

Syllabus

DIVISION OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

SSC 204: Criminal Procedural Law

5 Credits

Effective: Spring 2020/2021

Access to the Internet is required.

All written assignments must be in Microsoft-Word-compatible formats.

See the library's APA Style Guide tutorial for a list of resources that can help you use APA style.

FACULTY

Faculty Name: FACULTY NAME

Contact Information: CONTACT INFORMATION

[INSTRUCTOR MAY INSERT PERSONAL MESSAGE IF DESIRED]

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Through case law and constitutional analysis this course examines a range of procedural criminal law topics, including arrests, search and seizure, post-conviction treatment, evidence, and criminal justice procedure. Students will assess degrees of evidence and rules governing admissibility, judicial decisions interpreting individual rights, and an analysis of case studies from arrest through final appeal.

COURSE RESOURCES

Required and recommended resources to complete coursework and assignments are found on the course [Reading List](#). The reading list can be found under *Course Information* in Blackboard as well as from the library homepage (“Find Your Textbook” button).

Note: Required resources that must be purchased by the student are tagged “Purchase from a vendor of your choosing.” Required resources with a direct link, “Available through CityU Library”, are available electronically at no cost to students.

Students in Canada may purchase course resources from the [Canada Bookstore](#), and students outside the U.S. and Canada should contact their advisor or textbook coordinator for additional information.

CITYU LEARNING GOALS

This course supports the following City University learning goals:

- Critical thinking and information literacy

COURSE OUTCOMES

In this course, learners:

- Comprehend the fundamentals of case law analysis, including application to fact patterns.
- Articulate constitutional protections and requirements for due process.
- Analyze constitutional amendments and explore evolving definitions of privacy.
- Acquire a comprehensive overview of criminal justice procedure.
- Assess impact of contemporary culture on constitutional interpretation.
- Assess critical landmark criminal justice cases and subsequent impact on law enforcement and the court system.

CORE CONCEPTS, KNOWLEDGE, AND SKILLS

- Constitutional law
- Exclusionary rule
- Terry stops
- Search and Seizures
- Interrogation and Confessions
- Trial and Appellate Procedure
- Legal Analysis
- Sentencing
- Evidentiary Procedure

OVERVIEW OF COURSE GRADING

The grades earned for the course will be derived using City University of Seattle's decimal grading system, based on the following:

Overview of Required Assignments	Points Toward Final Grade
Course activities/Participation	200
Assignments	800
<i>Fruit of the Poisonous Tree Assignment</i>	<i>200</i>
<i>Miranda Warnings Assignment</i>	<i>200</i>
<i>Offender Score Calculation Assignment</i>	<i>200</i>
<i>Search Identification Assignment</i>	<i>200</i>
TOTAL	1,000

SPECIFICS OF COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

The instructor will provide grading rubrics that will provide more detail as to how this assignment will be graded.

Course activities and participation

Students will be evaluated on their participation in classroom discussions; their ability to present, explain, or defend alternative viewpoints- verbally or in writing; and the degree to which they have mastered the concepts and principles in the course. Written work will be assessed not only on relevance to the subject presented, but also on adherence to good written form and professional presentation.

In an online class participation will be completed through discussion board activities. Students will be expected to respond to weekly prompts provided by the instructor addressing relevant course content. Students should follow university guidelines for participation, including posting on at least three days per week, responding to at least two student posts per thread and any posts directed to the student from the

instructor, and posting responses that are topical and demonstrate strong critical thinking skills.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
Quality of responses	70%
Quantity of responses	15%
Timeliness of responses	15%
TOTAL	100%

Fruit of the Poisonous Tree Assignment

Students apply constitutional law principles to instructor provided hypothetical scenarios to analyze the legality of searches and seizures.

Students receive a series of instructor-drafted scenarios where the lawfulness of how the authorities obtained evidence is an issue. Students will evaluate the facts presented and draft a short essay detailing why the evidence should be excluded or admitted in court. Students should cite at least two sources to support their analysis. The completed assignment should be no longer than 750 words.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
Critical Analysis	35%
Evidence and Support	35%
Organization and Coherence	15%
Style and Mechanics	15%
TOTAL	100%

Miranda and Interrogation Analysis Assignment

Students will conduct a comparative analysis of American and international law enforcement interrogations warnings by drafting responses to specific legal questions pertaining to Miranda warnings and the acceptability of interrogation practices. Specific prompts are to be provided by the instructor.

Students are expected to combine their own thoughtful analysis with ideas and information found or discovered via the sources provided in the class; however, their success is based-on their capacity to develop their own line of reasoning. Student submissions should be presented in paragraph format and include at least two citations to sources. Completed work should be no longer than 750 words.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
Critical Analysis	35%
Evidence and Support	35%
Organization and Coherence	15%
Style and Mechanics	15%
TOTAL	100%

Offender Score Calculation Assignment

Students will explore sentencing guidelines by applying case law to instructor provided scenarios to determine the sentence for a hypothetical defendant.

Students will respond to instructor provided scenarios, using assignment guideline materials, from the perspective of a judge. Students will determine an appropriate sentence for each hypothetical offender and will provide an explanation for the sentencing determination. Students will also respond to a series of instructor provided response questions to encourage critical thinking regarding the sentencing work completed.

Assignment submissions should include numbered paragraph responses for each of the offender score calculation scenarios and numbered paragraph responses to each of the reflection questions. The reflection question portion of the assignment should include citations to at least two sources. Assignments should be no longer than 1,000 words.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
Critical Analysis	35%
Evidence and Support	35%
Organization and Coherence	15%
Style and Mechanics	15%
TOTAL	100%

Seizure Identification Assignment

Students will be provided a hypothetical search and seizure case scenario and will demonstrate critical thinking to apply case law and legal concepts discussed in class to the facts.

