

Marshall University

Course Syllabus

Course Title/Number	CJ 221: Introduction to Criminal Courts (CRN: 2675)
Semester/Year	Spring, 2018
Days/Time	E course
Location	Online
Instructor	Margaret Phipps Brown
Office	Smith Hall 735, Marshall University, One John Marshall Drive, Huntington, WV 25755
Phone	304-696-3086; 304-696-3085 (fax)
E-Mail	brownmp@marshall.edu
Office/Hours	Tuesday & Thursday 11:00 am to noon; 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Appointments at other hours are available by request.
University Policies	By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies listed below. Please read the full text of each policy by going to www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs and clicking on "Marshall University Policies." Or, you can access the policies directly by going to http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/?page_id=802 Academic Dishonesty/ Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates/ Computing Services Acceptable Use/ Inclement Weather/ Dead Week/ Students with Disabilities/ Academic Forgiveness/ Academic Probation and Suspension/ Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Students/ Affirmative Action/ Sexual Harassment

Course Description: From Catalog

This course addresses the evolution of current functioning of the American criminal court system. Students are exposed to court administration, court procedures, and the state and federal court system.

The table below shows the following relationships: How each student learning outcomes will be practiced and assessed in the course.

Course Student Learning Outcomes	How students will practice each outcome in this Course	How student achievement of each outcome will be assessed in this Course
Students will be able to describe and explain the adversary system and the state and federal court systems.	Students will read assignments in textbooks, review materials posted online, including chapter outlines, glossaries, and key points.	Students will complete quizzes on each chapter in the text book and four exams throughout the semester. In addition, students will submit a brief research paper.
Students will be able to identify and distinguish the various duties of the actors in the system, including judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, defendants, and victims.	Students will read assignments in textbooks, review materials posted online, including chapter outlines, glossaries, and key points.	Students will complete quizzes on each chapter in the text book and four exams throughout the semester. In addition, students will submit a brief research paper.

Students will be able to relate the steps in the court process, from arrest to appeal and post-conviction remedies.	Students will read assignments in textbooks, review materials posted online, including chapter outlines, glossaries, and key points.	Students will complete quizzes on each chapter in the text book and four exams throughout the semester. In addition, students will submit a brief research paper.
Students will be able to recognize and distinguish the nature and functions of limited jurisdiction courts, general jurisdiction courts, appellate courts, and specialized courts, such as juvenile and/or family courts.	Students will read assignments in textbooks, review materials posted online, including chapter outlines, glossaries, and key points.	Students will complete quizzes on each chapter in the text book and four exams throughout the semester. In addition, students will submit a brief research paper.

Required Texts, Additional Reading, and Other Materials

America's Courts and the Criminal Justice System (12th ed.) (2017), by Neubauer, David W. and Fradella, Henry F., Wadsworth/Cengage Publishing Company. ISBN: 978-1-305-26105.
Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.) (2009), by American Psychological Association. ISBN: 978-1-433-80561-5.

Course Requirements / Due Dates

February 5, 2018: Last day to complete Quizzes 1-4 and Exam 1
February 5, 2018: Research paper topics must be approved
March 5, 2018: Last day to complete Quizzes 5-9 and Exam 2
April 2, 2018: Student Research Papers due
April 2, 2018: Last day to complete Quizzes 10-14 and Exam 3
April 27, 2018: Last day to complete Quizzes 15-19 and Exam 4

Grading Policy

Exams

There will be four exams at 100 points each (400 points total for exam scores). The exams will be completed through BlackBoard. The exams will be objective and will contain multiple choice, true/false, and matching questions. The final exam is not comprehensive. The final exam will be completed during the last week of classes. This means students will not have a final exam during finals week.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be completed after reading the chapter and lecture notes. There will be 17 quizzes on 17 chapters. There are a total of 170 quiz questions at 1 point per question for a grand total of 170 points available for quizzes.

Research paper

Students will prepare a 5-7 page paper on a criminal trial that occurred in the United States. Students must submit their proposed topics to the instructor by email and receive approval of the topic by September 16, 2017. Each paper must have a minimum of five credible sources and must be written in APA citation style (using the APA Publication Manual). Papers must be submitted via Blackboard in MS Word format.

You are free to select a high profile case (e.g., OJ Simpson, Scott Peterson) or a less well known case. The paper should focus on the criminal trial itself. You may discuss evidence presented at trial, rulings made by the trial court, or other topic of interest in the trial itself.

If you have questions about your paper topic, please feel free to contact the instructor.

Student research papers are worth a total of 100 points.

Grading Criteria:

Assignments	<i>Points</i>
Exams	400
Quizzes	170
Research paper	100
Total Points Possible	670

Grading Scale:

Percentage	Grade
90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
LESS THAN 60%	F

Assignments submitted after the due date/time will not be graded. Students will receive a zero for any late assignments, unless arrangements are made ahead of time with the instructor. Students may communicate with the instructor via email (<mailto:brownmp@marshall.edu>) or by using the mail tool in WebCT. All assignments should be submitted to the instructor using the mail tool in WebCT, unless students are instructed otherwise.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:

In this and any other Marshall University course, all academic assignments are expected to be your own original work. Academic dishonesty is a very serious offense and can result in discipline ranging from a verbal notice/written warning, to loss of credit for the work conducted in association with academic dishonesty to permanent removal from the university. For further information please see:

<http://www.marshall.edu/muonline/students/plagiarism.asp>

Attendance Policy

There is no formal attendance policy for this online course; however, please keep in mind that you must complete all requirements by the date they are due.

Course Schedule

***Please note: Because some students who take this class have had difficulty completing assignments on a weekly basis, I am making quizzes and exams available for approximately four weeks at a time. All students are required to complete all quizzes and exams by the last day they are available. Failure to do so will result in a grade of 0 for any quizzes and/or exams not completed by that date. The availability is as follows:

January 8 – February 5: Quizzes 1-4, Exam 1

February 2 – March 5: Quizzes 5-9, Exam 2

March 2 – April 2: Quizzes 10-13, Exam 3

March 30 – April 27: Quizzes 14-17, Exam 4

Research Papers are Due **April 2, 2018**

A Proposed Course Schedule follows:

Week	Reading Assignments	Page Numbers
Week 1	Chapter 1 – Courts, Crime, and Controversy	2-25
Week 2	Chapter 2 – Law and Crime	26-53
Week 3	Chapter 3 – Federal Courts Chapter 4 – State Courts	54-87 88-119
Week 4	Exam 1	
Week 5	Chapter 5 - Dynamics of Courthouse Justice Chapter 6 - Prosecutors	120-145 146-171
Week 6	Chapter 7 – Defense Attorneys Chapter 8 - Judges	172-195 196-219
Week 7	Chapter 9 – Defendants and Victims Exam 2	220-243
Week 8	Chapter 10 – Arrest and Bail through Arraignment Chapter 11 – Disclosing and Suppressing Evidence	244-273 274-305
Week 9	Chapter 12 – Negotiated Justice and the Plea of Guilty Chapter 13 – Trials and Juries	306-329 330-367
Week 10	Exam 3	
Week 11	SPRING BREAK	
Week 12	Chapter 14 – Sentencing Options Chapter 15 – Sentencing Decisions	368-399 400-432
Week 13	Chapter 16 – Appellate Courts and <i>Habeas Corpus Review</i>	434-467
Week 14	Chapter 17 – Juvenile Courts	468-499
Week 15	Exam 4	