



**Introduction to Criminal Justice-HYBRID  
1110-6**

**Credit Hours: 3  
Semester: Spring 2022  
Cap: 10**

**Faculty:** Lola Natay

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**Office:** Building E, Room 108

**Office Phone:** (928) 882-3148

**Office Hours:** You may make an appointment with me Monday-Friday. Evening appointments are also available. We can arrange to meet face-to-face in my office or virtually. I encourage all students to communicate with me regularly.

**Preferred Communication:** Email.

**Modality:** Hybrid (web-enhanced: Blackboard)

**Class Location and Meeting Times:** Blackboard Collaborate/Building E, Room 104, Tuesday 1:00 pm-3:40 pm

**Required Materials:**

**Textbooks:** *Law 101 Everything You Need to Know about American Law* by Jay Feinman  
*Navajo Courts and Navajo Common Law* by Raymond Austin  
You should also buy any edition of *Black's Law Dictionary*.

**Tools:** NTU Email Address, Blackboard Access

**Laptop and Internet Access:** Every student is required to own a laptop and have internet access.

**Lab Fees:** None

**Mission, Vision, and Philosophy**

**Mission:** Navajo Technical University honors Diné culture and language, while educating for the future.

**Vision:** Navajo Technical University provides an excellent educational experience in a supportive, culturally diverse environment, enabling all community members to grow intellectually, culturally, and economically.

**Philosophy:** Through the teachings of Nitsáhákees (thinking), Nahátá (planning), Íina (implementing), and Siihasin (reflection), students acquire quality education in diverse fields, while preserving cultural values and gaining economic opportunities.

**Course Description**

This course provides an overall exploration of the historical development and structure of the United States criminal justice system, with emphasis on how the varied components of the

justice system intertwine to protect and preserve individual rights. The course covers critical analysis of criminal justice processes and the ethical, legal and political factors affecting the exercise of discretion by criminal justice professionals.

Course Outcomes	Course Assessments
Introductory knowledge and exposure to the various areas of law including constitutional law, torts, contracts, procedures, criminal law and Navajo common law;	Quizzes, weekly journals, classroom participation and discussion
An understanding of significant U. S. Supreme Court opinions and Navajo Nation Supreme Court opinions;	Written submissions of significant areas of law, weekly class discussions regarding various topics of the law
An introduction to policies, social issues and cultural beliefs that influence the legal system and structure in both the American and Navajo courts;	Quizzes, weekly journals, classroom discussion
Recognition of the current issues and topics relating to the law;	Weekly classroom participation regarding current events
Confidence to integrate this knowledge into their future professional careers.	Class presentations regarding Navajo common law

### Program Outcomes:

*Students should be able to...*

1. Demonstrate familiarity with Navajo Nation Black Letter law.
2. Demonstrate familiarity with Fundamental Law of the Diné People.
3. Analyze client needs.
4. Write effective legal pleadings.
5. Make formal court arguments.
6. Demonstrate professionalism.

### Course Activities

Week	Date	Class Topics/Reading Due	Assignments Due	Assessments
1	01/18	Introduction, Chapter 1- Feinman No Secret Law Books: You Can Understand the law	Email Instructor- from student NTU email address Read Syllabus Log into Blackboard	
	01/21	<b>Last day to add/drop</b>		
2	01/25	Chapter 2 -Feinman The Supreme Law of the Land: Constitutional Law	Current Event, Reply, Journal	Quiz
3	02/01	Chapter 3-Feinman (up to pg. 60) First Freedoms: Constitutional Rights-Speech	Current Event, Reply, Journal	Quiz
4	02/08	Chapter 3- Feinman- finish Chapter Constitutional Rights- Religion	Current Event, Reply, Journal	Quiz

