



**Course Number & Title** – CRJ320/POL320 Criminal Law

**Department** – Arts & Sciences

**Contacting Your Professor** – To contact your professor, select “Inbox” from the global navigation bar on the left-hand side of your screen. After selecting “Inbox,” click the pencil in the top right of your screen to begin your message. Type in your professor’s name and your message before sending.

**Delivery** – Online Course

**Course Description** – This course explores Criminal Law, through the study of (a) general legal concepts from the Model Penal Code developed by the American Law Institute and (b) pertinent court decisions. Topics will include the elements of crime, the nature of criminal responsibility, defenses to crime and substantive offenses. The course will utilize case studies and recent legal decisions to illustrate the material. (3 credits)

**Course Prerequisite(s)** – None

**Student Learning Outcomes** – As a result of this course the student will do the following:

1. Explain the limits of criminal liability and responsibility as defined by the Model Penal Code.
2. Recognize excuse and affirmative defenses to criminal charges.
3. Analyze the role of government and political pressure in the creation of criminal laws.
4. Evaluate the constitutional limitations placed on criminal sanctions.
5. Implement critical thinking from a biblical worldview to assigned topics.
6. Define elements of the major crimes in the United States.

### **Course Requirements**

1. *Textbook(s)* – Book information and a price comparison tool can be found at [lbcbookstore.com](http://lbcbookstore.com).
  - a. Lippman, Matthew. *Contemporary Criminal Law: Concepts, Cases, and Controversies*. 5th ed., Sage Publishing, 2018.
2. *Materials*
  - a. None
3. *Assignments*
  - a. **Case Briefings (15%)** – All students will be required to post case briefs and responses in class discussions to reflect on the weekly reading assignments. Students will post these briefs on a weekly basis, as assigned by the instructor. Specific instructions will be given in the course. (SLOs 1–4)

- b. **Weekly Reflections (15%)** – Real-life case studies will be provided each week for students to examine. The reflections are intended to develop critical-thinking skills in each segment of study and to allow students to apply learned concepts from that segment. Specific instructions will be given in the course. [SLO 4]
- c. **Discussion forums (15%)** – Discussions will take place throughout the course, typically in response to course materials or a set of questions provided by the instructor. These discussions are meant to build and enhance the learning community as we interact with each other as a class. As this is the case, discussion posts will not be accepted late. Specific instructions will be given in the course. (SLOs 1–4)

4. *Exams & Quizzes*

- a. **Chapter Quizzes (15%)** – These quizzes will be given on a weekly basis to assess student comprehension of assigned weekly readings and study materials. Specific instructions will be given in the course. (SLOs 1–3)
- b. **Midterm Exam (20%)** – This will be an issue-spotting exam in a short-story format. Students will be graded on (1) knowledge of substantive law, (2) ability to recognize potential legal issues, and (3) capacity to explain their answers through clear, legal reasoning. Specific instructions will be given in the course. (SLOs 1–4)
- c. **Final Exam (20%)** – This will be an issue-spotting exam in a short-story format. Students will be graded on (1) knowledge of substantive law, (2) ability to recognize potential legal issues, and (3) capacity to explain their answers through clear, legal reasoning. Specific instructions will be given in the course. (SLOs 1–6)

5. *Extra Credit*

- a. None

**Course Procedures**

1. *Course Practices* – This online course uses readings, discussions, and other resources and activities to aid and measure the learning of its objectives. Work through the weeks in sequential order, completing the learning explorations and assignments. Please take these opportunities to interact with the instructor and fellow students about the course content, the learning experience, and the relationships between the material and one’s own experience.
2. *Participation Policy* – Full participation in class discussions and activities is expected with conversations and words seasoned with respect and Christian grace.
3. *Grading Policy, Rating Scale, Assignment Weights, etc.*

<i>Excellent</i>	A	=	94–100		B-	=	80–83		D+	=	67–69
	A-	=	90–93		C+	=	77–79	<i>Passing</i>	D	=	64–66
	B+	=	87–89	<i>Average</i>	C	=	74–76		D-	=	60–63
<i>Good</i>	B	=	84–86		C-	=	70–73	<i>Failure</i>	F	=	0–59

The weight of each assignment in relation to your final grade is allocated in this way:

Case Briefings	15%
Weekly Reflections	15%
Discussion Forums	15%
Chapter Quizzes	15%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

4. *Late Assignment Policy* – Late work is generally not accepted and is always at the discretion of the instructor.
5. *Make-up Policy* – All assignments are expected to be handed in on time, and grades will be determined by the Late Assignment Policy. Any exceptions are handled on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the instructor.
6. *Ally Center Statement* – The Ally Center is LBC | Capital’s hub for academic services, resources, and accessibility. The academic services include disability services, writing services, and academic mentoring services and are available at no additional cost. To schedule an online or on-campus appointment, or for information regarding resources, locations, and hours of operation, visit [lbc.edu/ally](http://lbc.edu/ally).
  - a. *Disability Services* – LBC | Capital is committed to creating an educational environment that is inclusive and accessible, in compliance with the guidelines of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Students choosing to disclose a disability must contact the Disability Services Office to discuss reasonable accommodations.

