

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY CANTON, NEW YORK**



**COURSE OUTLINE**

**JUST 110 – CRIMINAL LAW**

**Prepared By: Lisa E. Colbert**

**SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
APRIL 2015**

**JUST 110 – Criminal Law**

- A. **TITLE:** Criminal Law
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** JUST 110
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring/Fall
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:**  
3 hours lecture per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course is a study of the fundamentals of criminal law: i.e., actus reus, mens rea, distinctions between grades of offenses; criminal responsibility; and substantive law.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-COURSES:** Pre-requisite: JUST 101, Introduction to Criminal Justice or permission of instructor
- J. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**  
By the end of this course, the students will be able to:

<i>Course Objective</i>	<i>Institutional SLO</i>
a. Describe the limits on government in relation to crime and democracy.	1. Comm. Skills 2. Crit. Thinking
b. Classify and grade crimes.	2. Crit. Thinking
c. Distinguish the sources of criminal law	2. Critical Thinking
d. Discuss and understand the rule of law, ex post facto laws, void-for-vagueness doctrine, equal protection under the law, free speech, right to privacy, and cruel and unusual punishment, and the principles of mens rea, actus reus, concurrence, and causation.	1. Comm. Skills 2. Crit. Thinking
e. Apply the general principles of liability to the criminal act.	2. Crit. Thinking

g. Explain parties to crime, vicarious liability, and inchoate crimes.	1. Comm. Skills 2. Crit. Thinking
h. Discuss the many defenses to criminal liability.	1. Comm. Skills 2. Crit. Thinking
i. Explain the crimes against persons, property, public order, and the State.	1. Comm. Skills 2. Crit. Thinking

**K. TEXTS:** Scheb, J., & Scheb, II, J. (2014). *Criminal law and procedure* (8<sup>th</sup> ed.) Belmont, CA. Wadsworth: Cengage Learning.

**L. REFERENCES:** N/A

**M. EQUIPMENT:** Technology Enhanced Classroom

**N. GRADING METHOD:** A-F

**O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Assignments
- Participation

**P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

- I. Fundamentals of Criminal Law
  - A. Definition and origins of law
  - B. Constitutional Limitations
  - C. Role of courts
- II. Organization of the Criminal Justice System
  - A. Legislature
  - B. Law Enforcement
  - C. Courts
  - D. Juvenile Justice
  - E. Corrections
- III. Constitutional Limitations on the Prohibition of criminal conduct
  - A. Enacting laws
  - B. Bill of Rights
- IV. Elements of Crimes and Parties to Crime

- A. Actus reus and Mens rea
  - B. Strict liability
  - C. Parties to crime
- V. Inchoate Crimes
- A. Attempt
  - B. Conspiracy
  - C. Solicitation
- VI. Homicidal Offenses
- A. Homicide
  - B. Manslaughter
  - C. Murder
  - D. Prosecutorial Burdens
- VII. Other offenses Against Persons
- A. Assaultive offenses
  - B. Stalking
  - C. Sex Crimes
  - D. Abusive offenses
  - E. Kidnapping and False Imprisonment
  - F. Civil rights offenses
  - G. Hate Crimes
- VIII. Property Crimes
- A. Theft
  - B. Robbery
  - C. Other property crimes
  - D. Defenses to property crimes
- IX. White Collar and Organized Crime
- A. Antitrust violations
  - B. Computer crimes
  - C. Fraud
  - D. Identity theft
  - E. Defenses
- X. Vice Crimes
- A. Sexual Conduct
  - B. Obscenity and Pornography
  - C. Gambling
  - D. Animal Cruelty
  - E. Alcohol-related offenses
  - F. Drug offenses
- XI. Offenses against public health and the Environment
- A. Legislation

- B. Planning and Zoning
  - C. Scope of federal and state laws
  - D. Environmental Statutes
  - E. Wildlife protection
- XII. Offenses against public order
- A. Breach of peace
  - B. Vagrancy, loitering, panhandling
  - C. Motor Vehicle violations
  - D. Weapons offenses
  - E. National Security
  - F. Terrorism and WMD
- XIII. Offenses against justice and Public Administration
- A. Bribery
  - B. Perjury
  - C. Obstruction of justice
  - D. Resisting arrest
  - E. Compounding a crime
  - F. Escape
  - G. Contempt
- XIV. Criminal Responsibility and defenses
- A. Negative and affirmative defenses
  - B. Lack of capacity
  - C. Excuse and Justification
  - D. Nontraditional defenses

**Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: N/A**