawful temporary detention.
• Identify circumstances when an officer has the authority to conduct a frisk.
• List elements necessary to constitute a lawful arrest
• Define when a person is under arrest, in constructive custody, and under restraint

recognize that once an arrest, search, or detention has been made, the information
being gathered to establish probable cause or the articulable reasonable suspicion
 justify the officer's initial action cannot be added to.

- Identify the amount of information necessary to make an arrest based upon information communicated from another officer.
- Recognize that obtaining an arrest warrant is the best course of action except when an emergency exists.
- The student will observe a scenario in the classroom, on film, and/or on video tape or read a scenario in the class and write a complaint that is sufficiently complete to allow a magistrate to issue an arrest warrant.

Quarter 3
Chapter 4 EXCEPTIONS TO SEARCH WARRANT REQUIREMENTS
Upon Completion of this Chapter the student will be able to:
- Identify situations in which exceptions to obtaining a search warrant exist for conducting limited searches.
- Identify situations in which a search warrant is not necessary to obtain evidence because there is no expectation of privacy.
- Identify when evidence may be seized during an inventory.
- Given a scenario in the classroom, on film, and/or videotape concerning a search and seizure case without warrant, the student will be able to write a report that documents the officer's actions in a way that justifies the warrantless search and seizure.
- Given a scenario in the classroom, on film, and/or videotape concerning a search and seizure case without warrant, the student will be able to write a report that documents the officer's actions in a way that justifies the warrantless search and seizure.

Chapter 5 SEARCH WARRANTS
Upon Completion of this Chapter the student will be able to:
- List and identify advantages of obtaining a search warrant.
- Identify and list the three major components of search warrant documentation.
- List and identify essential components of an affidavit for the issuance of a search warrant.
- Given a scenario in the classroom, on film and/or videotape which may include written material and reports, the student will be able to write an acceptable probable cause affidavit for a search warrant.
- List the duties of officers relating to arrest under warrant.

Quarter 4
Chapter 6 SUPPRESSION HEARINGS AND CIVIL LIABILITY
Upon Completion of this Chapter the student will be able to:
- Discuss and identify the unique elements of a pretrial suppression of evidence hearing as it relates to officer testimony.
- List and discuss the possibility of personal and/or agency liability for improper arrest, search and seizure actions.

Chapter 7 JUVENILE JUSTICE PROCEDURES
Upon completion of this Chapter the student will be able to:
- List and define different kinds of juvenile offenses
- Discuss method of dealing with juvenile offenders.
- Discuss and identify the issues in making law enforcement contacts at a school.
- Identify the issues in identifying and making law enforcement contacts with juveniles engaged in organized crime activity. (See Chapter 71, Penal Code, and Chapter 61, Code of Criminal Procedure.)
**Instructional Methods:** Online weekly assignments, discussion boards, video review.

**Text(s):** Legal Aspects Manual, Author Michael Santiago. Purchased at Eastfield College bookstore only

**Grading:** The grades in this course will be based upon the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Assignments</td>
<td>13 @ 25 each</td>
<td>325 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarterly Examinations</td>
<td>4 @ 100 each</td>
<td>400 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Questions</td>
<td>1 @ 75 each</td>
<td>75 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Film/Video Review</td>
<td>1 @ 100 each</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reaction Paper (SWAT)</td>
<td>1 @ 100 each</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>1000 total</td>
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A=900-1000  B=800-890  C=700-790  D=600-690  F<600

**Resources:** Additional resources including magazines, newspapers, journals, and periodicals may be used by the instructor and the student. Students are strongly encouraged to use the resources of the college library to enhance their overall learning experience.

**Make-up Policy:** Any make-up work will be at the discretion of the professor. It will be the student’s responsibility to contact the professor about make-up work, including tests.

**Please note:** Any student that misses an examination will be required to contact the instructor. The make-up examination will be in essay form.

**Scholastic Dishonesty:** Scholastic dishonesty shall constitute a violation of the Student Conduct rules and regulations and is punishable as prescribed by Board policies. Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but not be limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.

**Plagiarism:** “Plagiarism” shall be defined as the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work. Sanctions for violations of prohibited conduct may result in suspension; or in sanctions other than expulsion or suspension.

**Cell Phones and Pagers:** Please turn all cell phones and pagers on vibrate or silent. No text messaging is allowed during class.

**Last Day to Drop:** The last day to drop with a “W”_________________________.

It is your responsibility to withdraw from a course by the appropriate date. If you do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade depending on your classroom performance.

For student 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.

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 7 of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access: [https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops](https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops)
**Reaction Papers and Special projects:** Reaction Papers and Special projects are due at the prescribed dates and class times. *No Reaction Papers or Special projects will be accepted after the due date.*

**Student e-mail:** Legal privacy issues prevent your instructor from discussing your work or grades on commercial e-mail accounts. If you wish to send your papers as attachments to an e-mail, or have questions about your grade, you must open a student e-mail account (the account is free). You may set it up by going to www.dcccd.edu and clicking on Student Services, online services and student NetMail. All students receiving financial aid must open a NetMail account.

**Religious Holidays/Observances:** Students who will be absent from class for the observance of a religious holiday must notify the professor in advance. Please refer to the college catalog section on Student responsibilities.

**Students with disabilities:** Students with disabilities please register with the Eastfield College Student Support Services 972.860.8348.

**Financial Aid Students:** Students receiving Financial Aid must attend all classes. Do not drop or stop attending any class without first consulting the Financial Aid Office. Changes in your enrollment level or failing grades may require you to repay financial aid funds. If you fail to attend class the instructor will submit your name to the financial aid office as a “non-attendee”. All students receiving financial aid should open and E-mail account using NetMail. You may set it up by going to www.dcccd.edu and clicking on Student Services, online services and student NetMail.

**Emergency/Inclement Weather Procedure:** Incase of emergency or inclement weather conditions Eastfield students should listen to KEOM-FM radio (88.5 FM) as their primary media information source. Students may also refer to the Eastfield web page www.eastfieldcollege.com for the inclement weather announcement.

**Date of Last Review:** August, 2014

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Eastfield College  Legal Aspect of Criminal Law  Fall 2014
Disclaimer Reserving Right to Change Syllabus: The Instructor has the right to amend this syllabus as necessary.