

American International School of Law

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Criminal Law

Course Syllabus

5 Credit Hours • Minimum of 216 Study Hours • 48-52 Weeks

Course Description

Students will examine Common Law and modern criminal justice systems including their classification of crimes and the necessary elements of various crimes. Students will study the criminal culpability rules applicable to perpetrators such as principals, accessories and accomplices. Students will learn the elements of various crimes committed against persons such as homicide, assault, battery, rape and mayhem. Students will also study property crimes such as larceny, embezzlement, false pretenses, receiving stolen property, robbery, burglary and arson. Further, students will examine the inchoate crimes of attempt, solicitation and conspiracy, and will also learn many justifications and excuses including mistake, self-defense, defense of others, crime prevention, force used to effectuate an arrest, consent, insanity, infancy, intoxication, public authority, duress, necessity and entrapment.

Course Delivery Method

There are several delivery methods for course content.

First, students must purchase the books required in the syllabus.

Second, students will use AISOL Dashboard as the technology platform for distance teaching and learning via the Internet. Students use this dynamic Internet-based course management system to access course material, collaborate and communicate online with fellow students and faculty members, and view and listen to live and recorded audio/video lectures from anywhere in the world. Students can access course content on the AISOL Dashboard at any time with use of the Username and Password that will be assigned. At the end of each live course the professor will give specific cases to brief and your reading assignments for the following week.

Third, students will use chat sessions to help understand what they are learning during the week and to ask questions on any material that may cause confusion.

Fourth, students may communicate with the school's administration, faculty, and with other students via email, AISOL Dashboard, box.com, and fuzemeeting. This allows you to have one-on-one contact as needed to assist you with your studies.

Fifth, you are encouraged to supplement your studies with your own selection of materials. These include flash cards, hornbooks, local law libraries, West Law, CALI (Computer Assisted Legal Instruction), review courses, electronic law libraries, law study websites, etc. Many available resources are listed on our school website.

Methodology and Suggested Study Plan

AISOL approaches studying law in a different and unique way that helps students to succeed. We suggest that students take the following approach when creating their study plan:

1. Reading Gilberts Law Summaries. Should be completed by the end of 3 month.
2. While reading the summaries you must define each of the terms that we have provided and then give an example for each term. This allows a student to understand the principle that they are learning about. Should be completed by the end of 3 month.
3. After reading the Gilberts then start reading your Casebook. You are now familiar with the terms so as you go through each case it will be easier for you to understand the law and principal and how it is applied. Thus making case briefing easy and reinforcing the principles you read and learned about. Should be completed by the end of 6 month.
4. After you have completed the case briefing your next item is to watch the videos that we have provided. This again is a reinforcement principal that we believe will help you understand what you are learning. This should all be completed by the end of the 7 month.
5. After you watch the videos you will move on to the mini fact patterns. These fact patterns are there to help you apply the rule of law to the fact pattern and help with your writing skills. Being able to apply the rule of law with the facts is key as it is essential to being successful on the Bar and FYLSE. Should be completed by the end of 11 month.

At any time we are there to set up chat sessions for you as needed for you. Should you need the chat session every day we are there for you.

Submitting Assignments to AISOL

You must submit all assignments via AISOL Dashboard. Since you must study all courses concurrently, you must turn in each type of assignment (quizzes, definitions, case briefs, midterms, etc.) online as requested by the professor.

Keep a copy of all assignments you submit to the school, including answers to all examinations. The school will not be responsible for missing, lost or misplaced exam answers.

Required Books To Be Purchased By Student

Kadish & Schulhofer, Criminal Law and its Processes, 9th Edition

Gilbert Law Summaries on Criminal Law, 18th, By George E. Dix

Fleming Substantive Law Outline and CD Audio Lectures – Criminal Law

<http://www.lawprepare.com/legal-test-aids-law-school-bar-essay-exams-mbe-multiple-choice-tests/outlines-exam-books/substantive-law-outlines-law-school-essay-exam-writing-mbe-tests/>

These books and materials may be available online or locally in your area at a law school bookstore. You may be able to obtain used materials from various online sellers.

Course Requirements

AISOL seeks to offer a program that is flexible enough to allow students to study using the methods that best meet their individual needs, taking into consideration the demands of family, career, and other commitments. Therefore, although there are abundant learning opportunities available, our requirements regarding assignments to be handed into the school are not, by any means, overwhelming. You will note, however, that there is a great deal of study that you must do in order to be equipped to pass the course.

The following requirements must be met:

1. Read the casebook.
2. Read and study Gilberts.
3. Brief the cases.
4. Listen to the recorded lectures after you have read Gilberts an Casebook.
5. Complete and submit the following items online
 - a. Quiz
 - b. Definitions Assignment
 - c. Case Briefs
 - d. Complete the Mini Fact Patterns
 - e. Other Assignments
 - f. Midterm Examination
 - g. Final Examination

More information on each of these requirements is included below.

