SYLLABUS

DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 02/2013
CIP CODE: 22.0302
SEMESTER: Departmental Syllabus
COURSE TITLE: Criminal Law for the Paralegal
COURSE NUMBER: PRLG-0207
CREDIT HOURS: 3
INSTRUCTOR: Departmental Syllabus
OFFICE LOCATION: Departmental Syllabus
OFFICE HOURS: Departmental Syllabus
TELEPHONE: Departmental Syllabus
EMAIL: KCKCC- “issued email accounts are the official means for electronically communicating with our students.”

PREREQUISITES: PRLG-0121, Introduction to Law, PRLG-0131, Legal Research I, or approval of coordinator.

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS: Please check with the KCKCC bookstore, http://www.kckccbookstore.com/, for the required texts for your particular class.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE: This course will explore the field of criminal law from the viewpoint of a representative. Theories of representation for the state/prosecution as well as for the defendant will be studied. Students will have the opportunity to apply the theory through model criminal cases.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: A variety of instructional methods may be used depending on content area. These include but are not limited to: lecture, multimedia, cooperative/collaborative learning, labs and demonstrations, projects and presentations, speeches, debates, panels, conferencing, performances, and learning experiences outside the classroom. Methodology will be selected to best meet student needs.
COURSE OUTLINE:

I. Foundations of Criminal Justice System
   A. Due Process
   B. Defining Crime for the Paralegal

II. Elements of a Crime
    A. Mens Rea and Actus Reus
    B. Intent
    C. Factors Negating Intent
    D. Inchoate Offenses

III. Burden of Proof
     A. Beyond a Reasonable Doubt
     B. Multiple Jurisdictions
     C. Double Jeopardy

IV. Chronology of a Prosecution
    A. Grand Jury
    B. Probable Cause
    C. Paralegal as an aide to the Prosecutor

V. Defenders
    A. Right to Defense Counsel
    B. Defense Counsel Tasks
    C. Paralegal as an aide to the Defense

VI. Pre-Trial Motions
    A. Motion Practice
    B. Issues decided before trial

VII. Presenting the Case
     A. Case Theory Development
     B. Evidence
     C. Opening Statement and Closing Arguments

VIII. Day in Court
      A. Judge vs. Jury
      B. Paralegal duties during trial

IX. Verdict
    A. JNOV
    B. New Trial
    C. Sentencing

X. Juvenile Justice System
    A. Compared to Criminal System
    B. Procedures
    C. Paralegal as an aide to juvenile representative

XI. Plea Bargains
    A. Objectives
    B. Paralegal’s role in negotiation process

XII. Evidence

XIII. Paralegal Regulation and Ethics in Criminal Law
EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES:
A. The student shall be able to define crime and verbalize the requirements for a valid criminal law.
B. The student shall be able to describe the classifications of crimes.
C. The student shall be able to list and explain the major elements of a criminal offense as well as factors that may affect those elements.
D. The student shall be able to demonstrate knowledge of the duties of defense counsel and the paralegals that assist them.
E. The student shall be able to develop a case by gathering and processing evidence exhibits and witnesses and preparing opening statement and closing arguments.
F. The student shall be able to explain the criminal trial process from pretrial through sentencing.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

The student shall be able to define crime and verbalize the requirements for a valid criminal law.

The Criminal Law System
1. The student shall be able to explain the purpose of criminal law.
2. The student shall be able to identify the main classes of crime.
3. The student shall be able to distinguish between common law and the Model Penal Code.
4. The student shall be able to identify applicable rules of ethics for paralegals assisting criminal attorneys.
5. The student shall be able to list and explain the general duties of a paralegal assisting a criminal attorney.

The student shall be able to describe the classifications of crimes.

Components of a Crime
6. The student shall be able to define mens rea and to distinguish this element from recklessness, negligence, and strict liability.
7. The student shall be able to define actus reus.
8. The student shall be able to explain the importance of voluntary versus involuntary acts.
9. The student shall be able to identify important factors involved in The student will be able to identifying the "guilty" party; i.e. foreseeable consequences, intervening/supervening cause.
10. The student shall be able to identify the parties who can be involved in crime.
11. The student shall be able to distinguish between vicarious liability and corporate liability.

The student shall be able to list and explain the major elements of a criminal offense as well as factors that may affect those elements.

Elements of Crimes
12. The student shall be able to identify the necessary elements for prosecution of crimes against the person.
13. The student shall be able to identify the necessary elements for prosecution of crimes against habitation.
14. The student shall be able to identify the necessary elements for prosecution of crimes against property.
15. The student shall be able to identify the necessary elements for prosecution of crimes against public order, morals, administration.
16. The student shall be able to identify the necessary elements for prosecution of inchoate crimes.

_The student shall be able to demonstrate knowledge of the duties of defense counsel and the paralegals who assist them._

_Defenses_
17. The student shall be able to define and explain the application of constitutional and statutory defenses.
18. The student shall be able to define and explain the application of the justification defense.
19. The student shall be able to define and explain the application of the excuse defense.
20. The student shall be able to define and explain the defense of missing elements.

_The student shall be able to develop a case by gathering and processing evidence exhibits and witnesses and preparing opening statement and closing arguments._

_Intake and Drafting the Complaint_
21. The student shall be able to demonstrate understanding of the intake procedure.
22. The student shall be able to draft a complaint from an intake form or police report.
23. The student shall be able to identify the purpose of the summons and arrest warrant.

