Instructor: Brooke Miller  
Graduate Assistant: Katie Schmidt  
Term: Summer 2015  

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  
Office Phone 940-565-2830  
Email Brooke.Miller@unt.edu  
Office Location Chilton 273K  
Office Hours M-W 9-10a or 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.

For questions, please first email the Graduate Student Assistant, Ms. Katie Schmidt at  
The Graduate Assistant (GA) for this class is MSCJ student Katie Schmidt. Katie will be assisting with maintaining course documentation and grading. Be aware that a Graduate 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, you need to contact me, not the GA. Katie can be reached at KatieSchmidt@my.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) will receive a response.

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](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

Hardware and software necessary to use Bb Learn: [http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/)


Necessary plug-ins: [http://goo.gl/1lsVF](http://goo.gl/1lsVF)

**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 three methods of evaluation.

Quizzes: There will be 11 quizzes in this course; each is worth 20 points of your final grade. Your quizzes will be timed; from the time you log in to take a quiz, you will have 30 minutes to complete...
the quiz. Your quizzes will be over the material covered in each chapter. Due dates are listed in the course schedule.

**Discussions:** Students will be required to submit thorough and well-written responses to blackboard discussion topics. You must participate in ALL discussion boards for each chapter. Your on-line discussion board response **must be no less than 400 words.** In addition, students will be asked to write at least two responses to another student’s post for each discussion topic. These responses are reactions to the other student’s postings and must be tactful in your responses. These responses **must be no less than 200 words** and provide a basis for expressing your opinion. **If your discussion board postings fall below the above requirements, your grade will be significantly affected.** You must post your response to the discussion to unlock the forum and respond to your classmates posts. There are a total of 11 discussion boards including the Introduction discussion board. The 10 course related discussions are worth 20 points each for a total of **200 points** of your final grade. Due dates are listed in the course schedule.

**Final exam:** The final exam will consist of 100 multiple choice questions and is worth 200 points of your final grade. The exam will be timed; from the time that you log in to take an exam, you will have 2 hours and 30 minutes to complete the test. It is imperative that you log in to take it with more than 3 hours left in the allotted time frame, because when the time is up, Blackboard will log you out of the exam and all incomplete questions will be marked incorrect by default. In other words, if you have until 10:00 pm to complete an exam and you log in at 9:30 pm, you will only have ½ hour to finish before the system automatically stops the test at 10:00.

Quizzes: 11 quizzes @ 20 points each 220 points
Discussion Boards: 10 discussion boards @ 20 points each 200 points
Final exam 200 points
**Total Points Possible** 620 points

Final grades will be determined based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>558-620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>496-557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>434-495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>372-433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>371 points or below</td>
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</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.

**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.

**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

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) Forger y. 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.

**ADA statement:**
It is the policy of UNT not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability (where reasonable accommodations can be made), disabled veteran status or veteran of the Vietnam era status in its educational programs, activities, admissions or employment policies. In addition to complying with federal and state equal opportunity laws and regulations, the University, through its diversity policy declares harassment based on individual differences (including sexual orientation) inconsistent with its mission and educational goals. Direct questions or concerns to the equal opportunity office, (940) 565-2456, or the dean of students, (940) 565-2648.

I will make every attempt possible to accommodate anyone with a documented disability. *Please notify me within 7 days* of exams or other class requirements so I have enough time to send exams or other materials to ODA. You must provide me with the appropriate exam request forms from ODA prior to the exam in order to take the exam at ODA.

**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

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE)
The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Copyright Notice
Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies. Additional copyright information may be located at: http://copyright.unt.edu/content/unt-copyright-policies.
## 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 11:59p Central time on the date listed below. Late submissions are not accepted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings, Discussion Boards, Assessments</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 1 – 3&lt;br&gt;Discussion Boards and Quizzes: Ch. 1 – 3</td>
<td>Complete Zip-Code Survey&lt;br&gt;Discussions Ch2 and Ch3 due July 19 11:59p&lt;br&gt;Quizzes #1-3 due July 19 at 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 13 –</td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 6 – 7&lt;br&gt;Discussion Boards and Quizzes: Ch. 6 – 7</td>
<td>Discussions Ch6 and Ch7 due July 26 11:59p&lt;br&gt;Quizzes #4-5 due July 26 at 11:59p</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 8 – 9&lt;br&gt;Discussion Boards and Quizzes: Ch. 8 – 9</td>
<td>Discussions Ch8 and Ch9 due Aug 2 11:59p&lt;br&gt;Quizzes #6-7 due Aug 2 at 11:59p</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 10 – 11&lt;br&gt;Discussion Boards and Quizzes: Ch. 10 – 11</td>
<td>Discussions Ch10 and Ch11 due Aug 9 11:59p&lt;br&gt;Quizzes #8-9 due Aug 9 at 11:59p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 3 – 9</td>
<td>Readings: Ch. 4 – 5&lt;br&gt;Discussion Boards and Quizzes: Ch. 4 – 5</td>
<td>Discussions Ch4 and Ch5 due Aug 13 11:59p&lt;br&gt;Quizzes #10-11 due Aug 13 at 11:59p&lt;br&gt;Final exam opens Aug 13 12:01a due Aug 14 11:59p</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>