After speaking with the student and reviewing documentation, reasonable accommodations will be determined. It is in the student’s best interest to contact the Disability Services Office as early as possible prior to each new term since professors cannot provide accommodations without verification from the DSO and accommodations cannot be applied retroactively. More information and disclosure forms are available at [lbc.edu/ally](http://lbc.edu/ally).

Please note: Students should register with the Disability Services Office each term for which accommodations are desired; accommodations from the prior semester are not automatically carried over.

The Disability Services Office can be reached at 717.560.8200 ext. 5383 or [DSO@lbc.edu](mailto:DSO@lbc.edu). The confidential fax line is 717.560.8261.

- b. *Writing Services* – The Writing Services is available to help any LBC | Capital student with writing assignments from any course. Students can schedule a one-on-one appointment with professional personnel or peer mentors at any point in the writing process. Writing Services include: assistance in brainstorming and outlining, development of ideas, critique of partial or full drafts, and/or review of formatting and citations. Appointments are available both on campus and online. A variety of writing resources are available at [lbc.edu/ally](http://lbc.edu/ally).

Writing Services can be reached at 717.560.8200 ext. 5389 or by email at [WritingCenter@lbc.edu](mailto:WritingCenter@lbc.edu).

- c. *Academic Mentoring Services* – Academic Mentoring Services (AMS) provides academic services at no cost to any current undergraduate LBC student. Professional personnel and peer mentors come alongside students to assist with major projects, time management, review of course content, test-taking skills, and study strategies. A variety of academic resources are available at [lbc.edu/ally](http://lbc.edu/ally).

Students may make academic mentoring appointments by phone at 717.560.8200 ext. 5389 or by email at [AMS@lbc.edu](mailto:AMS@lbc.edu).

- d. *Contact Information*

Location	Email	Phone
Lancaster	<a href="mailto:AllyCenter@lbc.edu">AllyCenter@lbc.edu</a>	717.569.7071 ext. 5389
Philadelphia	<a href="mailto:AllyPhilly@lbc.edu">AllyPhilly@lbc.edu</a>	215.329.5400 ext. 5753
Washington D.C.	<a href="mailto:AllyDC@lbc.edu">AllyDC@lbc.edu</a>	301.552.1400 ext. 5806
Online	<a href="mailto:AllyCenter@lbc.edu">AllyCenter@lbc.edu</a>	717.569.7071 ext. 5389

7. *Academic Integrity Statement* – As followers of Christ, we need to be fully committed to honesty and truthfulness in all aspects of our lives, including in our academic lives. Therefore, academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in any way. Students are responsible to familiarize themselves with LBC’s Academic Integrity Policy and adhere to it. It is located in the Student Handbook.
8. *Statement on Self-Care* – College in general is a rich and fulfilling experience, full of opportunities for students. Along with this abundance of opportunities comes the challenge of maintaining a healthy life balance characterized by productive tension, a sensible schedule, and time for rest. Productive tension, at times, can be compounded by unexpected life challenges, causing unproductive levels of stress. This can lead to feelings of sadness, increased anxiety, and an overall lack of focus. For this reason, LBC | Capital strongly encourages students to care for themselves physically, emotionally, and spiritually during each academic term and throughout their journeys. Everyone benefits by support in times of struggle so students are also encouraged to seek help promptly by talking with professors, College staff or the Counseling & Career Center (C3) about life challenges as related to academic performance and to seek advice regarding available supports inside and outside of the LBC | Capital community.

## Course Resources

1. *Technology Difficulties* – The Help Desk is available to help you with computer and technology problems and questions. Call 717.560.8200 ext. 4357 (HELP), email [help@lbc.edu](mailto:help@lbc.edu), or visit [lbc.edu/helpdesk](http://lbc.edu/helpdesk).
2. *Library Resources* – The library subscribes to numerous databases to provide access to scholarly and peer-reviewed journal articles, eBooks, newspapers, magazines, and much more. Online resources are accessible anywhere on campus or remotely 24/7 using your LBC username and password. To access these resources, go to [lbc.edu/library](http://lbc.edu/library). The library website also includes links for students to request research assistance:
  - CHAT NOW is for immediate assistance – usually from a non-LBC librarian.
  - ASK US is for information from an LBC librarian within 24 hours (Monday–Friday).
  - SCHEDULE A MEETING is for arranging an appointment with a librarian, either in-person or online.

3. *Program/Content Coordinator* – Criminal Justice, Arts & Sciences Department [artsci@lbc.edu](mailto:artsci@lbc.edu)
4. *Bibliography* – None
5. *Extra Resources* – None