CJUS 3201-900,950: Criminal Law
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mark Saber, Ph.D.
Teaching Assistant: Olabode “Patrick” Shonibare
Term: Summer 2017

Class meeting: This is an online class. There are no formal on campus meetings for this course, which would require a student to come to campus. You can contact me via email if you have any questions or want to discuss the course. I am here to assist you and hope to make this course enjoyable and useful in your criminal justice endeavors. This course will require self-discipline and self-motivation to keep up with the readings, assignments and discussion boards. If you put in the effort, you will easily master the content of this course in an online environment.

Instructor’s Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office Phone</th>
<th>940-565-4593</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Mark.Saber@unt.edu">Mark.Saber@unt.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Location</td>
<td>Chilton 273G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>By appointment - The primary method to contact me is through email (which is also the method used to schedule meetings). Please allow 48 hours of turnaround time (weekdays) for your email and telephone inquiries. Phone and email messages sent during the weekend or on holidays will generally be answered the following business day.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For questions, please first email the Teaching Assistant, Mr. Shonibare
The Teaching Assistant (TA) for this class is Patrick Shonibare. Patrick will be assisting with maintaining course documentation and grading. Be aware that a Teaching Assistant has no authorization to make exceptions or course changes for students, as those responsibilities lie with the professor only. For example, if you need to arrange ODA accommodations for the course or have questions about a grade, you need to contact me, not the TA. Patrick can be reached at Olabode.Shonibare@unt.edu.

Email expectations: When sending an email please include the COURSE NUMBER (CJUS 3201) in the subject line of the email. Only emails sent through your UNT email account (username@unt.edu or username@my.unt.edu) will receive a response. Also, to ensure that you receive timely course related correspondence, make sure your official email address at UNT is forwarded to your preferred email address.
Required readings
The assigned text listed below is required for all students enrolled in this course. Reading assignments are noted in the Course Calendar.


Course Description
As the course title indicates, this course concerns criminal law. This is the area of law that defines crimes and provides for their punishment. This is a subject that is essential for all students of Criminal Justice to understand.

The course materials will first address general concepts of crime, such as the elements of crime and the parties that can be held responsible for crime. Next, we will address the basic categories of crime, such as murder, robbery, and theft. Finally, we will cover the defenses to criminal responsibility. With regard to these topics, we will cover both traditional and contemporary concepts of these subjects.

The course material will be divided into chapters and modules. The order in which we will cover the text materials will differ somewhat from the order presented in the text, as reflected in the order of coverage described in the course schedule calendar. Online materials that accompany each chapter will highlight and supplement the assigned text readings. Most chapters will have an accompanying quiz and Blackboard discussion.

Learning Objectives
Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the constitutional limitations on criminal law and how they shape the definitions of crimes.
- Identify and explain the essential elements of the basic crimes and defenses, using both traditional definitions (such as those of the common law) and contemporary definitions (such as those of the Model Penal Code).
- Apply contemporary criminal law definitions (such as those of Texas or other states) to fact patterns.
- Analyze court decisions that apply criminal laws to individual cases.
- Engage in thoughtful discussion with fellow students about aspects of judicial decision making in criminal law cases and topics of current interest in criminal law.

Technical Requirements/Assistance
The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspect of the course.
UIT Help Desk: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm
Hardware and software necessary to use Bb Learn: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/
Browser requirements: http://kb.blackboard.com/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=84639794
Computer and Internet Literacy: http://clt.odu.edu/oso/index.php?src=pe_comp_lit
Necessary plug-ins: http://goo.gl/l1sVF
Minimum Technical Skills
This is not a computer skills course and as such, students are expected to have a minimum skill set in order to access course materials and complete course assignments. Specifically, students should know how to access a Web site when given an address, use the features of their Web browser, download files, attach files to emails, use word processing software, copy and paste …etc.

Access and Navigation
Access and Log in Information
This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing the University of North Texas’ Learning Management System, Blackboard Learn. To get started with the course, please go to: https://learn.unt.edu

You will need your EUID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your EUID or have forgotten your password, please go to: http://ams.unt.edu.

Student Resources
As a student, you will have access to:
• Student Orientation via Blackboard Learn. It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials within the Orientation to better equip you in navigating the course.
• Blackboard’s On Demand Learning Center for Students. It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials to better equip you to navigate the course.
• From within Blackboard, you will have access to the “UNT Helpdesk “tab which provides student resources and Help Desk Information.

Course Organization
Course materials can be accessed for each chapter within the course materials tabs. Assignments can be accessed and submitted through the assignments link, discussions through the discussion link, and quizzes can be located by clicking on the Quizzes link within the classroom. The Course Calendar located at the end of the syllabus provides a breakdown of the quiz, discussion and assignment due dates for the course.

First steps
Upon entrance into the online classroom, students should spend some time navigating course materials and links to ensure they are able to locate all required materials. After the student has reviewed the syllabus and course materials, students will be required to post an introduction in the Discussion forum and complete a Course expectations quiz.

Student Support
The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of Blackboard and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940.565-2324
In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130
Regular hours are maintained to provide support to students. Please refer to the website (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/hours.htm) for updated hours.
**Method of Evaluation**

Students will earn points through two methods of evaluation.