Cases to Brief

- State v. Rucker, 52 Haw. 336, 475 P.2d 684 (Hawaii 1970) (1970). (Intent)
- County Court of Ulster County, N.Y. v. Allen, 442 U.S. 140, 99 S.Ct. 2213, 60 L.Ed.2d 777 (1979). (Possession)
- United States v. Chagra, 807 F.2d.398 (1986). (Mental State of Conspiracy)
- Daniel M'Naghten's Case, 8 Eng. Rep. 718, 10 Cl.&Fin. 200 (1843). (Insanity)
- Mullaney v. Wilbur, 421 U.S. 684, 95 S.Ct. 1881, 44 L.Ed.2d 508 (1975). (Heat of Passion Test)
- Hyam v. Director of Public Prosecutions, 2 All.E.R. 41, A.C. 55, 2 W .L.R. 607 (1975). (Murder)
- State v. Goodseal, 220 Kan. 487, 553 P.2d 279 (Kansas 1976). (Felony Murder)
- United States v. Jewell, 532 F.2d 697 (9th Cir. 1976). (Knowledge)
- United States v. Peterson, 483 F.2d 1222, 157 U.S.App.D.C. 219 (D.C.Cir. 1973). (Self Defense)
- United States v. Brown, 518 F.2d 821 (1975). (Deliberate & Premeditated)

Definitions

While you read your Gilberts Law Summary you must define the following terms and give an example of each term. This assignment is due by the 7 month from your start date.

Please define the following terms:

Actus Reus
Mens Rea
Malum in Se
Malum Prohibitum

Felony
Misdemeanor
The Corpus Delicti
Intended Results Doctrine

Doctrine of Contributory Causes
Homicide
Murder
First Degree Murder

Second Degree Murder	Bribery	Defense of Unconsciousness
Manslaughter	Breach of Peace	Defense of Infancy
Voluntary Manslaughter	Affray	Defense of Involuntary
Involuntary Manslaughter	Unlawful Assembly	Intoxication
Malice Aforethought	Rout	Defense of Voluntary
Willful	Riot	Intoxication
Deliberation	Solicitation	General Principles and
Premeditation	Attempt	Jurisdiction
Actual Cause or Cause in Fact	Conspiracy	Common Basic Elements of
Proximate Cause	Accessory	Crimes
Assault	Principal in the First Degree	Defenses to Intent and Criminal
Battery	Principal in the Second Degree	Liability
False Imprisonment	Constructive Presence	Specific Elements of Inchoate
Kidnapping	Accessory After the Fact	Crimes
Rape	The M'Naghten Rule or the	Specific Elements of Crimes
Statutory Rape	Right vs. Wrong	Against Property
Sodomy	Test of Insanity	Specific Elements of Crimes
Mayhem	Insane Delusion	Against the Person
Burglary	The Irresistible Impulse Test	Jurisdiction
Statutory Burglary	The Substantial Capacity Test	Specific Classification of
Arson	or Model	Crimes
Statutory Arson	Penal Code Test	Generic or General
Larceny	The Durham Rule also known	Classification of Crimes
Larceny by Trick or Deceit	as the Product	Burden of Evidence
Obtaining Property by False	Rule	Parties, Liability, Penalties
Pretenses	The Diminished Capacity Test,	Merger
Embezzlement	also known	Physical Act as Indication of
Robbery	as the Wells-Gorshen Rule	Intent
Receiving Stolen Property	Defense of Self Defense	Mental State as Indication of
Forgery	Defense of Defense of Others	Intent
Uttering	Defense of Property	Types of Intent: General,
Extortion	Defense of Prevention of a	Specific, and Malice
Blackmail	Crime	Concurrence of Act and Intent
Misprision of Felony	Defense of Privilege of Public	Defenses to Intent
Compounding the Crime	Authority	Duress
Perjury	Defense of Mistake of Fact	Consent
Subornation of Perjury	Defense of Mistake of Law	Repentance or Forgiveness
Embracery	Defense of Entrapment	Felony Murder Rule

Task List

The items in this list are incorporated into your study plan which follows. This list is intended to give you a means of charting your progress and to assist you in your time management.

- Order the required materials listed in Course Materials.
- Determine the date by which you must complete your first year of studies to comply with the State Bar of California requirements.
- Map out a calendar with numbered weeks. Week 1 is the first week beginning with your start date as listed on your enrollment contract. Week 52 ends exactly one year later. Choose a tentative date to take final exams during the four week window from Weeks 48-52.
- Complete the Quizzes that the professor posts.

- Complete the Definitions Assignment and post them in the assignment box.
- Read the your casebook.
- Read and study Gilberts.
- Complete the required case briefs and submit them online.
- Make flash cards of the terms which will help you study for the course and the First Year Law School Exam.
- While commercial flash cards are available, they are not as easily remembered as those you construct yourself.
- Take the Midterm Examination, posted by your professor.
- Locate a proctor for your final examinations.
- Submit your written request to have final examinations sent to your proctor.
- Take the Final Examination.
- Submit your study log.
- Complete the assignments submitted by your professor.
- Watch the archived lectures.

Study Plan

Since this is an independent Study plan you must create a study plan to fit within the State Bar of California's requirement for admission to take the FYLSE, Bar Exam, or to practice law in California must be completed in 48-52 weeks of study.

We suggest that you break your study plan into 12 modules, each to be completed in one month. During you can determine, when to take complete the task list. Plan accordingly so you have enough time to meet the State Bar requirements. You should work through each module which will consists of four weeks thereby finishing the course work in 48 weeks, thus giving you ample time to take final exams.

The plan is designed around a goal of 20-25 study hours per week for all four or five courses combined, or 80-100 hours per four-week module. The State Bar requires a minimum of 864 hours of study for each year, including all courses taken. It is required that you log or track your study hours online via the AISOL Dashboard; a weekly studies hours log shall be used and record must be kept to ensure that the 864 hours are met.

Please see our "Methodologies and Suggested Study Plan" to help in creating your study plan.