5	02/15	Chapter 4-Feinman Your Day in Court: The Litigation Process	Current Event, Reply, Journal	Quiz
6	02/22	Chapter 5-Feinman Hot Coffee and Crashing Cars: Tort Law	Current Event, Reply, Journal	Quiz
	02/25	<b>Graduation Petition due</b>		
7	03/01	Review Chapters 1-5- Feinman	PowerPoint	Class Presentation
8	03/08			<b>Midterm</b>
	03/11	<b>Midterm grades due</b>		
9	03/15	Spring Break		
10	03/22	Chapter 8 and Chapter 9-Feinman Crime Doesn't Pay: Criminal Law Protecting the Innocent, Freeing the Guilty: Criminal Procedure	Current Event, Reply, Journal	Quiz
11	03/29	Introduction, Foreword, Ch 1- Austin- The Navajo Nation Court System	Current Event, Reply, Journal	Quiz
	03/31	<b>Last day to withdraw with "W"</b>		
12	04/05	Chapter 2, Chapter 3-Austin Foundational Dine' Law Principles Hozho-Peace, Harmony & Balance	Current Event, Reply, Journal	Quiz
13	04/12	Chapter 4-Austin K'e- Kinship Unity Through Positive Values	Current Event, Reply, Journal	Quiz
14	04/19	Chapter 5-Austin Kei'- Descent, Clanship & Kinship	Current Event, Reply, Journal	Quiz
15	04/26	Review Chapters 1-9 Feinman and 1-5 Austin		Quiz
16	05/03		PowerPoint	Class Presentation
17	<b>05/10</b>			<b>Finals</b>
	<b>05/12</b>	<b>Grades due to the Registrar</b>		
	<b>12/13</b>	<b>Graduation</b>		

### Grading Plan

Current Events:	15%
Class Participation:	15%
Project(s):	15 %
Quizzes:	15 %
Mid-term:	15%
Final Exam:	15%
Journals:	10%

A = 100-90%  
B = 89-80%  
C = 79-70%  
D = 69-60%  
F = 59% or less

### **Grading Policy**

Students must do their own work. Cheating and plagiarism are strictly forbidden. Cheating includes (but is not limited to) plagiarism, submission of work that is not one's own, submission or use of falsified data, unauthorized access to exams or assignments, use of unauthorized material during an exam, or supplying or communicating unauthorized information for assignments or exams.

### **Participation**

Students are expected to attend and participate in all class activities. Points will be given to students who actively participate in class activities.

### **Cell phone and headphone use**

Please turn cell phones off **before** coming to class. Cell phone courtesy is essential to quality classroom learning. Headphones must be removed before coming to class.

### **Exams**

All quizzes, the midterm exam and the final exam will be given on the dates scheduled. Any student who needs to take a quiz or exam other than on the scheduled date, must get prior approval of the instructor and may only be rescheduled for a justifiable reason. The exam will then be scheduled prior to the regularly scheduled exam if possible. **In the event of an emergency the instructor must be informed immediately and sufficient documentation will be required.** A note stating the student was seen at the clinic will not suffice. If the emergency occurs without notice, the student shall take the midterm/final exam no later than 3 days following the test date. If a student requires rescheduling of the exam, that student is prohibited from contacting fellow classmates until all students have taken the exam. Additionally, all students who have already taken the exam are prohibited from discussing the exam with the student(s) that have not taken the exam.

### **Current Events**

Students must submit an article from a reputable newspaper, periodical, or Internet site relating to current events that involve an aspect of the law every week the Saturday before class. You must also post a brief description and explanation of the legal information in your article on Blackboard. Be prepared to present the article in class. I will call on every student at the beginning of class every week to discuss his or her current event. You must also post one reply to another student's posted current event. Please include at least two legal terms and their definitions in your description. Your reply should also include a legal term and definition.

## **Quizzes**

There will be weekly quizzes that must be completed prior to the start of the class lecture. These quizzes are posted on Blackboard. Students are responsible for completing the quiz within the time frame allowed. Quizzes will be due every Tuesday.

## **Journal**

Students must also write in their journal weekly regarding their thoughts, opinions or questions regarding last week's topic. Only the instructor will have access to your journal. Journals must be at least 200 words. Journals should be submitted prior to the start of class every Tuesday.

