



**Course Title: Substantive Criminal Law**  
**Course #: PS 109**

**Credit Hours: 3**  
**Semester: Spring 2021**  
**Cap: 25**

**Faculty:** Joshua Ward Jeffery, MTS, MA

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**Office:** NTU Blue Office Building

**Office Phone:** TBD

**Office Hours:** Tuesday, 9am-1pm. Other times by appointment.

**Preferred Communication:** Email. I will respond to all emails within 24-hours.

**Class Location:** Asynchronous Online Course - Blackboard

**Class Meeting Times:** Asynchronous Online Course - 24/7

**Required Materials:** Computer and internet access, note paper, writing utensils.

Per NTU policies regarding the pandemic, all students are **required** to have a laptop in order to complete the course.

This is a **reading and writing intensive course**. To be successful in this course, you need to put aside enough time each week to complete ALL of the required course readings. If you do not read, and/or do not attend to our homework assignments, you will not be successful in this class. However, if you attend to our readings, engage in course activities and discussion, and make a decent effort at our homework assignments, you will indeed do well in this course.

No allowances will be made for not having textbooks after Week 1. If you cannot purchase the textbook from the bookstore, it is available via instant download from Google Books or Amazon. You **MUST** have a copy of the book in some format in order to be successful in this course.

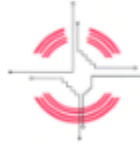
**Textbook:**

Matthew Lippman, *Contemporary Criminal Law: Concepts, Cases, and Controversies* 6th ed. (Sage, 2022). ISBN: 978-1071812990.

The Navajo Nation Code

The United States Code

The Code of Federal Regulations



Other readings as assigned and delivered through Blackboard Ultra.

### Mission Statement

Navajo Technical University's mission is to provide University readiness programs, certificates, associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees. Students, faculty, and staff will provide value to the Diné community through research, community engagement, service learning, and activities designed to foster cultural and environmental preservation and sustainable economic development. The University is committed to a high quality, student-oriented, hands-on-learning environment based on the Diné cultural principles: *Nitsáhákees, Nahátá, Íina, Siihasin.*

### Course Description

**From the catalog:** This course covers basic principles of substantive criminal law including elements of crimes against persons, property, public order, public morality, defenses to crimes, and parties to crime.

Course Outcomes	Course Measurements
Explain the concepts of substantive criminal liability in the United States, including actus reas, mens rea, causation, concurrence, and parties to crime.	Discussion, quizzes, exams.
Define the differences between criminal law and civil law in the United States.	Discussion, quizzes, exams.
Demonstrate basic knowledge of legal terminology as it relates to criminal law.	Discussion, quizzes, exams.
Identify the elements of crimes against persons, property, public order and the administration of justice, public morality, and the inchoate crimes.	Discussion, quizzes, exams.
Describe the various defenses to crimes.	Discussion, quizzes, exams.

### Connections to Program Assessment (course-embedded measures)

#### List program outcomes to be measured

#### General Education Assessment

- **Articulate diversity of human experience**
- **Evaluate contemporary issues, expressions, & thoughts**

**Course Activities**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Chapters/Reading</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
1	01/18 - 01/22	<b>Introduction to the Course</b>  <i>Indian Country Criminal Jurisdictional Chart</i> [Blackboard]	<b>Syllabus Quiz</b>	Discussion
	<b>01/21</b>	<b>Last Day to Add/Drop Classes w/out W</b>		
2	01/23 - 01/29	<i>Lippman</i> , Chs. 1 & 2  Navajo Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Chs. 1 & 2	Vocabulary Quiz 1  Discussion
3	01/30 - 02/05	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 3	Worksheet Ch. 3	Vocabulary Quiz 2  Discussion
4	02/06 - 02/12	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 4	Worksheet Ch. 4	Vocabulary Quiz 3  Discussion
5	02/13 - 02/19	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 5  Federal Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Ch. 5	Vocabulary Quiz 4  Discussion
6	01/20 - 02/26	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 6  Navajo and Federal Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Ch. 6	Vocabulary Quiz 5  Discussion
	<b>02/25</b>	<b>Fall Graduation Petition due</b>		
7	02/27 - 03/05	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 7  Navajo and Federal Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Ch. 7	Vocabulary Quiz 6  Discussion
8	<b>03/06 - 03/12</b>	<b>Midterm Exams</b>  <i>No Reading</i>		<b>Midterm Exam due 03/08 @ 2359.</b>
9	<b>03/13 - 03/19</b>	<b>Spring Break!</b>	No Homework	<b>No Homework</b>



