

CJC–231 Constitutional Law

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites.

Corequisites: None

The course covers the impact of the Constitution of the United States and its amendments on the criminal justice system. Topics include the structure of the Constitution and its amendments, court decisions pertinent to contemporary criminal justice issues, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to identify/discuss the basic structure of the United States Constitution and the rights/procedures as interpreted by the courts.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completing requirements for this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify and discuss the important historical events and political philosophies that led to and shaped the United State Constitution.
2. Define federalism and separation of powers.
3. List at least five checks and balances among the three federal branches that are explicit in the Constitution.
4. List and explain the authorities of Congress that are enumerated in the Constitution.
5. List and explain the authorities of the president that are enumerated in the Constitution.
6. Brief a judicial option, identify the relevant facts and legal issues, and analyze the court's rationale.

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. Constitution and the Law
 - A. The Constitution and the Rule of Law
 - B. Articles of Confederation
 - C. Philadelphia Convention
 - D. Ratification
 - E. Amendments
 - F. Judicial Review
 - i. Marbury v. Madison
 - ii. United State v. Nixon
 - iii. Martin v. Hunter’s Lessee
- II. Governmental Powers
 - A. Federalism
 - B. Separation of Powers
 - C. Checks and Balances

- D. The Judiciary Role and Jurisdiction
- E. Congress
- F. The Presidency

III. The Bill of Rights

IV. Religion and the Constitution

V. Due Process

VI. Equal Protection

VII. Civil Liabilities in the Criminal Justice System

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIAL:

The instructor will determine the textbook and other instructional material.