## **Class Presentations**

Students will prepare and present as a small group of two (2) people. Students may use PowerPoint, Google Slides, handouts, or any other materials to assist in their presentation. The midterm presentation does not require a paper. For the midterm presentation, each group will cover one chapter from Feinman's book. The presentation AND the paper should include a summary of the topic and it should discuss relevant Navajo Nation law. The presentation should inform the class about the Navajo Tribal law and its applicability to the Navajo Nation case law. The presentation should be 10-15 minutes long and the group should be prepared to answer questions from the class. Professional attire should be worn. The written paper is in addition to your final presentation and must be at least two (2) pages long, not including any attachments. The paper should also contain a bibliography. The paper should be double spaced, using APA style and a 12-point font. There is a paper requirement and a Powerpoint/Google Slides presentation due for the final presentation.

## **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. A percentage of the student's grade will be based on class attendance and participation. Absence from class, regardless of the reason, does not relieve the student of responsibility to complete all course work by required deadlines. Furthermore, it is the student's responsibility to obtain notes, handouts, and any other information covered when absent from class and to arrange to make up any in-class assignments or tests if permitted by the instructor. Incomplete or missing assignments will necessarily affect the student's grades. Instructors will report excessive and/or unexplained absences to the Counseling Department for investigation and potential intervention. **Instructors may drop students from the class after three (3) absences unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor to make up work and the instructor deems any excuse acceptable.**

## **Study Time Outside of Class for Face-to-Face Courses**

**For every credit hour in class, a student is expected to spend two hours outside of class studying course materials.**

## **Study Time for Hybrid or Blended Courses**

**For a hybrid or blended course of one credit hour, a student is expected to spend three hours per week studying course materials.**

## **Study Time for Online Courses**

**For an online course of one credit hour, a student is expected to spend four hours per week studying course materials.**

## **Academic Integrity**

Integrity (honesty) is expected of every student in all academic work. The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own. Students who engage in academic dishonesty diminish their education and bring discredit to the University community. Avoid situations likely to compromise academic integrity such as: cheating, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism; modifying academic work to obtain additional credit in the same class unless approved in advance by the instructor, failure to observe rules of academic integrity established by the instructor. **The use of another person's ideas or work claimed as your own without acknowledging the original source is known as plagiarism and is prohibited.**

## **Diné Philosophy of Education**

The Diné Philosophy of Education (DPE) is incorporated into every class for students to become aware of and to understand the significance of the four Diné philosophical elements, including its affiliation with the four directions, four sacred mountains, the four set of thought processes and so forth: Nitsáhákees, Nahát'á, Íina and Siih Hasin which are essential and relevant to self-identity, respect and wisdom to achieve career goals successfully.

At NTU's Zuni Campus, the A:shiwí Philosophy of Education offers essential elements for helping students develop Indigenous and Western understandings. Yam de bena: dap haydoshna: akkya hon detsemak a:wannikwa da: hon de:tsemak a:ts'umme. *Our language and ceremonies allow our people to maintain strength and knowledge.* A:shiwí core values of hon i:yyułashik'yanna:wa (respect), hon delank'oha:willa:wa (kindness and empathy), hon i:yyayumola:wa (honesty and trustworthiness), and hon kohoł lewuna:wediyahnan, wan hon kela i:tsemanna (think critically) are central to attaining strength and knowledge. They help learners develop positive self-identity, respect, kindness, and critical thinking skills to achieve life goals successfully.

## **Students with Disabilities**

Navajo Technical University is committed to serving all students in a non-discriminatory and accommodating manner. Any student who feels that she or he may need special accommodations should contact the Accommodations Office (<http://www.navajotech.edu/student-services#accomodations-services>) in accordance with the university's Disability Accommodations Policy (see [http://www.navajotech.edu/images/about/policiesDocs/Disability\\_Exhibit-A\\_6-26-2018.pdf](http://www.navajotech.edu/images/about/policiesDocs/Disability_Exhibit-A_6-26-2018.pdf)).

## **Email Address**

Students are required to use NTU's email address for all communications with faculty and staff.

**Final Exam Date: May 10, 2022**