10	03/20 - 03/26	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 8 Navajo and Federal Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Ch. 8	Vocabulary Quiz 7 Discussion
11	03/27 - 04/02	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 9 Navajo and Federal Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Ch. 9	Vocabulary Quiz 8 Discussion
	<b>03/31</b>	<b>Last Day to Withdraw With a W</b>		
12	04/03 - 04/09	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 10 Navajo and Federal Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Ch. 10	Vocabulary Quiz 0 Discussion
13	04/10 - 04/16	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 11 Navajo and Federal Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Ch. 11	Vocabulary Quiz 10 Discussion
14	04/17 - 04/23	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 12 Navajo and Federal Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Ch. 12	Vocabulary Quiz 12 Discussion
15	04/24 - 04/30	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 13 & 14 ( <b>Skim Chapter 14!</b> ) Navajo and Federal Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Ch. 13 ( <b>NOT 14</b> )	Vocabulary Quiz 13 Discussion
16	05/01 - 05/07	<i>Lippman</i> , Ch. 15 & 16 Navajo and Federal Law Provisions (Blackboard)	Worksheet Ch. 15 & 16	Vocabulary Quiz 14 Discussion
17	<b>05/08 - 05/12</b>	<b>FINAL EXAMS</b>		<b>Final Exam due 05/10 @ 2359.</b>



### Grading Plan

Homework	20%	A = 100 - 90%
Mid-term	20%	B = 89 - 80%
Final Exam	30%	C = 79 - 70%
Quizzes	15%	D = 69 - 60%
Class Participation	15%	F < 60%
Discussion	53% of Participation Grade	

### Grading Policy

Each student must do his or her own homework and case studies. Discussion among students on homework and cases is encouraged for clarification of assignments, technical details of using software, and structuring major steps of solutions - especially on the course's website. Students must do their own work on the homework and exam. Cheating, plagiarism, and all other forms of academic dishonesty are strictly forbidden. Cheating includes but is not limited to: plagiarism, submission of work that is not the student's own, submission or use of falsified data, unauthorized access to exam or assignment, use of unauthorized material during an exam, supplying or communicating unauthorized information for an assignment or exam.

Those who work in the criminal justice system need to be honest and act out of integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty demonstrate a lack of these characteristics and a lack of fitness for employment in criminal justice. Any acts of academic dishonesty will be dealt with accordingly.

### Participation

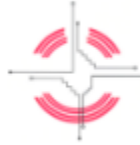
Students are expected to attend and participate in all class activities- as listed above, as it **is 15% of the grade**. Points will be given to students who actively participate in class activities including field trips, laboratories, and ask questions of guest speakers and other presenters.

### Cell phone and headphone use

Please turn cell phones off or place them on silence or vibrate mode **before** coming to class. Also, answer cell phones **outside of class** (not in the classroom). Exercising cell phone use courtesy is appreciated by both the instructor and classmates. Headphones are to be removed before coming to class.

### Attendance Policy

Students are expected to regularly attend all classes for which they are registered. 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 his/her responsibility to complete all course work by the 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 for Hybrid or Blended Courses**

**For a hybrid or blended course of one (1) credit hour, a student is expected to spend three (3) hours per week studying the 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.

