

**CRIMINAL LAW**  
**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA LEVIN COLLEGE OF**  
**LAW**  
**SPRING 2025 SYLLABUS—LAW 5100—3 CREDITS**

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:00-5:00p.m. in my office

**MEETING TIME:** Tu and TH, 1:15 pm - 2:40 pm

**LOCATION:** HH 270

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

Substantive law of crimes, including principles of punishment, elements of typical crimes, responsibility and defenses.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Understand elements of many essential criminal offenses
- Understand how to apply the elements to various factual scenarios
- Understand the various factors and rationales that underlie sentencing decisions

**REQUIRED READING MATERIALS:**

Criminal Law Cases and Materials (4<sup>th</sup> ed.) (Carolina Academic Press), Saltzburg, Diamond. Please be sure to register for the Canvas course and have any required materials with you in print or easily accessible electronic form in class. You are responsible for checking your Canvas page and the e-mail connected to the page on a regular basis for any class announcements or adjustments.

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND GRADING EVALUATION:**

There will be a mid-term examination as well as a final examination. Each will be worth 50% of your final grade. The exam will be closed book. Grades can be lowered in the event of excessive absenteeism.

**CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Attendance in class is required by both the ABA and the Law School. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting. Students are allowed four (4) absences during the course of the semester. Students are responsible for ensuring that they are not recorded as absent if they come in late. A student who fails to meet the attendance requirement will be dropped from the course. The law school's policy on attendance can be found [here](#).

**UF LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW STANDARD SYLLABUS POLICIES:**

Other information about UF Levin College of Law policies, including compliance with the UF Honor Code, Grading, Accommodations, Class Recordings, and Course Evaluations can be found at this link: <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/427635/files/74674656?wrap=1>.

**ABA OUT-OF-CLASS HOURS REQUIREMENTS:**

ABA Standard 310 requires that students devote 120 minutes to out-of-class preparation for every “classroom hour” of in-class instruction.

**FIRST DAY ASSIGNMENT**

There are no assigned readings for Day 1.

**COURSE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

This syllabus is offered as a guide to the direction of the course. Our pace will depend in part on the level of interest and the level of difficulty of each section and is subject to change.

1. The Functional and Procedural Basis of Criminal Law  
22-26, 29-30, 31-35, 39-45; 49-50, 54-66
2. Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 5.1, 8 and 14
3. United States v. Williams, 112 S.Ct. 1735 (1992)
4. The Act Requirement  
125-131, 133-137, 140, 143-149 (top), 150-152
5. Mens Rea  
159-162 (middle), 164-169, 173-177; 187-193; 211-214; 217-222; 224 (middle);
6. Strict Liability  
227-239
7. Homicide  
270-280; 287-308; 313-329; 347-360
8. Theft and Aggravated Property Crimes  
534-537; 559-562; 578; 587-589; 627-633; 683-691

9. Attempts

739-745; 747; 749; 752-755; 757-761; 770 (bottom)-771; 772 (bottom)

10. Accomplice Liability

783-785; 787-795 (top); 796-800; 804-809; 811-813

11. Conspiracy

825-837; 840-844; 850-851; 853-855

12. Justification Defenses

883-889; 892 (bottom); 898-905; 914-915; 916 (bottom)-917; 927 (bottom half)-928 (top half); 931-935; 943; 948 (top); 950 (bottom); 952 (middle); 957-961

13. Excuse

969-974; 977-978; 986-990; 998-1005; 1018-1023; 1026

14. Sentencing

93-94, 100-109

*Apprendi v. New Jersey*, 530 U.S. 466 (2000)

*Blakely v. Washington*, 542 U.S. 296 (2004)

*United States v. Booker*, 543 U.S. 220 (2005)

*Rita v. United States*, 551 U.S. 338 (2007)

*Gall v. United States*, 552 U.S. 38 (2007)

*Alleyne v. United States*, 133 S.Ct. 2151 (2013)