# 8/11/2020

# brcc keystone logo

Baton Rouge Community College

*Academic Affairs Master Syllabus*

Date Approved: 4 September 2020

Term and Year of Implementation: Fall 2020

**Course Title:** Criminal Law

**BRCC Course Rubric:** CJUS 2213

**Previous Course Rubric**: CJUS 222

**Lecture Hours per week-Lab Hours per week-Credit Hours**: 3-0-3

**Per semester: Lecture Hours-Lab Hours-Instructional Contact Hours**: 45-0-45

**Louisiana Common Course Number:** CCRJ 2213

**CIP Code:** 45.0401

**Course Description:** Introduces students to the purposes, functions and procedures of criminal law. Legal definitions, the nature of crime, crime defenses and sentences will be emphasized.

**Prerequisites:**  CJUS 2613 (or CJUS 120) with a grade of C or better

**Co-requisites:** None

**Suggested Enrollment Cap:** 35

**Learning Outcomes.** *Upon successful completion of this course, the students will be able to:*

1. Apply a basic knowledge for the fundamental nature of law and general legal principles.

2. Understand the historical development of criminal law in its contemporary form and its function in today’s American society.

3. Demonstrate a basic knowledge on how law is used as a vital policy-making tool and how it evolves to adapt to the needs of a complex and rapidly changing society.

4. Define specific crimes and have a knowledge of common defenses to those crimes.

5. Explain and demonstrate an understanding of criminal procedure and how it applies to the constitutional rights of all citizens suspected of, charged with or being punished for a crime

**Assessment Measures.** Assessment of all learning outcomes will be measured using the following methods:

1. Instructor designed examinations will be administered during the semester.

2. A final examination will be administered at the end of the semester.

**Information to be included on the Instructor’s Course Syllabi:**

* ***Disability Statement*:** Baton Rouge Community College seeks to meet the needs of its students in many ways. See the Office of Disability Services to receive suggestions for disability statements that should be included in each syllabus.
* ***Grading:*** The College grading policy should be included in the course syllabus. Any special practices should also go here. This should include the instructor’s and/or the department’s policy for make-up work. For example in a speech course, “Speeches not given on due date will receive no grade higher than a sixty” or “Make-up work will not be accepted after the last day of class”.
* ***Attendance Policy*:** Include the overall attendance policy of the college. Instructors may want to add additional information in individual syllabi to meet the needs of their courses.
* ***General Policies*:** Instructors’ policy on the use of things such as beepers and cell phones and/or hand held programmable calculators should be covered in this section.
* ***Cheating and Plagiarism*:** This must be included in all syllabi and should include the penalties for incidents in a given class. Students should have a clear idea of what constitutes cheating in a given course.
* ***Safety Concerns:*** In some courses, this may be a major issue. For example, “No student will be allowed in the lab without safety glasses”. General statements such as, “Items that may be harmful to one’s self or others should not be brought to class”.
* ***Library/ Learning Resources:*** Since the development of the total person is part of our mission, assignments in the library and/or the Learning Resources Center should be included to assist students in enhancing skills and in using resources. Students should be encouraged to use the library for reading enjoyment as part of lifelong learning.

**Expanded Course Outline:**

I. The nature and history of criminal law, criminal liability and the concept of crime.

What is criminal law?

A. The purpose of law.

B. Historical sources of today’s law

C. The federal system

D. The adversarial system

E. The basic elements of crime

F. Corpus delicti

G. Criminal attempt

H. Criminal conspiracy

I. Criminal solicitation

J. Parties to crime

II. Defenses

A. Types of defenses

B. The nature of defenses

C. Justification as a defense

D. Excuses as defenses

E. The defense of insanity

III. Personal Crimes

A. Criminal homicide

B. Assault

C. Battery

D. Sex offenses

E. Kidnapping and false imprisonment

F. Theft crimes

G. Burglary

H. Arson

I. Computer and high-tech crimes

IV. Offenses against public order

A. Crimes against public order

B. Crimes against the administration of government

C. Crimes against public decency and morality

V. Victims and the Law

A. Who is a victim

B. Victims’ rights legislation

C. Victim statistics

D. The costs of criminal victimization

VI. Punishment and Sentencing

A. Sentencing Rationales

B. Imposing Criminal Sanctions

C. Plea Bargaining

D. Traditional sentencing options

E. Capital punishment

F. Intermediate sanctions