_Search and Seizure_
24. The student shall be able to identify the requirements of a warrant.
25. The student shall be able to identify and explain the exceptions to the requirement for a warrant.
26. The student shall be able to explain the purpose of the exclusionary rule.

_Confessions and Pretrial Identification_
27. The student shall be able to identify who is protected by the right against self-incrimination.
28. The student shall be able to explain the concept of incriminating testimony.
29. The student shall be able to explain the purpose of Miranda with regard to confessions and interrogation.

_The student shall be able to explain the criminal trial process from pretrial through sentencing._

_Pretrial_
30. The student shall be able to identify the paralegal's role during the initial appearance.
31. The student shall be able to explain the procedure involved if pretrial detention is
required.
32. The student shall be able to prepare a preliminary investigation plan.
33. The student shall be able to explain the paralegal's role with regard to prosecution and defense during Grand Jury Indictment.
34. The student shall be able to explain the paralegal's role during indictment.
35. The student shall be able to demonstrate knowledge of discovery procedures.
36. The student shall be able to explain the purpose of plea bargaining.

Trial
37. The student shall be able to identify and explain the trial rights involved in criminal law.
38. The student shall be able to prepare a trial notebook.
39. The student shall be able to explain the paralegal's role during trial.
40. The student shall be able to identify the steps of trial and the purpose of each.

Sentencing, Punishment, Review
41. The student shall be able to identify the main forms of punishment for a convicted party.
42. The student shall be able to explain the sentencing procedure.
43. The student shall be able to explain the appellate procedure.
44. The student shall be able to explain the Habeas Corpus procedure.

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNER OUTCOMES:

Major Exams
Quizzes
Homework, attendance, and class participation

GRADING: The grade for the course is based on total points possible using the following scale:
90-100% A
80-89 B
70-79 C
60-69 D
Below 60 F

SPECIAL NOTES:
This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Material included is intended to provide an outline of the course and rules that the instructor will adhere to in evaluating the student’s progress. However, this syllabus is not intended to be a legal contract. Questions regarding the syllabus are welcome any time.

Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to an appreciation of diversity with respect for the differences among the diverse groups comprising our students, faculty, and staff that is free of bigotry and discrimination. Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to providing a multicultural education and environment that reflects and respects diversity and that seeks to increase understanding.
Kansas City Kansas Community College offers equal educational opportunity to all students as well as serving as an equal opportunity employer for all personnel. Various laws, including Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, require the college’s policy on non-discrimination be administered without regard to race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, physical handicap, or veteran status and that such policy be made known.

*Kansas City Kansas Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodations due to a documented disability, please contact Director of Academic Resource Center, in Room 3354 or call (913) 288-7670.*
Learning Outcomes
Discipline knowledge and content mastery is expected of all graduates. More specifically, KCKCC is committed to the Learning Outcomes listed below. We believe that competence in the Learning Outcomes is essential for the success of graduates and will enhance their ability to become contributing members of our increasingly complex world. These areas of knowledge and skills are equally valid for all KCKCC graduates, whether they transfer to a four-year college or pursue a career after leaving college.

General Education Learning Outcomes
Communication Learning Outcomes
The learner will have the ability to express, interpret, and modify ideas/information effectively (both written and oral), including but not limited to reading text accurately and correctly; writing with a clear purpose and effective organization; speaking effectively using appropriate styles that suit the message, purpose, and content; and employing active listening techniques.

Computation Learning Outcomes
The learner will have the ability to understand and apply mathematical concepts and reasoning using numerical data.

Critical Reasoning Learning Outcomes
The learner will understand inductive and deductive reasoning and have the ability to define problems and use data (qualitative and quantitative) to make complex decisions utilizing analysis, synthesis, and evaluation skills.

Technology and Information Management Learning Outcomes
The learner will have the ability to define, collect, organize, analyze, and evaluate information from a variety of sources. The learner will also have the ability to understand basic technology concepts and functionality in order to use technology as a tool to locate and retrieve information.

Community and Civil Responsibility Learning Outcomes
The learner will demonstrate knowledge, awareness, and understanding of diverse ideas, values, and perspectives of a culturally diverse world; an understanding of the ethical issues and values that are prerequisites for making sound judgments and decisions; a recognition of the obligation to become actively involved as a contributing member of the community; and a sensitivity to the awareness of aesthetic expression.

Personal and interpersonal Skills Learning Outcomes
The learner will have the ability to work cooperatively and productively with others; to understand and evaluate his/her capabilities; to manage his/her personal growth by setting realistic and appropriate goals.
SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
STUDENT SUCCESS STRATEGIES

Know your teacher’s name.

Turn off your electronic devices in class/make paying attention to the work of the class your only concern.

Miss class only when you cannot attend/acquire missed information and materials ASAP.

Know your syllabus.

Know the attendance policy.

Know the requirements for tests and assignments.

Know information about final exam and make-up exams.

Know instructor’s position on use of Wikipedia or other online sources.

Know the instructor’s preferred writing style (APA, MLA, etc.).

Always know your grade.

Contact your teacher ASAP with concerns or questions.

Know the benefits of the academic resource center.

Know if your course has a practicum, service learning component, or other exception.

Use an academic planner.

Know the course withdrawal policy.

Know your instructor’s office hours and make appointments when necessary.

Know the school’s scholastic honesty policy.

Be familiar with the course learning objectives, course competencies, and the college’s 21st century learning outcomes for general education.