**Quizzes:** There will be 5 quizzes in this course; each is worth 40 points of your final grade. Your quizzes will be timed; from the time you log in to take a quiz, you will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz. Quizzes must be completed in one sitting and will auto-submit at the end of the time allowed or the due date and time. Quiz questions will be delivered one at a time. Your quiz score will be available when you finish the quiz, the correct responses will be visible after the availability period ends. If you have questions over a specific question, please email the professor directly after the quiz availability period ends. It is likely that your question will be answered when the correct responses become available. Quiz due dates are listed in the course schedule.

**Discussions:** Students will be required to submit thorough and well-written responses to blackboard discussion topics. Your on-line discussion board response must be no less than 200 words. In addition, students will be asked to respond to another student’s post for each discussion topic. These responses are reactions to the other student’s postings and must be tactful. These responses must be no less than 150 words and provide a basis for expressing your opinion. Students will also be graded on grammar, so proofread submissions prior to posting. It may be helpful to type responses in a word document before cutting and pasting them into your submission. DO NOT submit your discussion posts as attachments – this will result in a score of 0 for the assigned discussion board. Instead, type your response directly into the text submission box or cut and paste your response into the text submission box from your word document. There are a total of 6 discussion boards including the Introduction discussion board. The 5 course related discussions are worth 20 points each for a total of 100 points of your final grade. Due dates are listed in the course schedule.

*Students must respond to the discussion question in order to unlock that week’s discussion and enable the ability to respond to others’ posts. All discussion and participation posts must be completed by the due date and time. No late discussion posts or participation posts will be accepted for any reason. If you have technical difficulties in submitting your post, you must email the instructor a copy of your post prior to the discussion due date to be eligible for partial credit. Discussion posts/participation posts will be graded and returned within one week of the assignment due date.

Discussion questions are designed to assess your comprehension and understanding of course materials, not a description of your personal opinion regarding computer crime. As such, discussions will be evaluated using the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Editing (spelling and grammar)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent 10 points</td>
<td>Excellent 5 points</td>
<td>Excellent 2.5 points</td>
<td>Excellent 2.5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All of the required components of the response were adequately addressed with full explanations</td>
<td>Student submitted 1+ substantive participation post.</td>
<td>Discussion response exceeded required length, 1 participation response was posted that also exceeded required length</td>
<td>If there were any spelling or grammar errors they were insignificant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Points</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good</strong></td>
<td>8-9 points</td>
<td>A minor required component was missing, or there was not good explanation for at least one of the required major components</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>Student submitted 1 substantive participation post. Supported arguments using properly document sources.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>Discussion response met required length, 1 participation response met the word count requirement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good</strong></td>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>There were a few spelling or grammar errors that were noticeable but did not detract from the paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fair</strong></td>
<td>6-7 points</td>
<td>Important required components of the response were missing or there were a few components not fully explained.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 points</td>
<td>Student submitted 1 substantive participation posts. Additional explanation or support was needed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.5 points</td>
<td>Discussion response was at or right below required length, 1 response was posted that was at or right below the required length</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fair</strong></td>
<td>1.5 points</td>
<td>There were a few spelling or grammar errors that were noticeable and detracted somewhat from the paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poor</strong></td>
<td>4-5 points</td>
<td>Not all of the required components of the response were addressed, nor were they fully explained.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-2 points</td>
<td>Student submitted 1 unsubstantive participation response.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 point</td>
<td>Discussion response was at or below required length, 1 substantive response was posted that did not meet the required length</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poor</strong></td>
<td>1 point</td>
<td>There were a number of spelling and grammar mistakes that detracted from the paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Failing</strong></td>
<td>0-3 points</td>
<td>The content of the paper was inadequate with limited coverage of required elements and very little if any explanation of required components</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0 points</td>
<td>There were no substantive participation posts submitted.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0 points</td>
<td>Discussion response was at or below the required length and there were no substantive participation posts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Failing</strong></td>
<td>0 points</td>
<td>There were a great number of spelling and grammar mistakes that detracted greatly from the reading of the paper, such that it was difficult to read</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Grade calculation (a running point total is available in Blackboard)*

- Quizzes: 5 quizzes @ 40 points each  
- Discussion Boards: 5 discussion boards @ 20 points each
- **Total Possible Points**: 300 points

Final grades will be determined based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>270-300 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>240-269 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>210-239 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>180-209 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>179 points or below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*There are no extra credit opportunities for this course.*

**Late assignment policy:**
Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a grade of “0”. In addition, there is absolutely no allowance for make-up work.

**Attendance Policy**
As this is an online course, there are fixed deadlines on assignments that students must meet in order to receive up to full credit for completed assignments. Students are expected to log in to
the course daily to review course assignments, due dates, and check announcements, etc. Students may complete their work early and, in doing so, have a large amount of flexibility in completing their assignments. However, while work can be completed early, all assignments must be submitted by the due date listed in the course calendar in the syllabus. Students that have fallen behind, are failing and/or choose to not complete the coursework for the semester are responsible for officially withdrawing themselves from the course; failure to do so will result in a performance grade of "F". Last day to withdraw with a grade of “W” is July 20, 2017.

