Course: CJ 111 Introduction to Constitutional Law

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: RD 100, EN 060

Description:
This course provides an overview of the important Articles and Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The primary focus will emphasize civil rights and individual liberties, with special emphasis on the first, fourth, fifth, sixth, eighth, and fourteenth amendments.

Learning Outcomes
At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Apply concepts of the separation of powers in the framing of the U.S Constitution
- Describe the different Articles and Amendments to the Constitution.
- Discuss the role of the U.S. Supreme Court
- Analyze landmark decisions relating to Criminal Justice

Topical Outline:

- An Historical Overview
- An Overview of the U.S. Legal System
- The U.S. Supreme Court: The Final Word
- Equal Protection under the Law: Balancing Individual, State, and Federal Rights
- The First Amendment: Basic Freedoms
- The Second Amendment: The Gun Control Controversy
- The Fourth Amendment: An Overview of Constitutional Searches and Seizures
- Conducting Constitutional Seizures
- Conducting Constitutional Searches
- The Fifth Amendment: Obtaining Information Legally
- The Sixth Amendment: Right to Counsel and a Fair Trial
- The Eighth Amendment: Bail, Fines, and Punishment
- The Remaining Amendments and a Return to the Constitution
- Epilogue
- Appendix A: The United States Constitution and Amendments
- Appendix B: Reading Legal Opinions
- Appendix C: Briefs of Marbury and Miranda
- Appendix D: Shepardizing a Case
- Appendix E: Legal Research

Student Assessment: Assessment may be accomplished through projects, portfolios, exams, presentations and/or papers.

Academic Integrity: Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation. Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense. As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of ZERO and the student may receive a grade of F for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

Note: If you are having difficulty with work in this class tutoring is available through the Center for Academic & Student Success. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600 x 1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

Before Withdrawing From This Course

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.