

Department:

Criminal Justice

Course Description:

This course examines the history, scope, and nature of law. It focuses on the parties to a crime, classification of offenses, criminal acts and intent, the capacity to commit crime, and criminal defenses. It will cover the elements of misdemeanor and felony crimes.

Course Competencies:

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Outline the basic tenets from which criminal law is derived.
2. Use legal terminology.
3. Interpret the principles of inchoate crimes: attempt, conspiracy, and solicitation.
4. Compare crimes against public order, morals, and the state.
5. Illustrate the general principles of criminal liability.
6. Summarize the nature and limitations of defense to criminal liability.
7. Compare crimes against persons.
8. Examine the limitations of constitutional law.
9. Explain vicarious liability and parties to crime.
10. Compare crimes against property.

Course Content:

- A. Legal Foundations of Criminal Justice
 1. Fundamentals of Criminal Law and Procedure
 2. Organization of the Criminal Justice System
- B. The Substantive Criminal Law
 1. Constitutional Limitations on the Prohibition of Criminal Conduct
 2. Elements of Crimes and Parties to Crimes
 3. Inchoate Offenses
 4. Homicidal Offenses
 5. Other Offenses Against Persons
 6. Property Crimes
 7. White-Collar and Organized Crime
 8. Vice Crimes
 9. Offenses Against Public Health and the Environment
 10. Offenses Against Public Order, Safety, and National Security
 11. Offenses Against Justice and Public Administration
 12. Criminal Responsibility and Defenses
- C. Law Enforcement and Criminal Procedure
 1. Search and Seizure
 2. Arrest, Interrogation, and Identification Procedures
 3. The Pretrial Process
 4. The Criminal Trial

5. Sentencing and Punishment
6. Appeal and Postconviction Relief

Learning Assessments:

Competencies may be evaluated by multiple measures, including exams, papers, article reviews, research, experiments, and projects.

Instructional Materials:

Textbook: Scheb, J. M. & Scheb II, J. M. (2013). *Criminal Law and Procedure* (8th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. ISBN-13: 978-1285070117

Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” on our [Disability Services website](#).

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.

A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct

Highland Community College seeks to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX, and College policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. Highland Community College encourages anyone experiencing harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct to talk to report to the Vice President for Student Services, the Human Resources Director or complete an [online report](#) about what happened so that they can get the support they need and Highland Community College can respond appropriately.

There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. Highland Community College is legally obligated to respond to reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of a report, unless made to a confidential resource. Responses may vary from support services to formal investigations. As a faculty member, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. I must provide our Title IX coordinator with relevant details such as the names of those involved in the incident. For more information about policies and resources or reporting options, please review our [Equity Grievance Policy](#).