**Classroom Policies and Online Etiquette:**
While this is an online class, we will still engage in weekly discussions in which individuals may have strong opinions regarding course related topics. Our online classroom is a collaborative environment in which every student should feel comfortable expressing ideas, opinions and engaging in thoughtful discussions. Please, proofread you responses carefully before you post them to make sure that they will not be offensive to others. Use discussions to develop your skills in collaboration and teamwork. Treat the discussion areas as a creative environment where you and your classmates can ask questions, express opinions, revise opinions, and take positions just as you would in a more “traditional” classroom setting. Students engaging in disruptive or disrespectful behavior in the classroom will be given one warning through an email from the instructor. A second violation will result in the student being locked out of future discussions eliminating their ability to either participate in future discussions or earn additional discussion points for the course.

**A Grade of “Incomplete” (“I”):** An Incomplete Grade ("I") is a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a term/semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course and (2) has a justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule; and (3) arranges with the professor before the end of the semester to finish the course at a later date by completing specific requirements that the professor must list on the grade sheet. All work in the course must be completed within the specified time (not to exceed one year after taking the course) If you do not meet the specifications for this grade, you will need to see the Registrar’s office about resigning from the University.

**Academic integrity:**
Standards of academic integrity are expected with regard to any course related work or submission. Students should consult the UNT website for questions, guidelines, appeals, and other information related to these policies: [http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf](http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf)

Academic violation of UNT policy consists of the following:

A) Cheating. The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:

1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
2. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
3. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
4. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

B) Plagiarism. Use of another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student’s intent, including but not limited to:
1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

C) Forgery. Altering a score, grade or official academic university record or forging the signature of an instructor or other student.

D) Fabrication. Falsifying or inventing any information, data or research as part of an academic exercise.

E) Facilitating Academic Dishonesty. Helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.

F) Sabotage. Acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

All submissions should be 100% original to this course.

Any violation of academic integrity will be handled on a case-by-case basis. At a minimum, the student will receive a zero on the assignment in question, but more serious academic violations may be subject to the assignment of a failing grade for the course. Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor with questions related to citations or other academic integrity concerns.

Resources
Links to Academic Support Services, such as Office of Disability Accommodation, Counseling and Testing Services, UNT Libraries, Online Tutoring, UNT Writing Lab and Math Tutor Lab can be located within Blackboard Learn on the “Academic Support” tab. UNT Portal: http://my.unt.edu

UNT Blackboard Learn Student Resources: Technical Support: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/

UNT Library Information for Off-Campus Users: http://www.library.unt.edu/services/facilities-and-systems/campus-access

UNT Computing and Information Technology Center: http://citc.unt.edu/services-solutions/students

UNT Academic Resources for Students: http://www.unt.edu/academics.htm
Computer Labs: General access computer lab information (including locations and hours of operation) can be located at: [http://www.gacl.unt.edu/](http://www.gacl.unt.edu/)

**Student Evaluation of Instruction (SPOT)**
Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction (SPOT) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Student feedback is very important to UNT, please complete your SPOT (Student Perceptions of Teaching) survey during the open evaluation time.

**ADA Statement and Disabled Student Policy**
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at [http://www.unt.edu/oda](http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, & Assault**
UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT’s Dean of Students’ website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: [http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0). Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT’s Student Advocate and she can be reached through e-mail at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students’ office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

**Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses**

**Federal Regulation**
To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website at [http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at "Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G)” and can be found buried within this document: [http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=8&PART=214&SECTION=2&type=text](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=8&PART=214&SECTION=2&type=text)
The paragraph reads:
(G) For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance
To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:
1. Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
2. Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

1/15/04
Rev. 4/24/2009

Copyright Notice
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Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) Blackboard Learn Release 9.1
**Course Calendar and Topics**
This is a tentative schedule and the instructor reserves the right to modify any part of the schedule at any time throughout the semester. All assignments must be submitted by 11:59pm Central time on the date listed below. *Late submissions are not accepted.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments and Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td>July 10 – July 16</td>
<td>1. Zip-Code Survey (must be completed to unlock the rest of the course)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 1 – 3</td>
<td>2. Introduction and Discussion 1 (Ch3) due July 16 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3. Quiz 1 due July 16 at 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td>July 17 – July 23</td>
<td>1. Discussion 2 (Ch7) due July 23 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 6 – 7</td>
<td>2. Quiz 2 due July 23 at 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td>July 24 – July 30</td>
<td>1. Discussion 3 (Ch9) due July 30 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 8 – 9</td>
<td>2. Quiz 3 due July 30 at 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td>July 31 – Aug 6</td>
<td>1. Discussion 4 (Ch11) due Aug 6 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 10 – 11</td>
<td>2. Quiz 4 due Aug 6 at 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td>Aug 7 – Aug 11</td>
<td>1. Discussion 5 (Ch4) due Aug 10 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 4 – 5</td>
<td>2. Quiz 5 due Aug 10 at 11:59p</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** This week’s discussion and quiz are due Thursday this week only – late submissions will not be accepted.