### **Students with Disabilities**

The Navajo Technical University and the School of Arts and Humanities are committed to serving all enrolled students in a non-discriminatory and accommodating manner. Any student who feels he/she may need an accommodation based on the impact of disability or needs special accommodations should inform NTU in accordance with the procedures of the subsection entitled "Students with Disabilities" under Section 7: Student Support Programs, NTU Student Handbook.

### **Email Address**

Students are required to use NTU's email address as a formal mode of communication.

**Final Exam Date: 05/10/2022**



## **Assignments and Assessment Descriptions and Policies**

Throughout the course, in addition to our weekly reading, we will be engaged in a number of formative and summative assessments of your learning. In order to do well in the course, you **MUST** complete all of the weekly reading. Make sure to set enough time aside during the week to complete reading assignments and formative assessments. To be successful, you must also complete all formative assessments.

As a policy, I **do not accept late assignments** unless you have contacted me ahead of time to make prior arrangements. The reasons for asking for an extension on an assignment are not as important as timing. If you need an extension, please contact me at your earliest convenience, and at least 24-hours before the due date in question. In the case of a true emergency, I will consider taking late assignments on a case-by-case basis.

### **Chapter Review Worksheets – Due Fridays @ 2359.**

Each week, after reading the chapter, you should answer the chapter review questions for the chapter, found on Blackboard. Your answers should go beyond the surface level, and instead demonstrate your thoughtful interaction with the text. The review questions serve several different functions. First, they are an accountability tool to ensure that you have undertaken the required reading. Second, they are a *formative assessment* tool. A formative assessment helps to both expand your critical thinking on the topic at hand, and allows you to demonstrate your mastery of the course materials.

### **Quizzes – Due on different dates. See syllabus schedule.**

Students will be quizzed on their knowledge of the syllabus, and on their knowledge of specific criminal justice vocabulary. One or more pop quizzes may be used to determine compliance with our reading schedule. As such, keeping up with our reading schedule and class assignments is essential for doing well in the course.

We will have a vocabulary quiz after each chapter that we read. Vocabulary words can be found at the end of the chapter. Come to class prepared to take the quiz. Vocabulary definitions do not have to be verbatim, but you must show me that you understand the concept behind the term.

### **Discussion - Due on different days. See below.**

You will be required to post an original, thoughtful, substantive, and well-edited contribution that responds to the original prompt and that will help move the conversation forward.

DO NOT simply copy and paste text from our text as your answer. This is plagiarism and will be treated as such. If you wish to use short quotations from our text or another text, that is fine, but



you must properly cite those texts in your post, and then analyze or otherwise respond to the text substantively.

Each initial post should be at least 100 words in length. For full credit, you will also be required to provide two substantive responses to your classmates' responses. Responses such as "good job," or "I agree," or even "I disagree" are not sufficient to meet the substantive standard. Go farther, ask a question, describe in detail and with evidence why you agree or disagree with your colleagues, or otherwise engage with their commentary. Your two responses to your colleagues should be long enough to substantively engage with their ideas. On weeks that we have online discussion. Your original response is due by 6pm on Wednesday, with replies due by Saturday at noon.

To keep the conversations going, please follow these steps:

1. Read my initial questions and any peer responses.
2. Find an interesting comment by one of your classmates and respond.
3. Address your post to your classmate (use their name) and briefly comment on their contribution.
4. Share new information from the assigned readings and apply it using critical thinking skills.
5. Sign your name and adjust the subject line before posting.
6. Repeat steps 1-5 twice more.

### **Midterm Exam – 03/08 @ 2359**

The midterm exam will consist of questions on legal vocabulary, Navajo Code and U.S. Code provisions, and other important legal concepts, from the beginning of the course to the midterm. A study guide will be provided ahead of the exam.

### **Final Exam – 05/10 @ 2359**

The midterm exam will consist of questions on legal vocabulary, Navajo Code and U.S. Code provisions, and other important legal concepts, from the midterm to the final exam. A study guide will be provided ahead of the exam.