Students are expected to conduct a progressive analysis that identifies the issues raised in the case, identifies the relevant rules, provides analysis of the facts relevant to the law, and reach a logical conclusion. Students should cite at least two sources to support analysis. Final submissions should be no longer than 1,000 words in length.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
Critical Analysis	35%
Evidence and Support	35%
Organization and Coherence	15%
Style and Mechanics	15%
TOTAL	100%

COURSE POLICIES

Late Assignments

A critical aspect of project management is to meet predefined deadlines. Therefore, all assignments are expected to be submitted when due. No late assignments are accepted. Life-situations do occur. When an issue arises coordinate with the instructor prior to the assignment's due date and the due date may be adjusted. It is in the best interest of the student to ensure that all assignments are submitted on time.

Participation

Class participation will be evaluated during class. Participation includes being prepared for class discussions and contributing meaningful content when appropriate. It also includes individual effort contributed to the team project.

Professional Writing

Assignments require error-free writing that uses standard English conventions and logical flow of organization to address topics clearly, completely, and concisely. CityU requires the use of APA style.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Students are responsible for understanding and adhering to all of City University of Seattle's academic policies. The most current versions of these policies can be found in the [University Catalog](#) that is linked from the CityU Web site.

Antidiscrimination

City University of Seattle and its staff and faculty are committed to supporting our students. We value equity, diversity, and inclusion as a way of life as well as the educational opportunities it provides. City U will not tolerate any form of discrimination based on race, color, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identification, socioeconomic status, or religious values. If you have experienced any discrimination based on any of the above, we encourage you to report this to the University. Please report this to your instructor. If you do not feel safe reporting this to your instructor, please report to the Provost or to the Vice President of Student Affairs.

Non-Discrimination & Prohibition of Sexual Harassment

City University of Seattle adheres to all federal, state, and local civil rights laws prohibiting discrimination in employment and education. The University is committed to ensuring that the education environment is bounded by standards of mutual respect and safety and is free from discriminatory practices.

In the U.S., the University is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to ensure that all of its education programs and activities do not discriminate on the basis of sex/gender. Sex include sex, sex stereotypes, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, and pregnancy or parenting status. Sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and stalking are forms of sex discrimination, which are prohibited under Title IX and by City University of Seattle policy. City University of Seattle also prohibits retaliation against any person opposing discrimination or participating in any discrimination investigation or complaint process internal or external to the institution. Questions

regarding Title IX, including its application and/or concerns about noncompliance, should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator. For a complete copy of the policy or for more information, visit <https://my.cityu.edu/titleix> or contact the Title IX Coordinator.

In Canada, in compliance with the British Columbia Human Rights Code, the Alberta Human Rights Act, WorksafeBC, and the Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta, the University believes that its environment should at all times be supportive and respectful of the dignity and self-esteem of individuals. Discrimination, harassment and bullying conduct, whether through person to person behaviour or via electronic communications such as email or social media is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. As an educational institution, it is our responsibility to cultivate an environment of excellence, equity, mutual respect and to recognize the value and potential of every individual. The University will take all necessary steps to meet or exceed the requirements of the law to prevent discrimination, harassment and bullying. The Respectful Workplace Policy for the prevention of discrimination, harassment and bullying policy and procedure can be found at <https://www.cityu.edu/discover-cityu/about-cityu/> under the Policies section or at <https://www.cityuniversity.ca/about/>.

Religious Accommodations

City University of Seattle has a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The University's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available in the University Catalog and on the my.cityu.edu student portal. Accommodations must be requested by the 20% mark of this course (e.g. day 14 of a ten-week course, day 7 of a 5-week course) using the Religious Accommodations Request Form found on the student dashboard in the my.cityu.edu student portal.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity in students requires the pursuit of scholarly activity that is free from fraud, deception and unauthorized collaboration with other individuals. Students are responsible for understanding CityU's policy on academic integrity and adhering to its standards in meeting all course requirements. A complete copy of this policy can be found in the [University Catalog](#) under *Student Rights and Responsibilities* on the page titled *Academic Integrity Policy*.

Attendance

Students taking courses in any format at the University are expected to be diligent in their studies and to attend class regularly.

Regular class attendance is important in achieving learning outcomes in the course and may be a valid consideration in determining the final grade. For classes where a physical presence is required, a student has attended if they are present at any time during the class session. For online classes, a student has attended if they have posted or submitted an assignment. A complete copy of this policy can be in the [University Catalog](#) under *Student Rights and Responsibilities* on the page titled *Attendance*.

Final Assignment Due Date

Final assignments for each class at CityU must be due on or before the final date of the course as indicated in the university's course information system. Due dates that extend beyond the final date of the course may negatively impact tuition funding for students.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Disability Services Accommodations Statement

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Please contact Disability Support Services at disability@cityu.edu or 206.239.4752 or visit the [Disability Support Services](#) page in the my.cityu.edu portal. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors.

Library Services

CityU librarians are available to help students find the resources and information they need to succeed in this course. Contact a CityU librarian through the [Ask a Librarian](#) service, or access [library resources and services online](#), 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Smarthinking Tutoring

CityU students have access to free online tutoring offered through Smarthinking, including writing support, from certified tutors 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Contact CityU's Student Support Center at help@cityu.ed to request a user name and password.