

Application for a New Course v10.1

Course ID 320	POLC
Date APPROVED	
Date DENIED	

I. Systems and Catalog Information Complete each item.

1	Course Developer	Stuart Platt
2	Course Teacher	Stuart Platt
3	Course Title	Criminal Law
4	Course Abbreviation (if title is over 30 characters)	Crim. Law
5	College	Arts & Sciences
6	Department	Political Science
7	Number of Credit Hours	3
8	Instructor Workload	3 hour course
9	Catalog Description (50 words or less)	The study of general criminal law and concepts from the Model Penal Code developed by the American Law Institute, and the role of court decisions.
10	List any prerequisites (course/s, test scores, class standing, major, etc.)	Prerequisites: POLC 205 or permission of the instructor. Junior standing.
11	List any co-requisites	
12	How often will it be offered?	F, even
13	How often will it be offered?	
14	How often will it be offered?	
15	How often will it be offered?	
16	Frequency?	Every two years
17	First semester this course will be offered <i>New courses may not be taught under their approved course ID until they appear in the catalog, therefore, no earlier than the coming fall.</i>	Spring 2016
18	Has this course been offered as a Special Topics course? Yes/No <i>If "Yes," specify the Course ID and enrollment for each term it was taught.</i>	Yes – POLS 440.01 - 29

II. Curriculum

1	Degree Plan Explanation of how this course affects degree requirements.	The degree requirements are being updated and this course will be a required for the B.A. and B.S. in criminal justice.
2	Justification State the justification for adding this course to the current curriculum. Represent the need	The Criminal Justice degree is now housed in the Political Science Department but as an emphasis area in POLS. To create a new major, this course is being added,

III. Course Design

1. Audience and Course Goal

1	Describe the intended audience, including prerequisite skills.	Students majoring in Criminal Justice, Junior standing
2	State the overarching course goal(s) in performance terms.	To provide students with the knowledge and skills to use when working within the criminal justice system.

2. Competencies and Measurements

	Competency	Measurement
1	Understand the basis for the criminal law in our society.	Exam 1, Quizzes
2	Learn the criminal law system and its roots, from old common law of England to modern statutes in the United States.	Exam 1, Quizzes
3	Learn the elements of each particular crime and its possible defenses.	Exams 1, 2, Quizzes
4	Demonstrate the ability to apply criminal offense elements to factual scenarios.	Exams 3, 4, Quizzes
5	Apply a biblical worldview in dialogue discussions to critically reason through ethical decision making in the topics.	Class attendance and participation

3. Text and Resources

1. Give the full publication information of the textbook/s and other required resources and outside readings.

Criminal Law, by John L. Worrall and Jennifer L. Moore (2013)

2. For **combined undergraduate/graduate** courses, make two lists:
- a. full publication information; label **Undergraduate**. ~~Criminal Law, by John L. Worrall and Jennifer L. Moore (2013)~~
 - b. full publication information; label **Graduate**. Indicate number of pages required.

IV. Supporting Documentation

Supporting documents must accompany proposal prior to preliminary approval by chair and dean.

1	Library — Submit new course application and syllabus to the Dean of the Library. Consult with the director and establish a deadline for completion of the library report. Attach the signed copy of the Library report.
2	Instructional Design — The application and syllabus must be reviewed by the Adams Center. Attach a copy of the Adams Center Review Letter.
3	Content Overlap — Include one document for each course you listed in Section I-I. Attach statement from instructor/dept chair of existing course justifying the new offering.
4	Departmental Resources — List the resources that support the course and are available only through the department, if applicable. Attach the list of the holdings and the location/s.
5	Resources — List resources (other than library or departmental resources) that are needed to support this course (computers, lab equipment, other technology, etc.). Attach a complete list of all items and indicate possible sources or estimated cost of each. List the sources of any needed funds.
6	Expenses — List additional expenses needed to implement this course (full-time or part-time faculty, graduate or lab assistants, student employees, travel, special student costs, room renovation, storage facility, etc.). Attach a complete list of all items, the estimated cost of each and the source of the funds.
7	Justification — Attach all documents referred to in Section II-2
8	Syllabus — Attach the syllabus for the course based upon the anticipated first-semester offering.
9	Provide documentation for all additional attachments here

V. Preliminary Approvals

All supporting documentation has been assembled and attached to this application. I believe this course is ready to be presented to appropriate councils. We have a plan to fund this new course.

Course Number and Name POLC 320 Criminal Law

Primary Department


Department Chair

3-28-16
Date


Dean of the College
3/28/16
Date

Cross-listing Department *Add more lines if multiple departments are cross-listing*

Department Chair

Dean of the College

Date

Date

Cross-listing Department *Add more lines if multiple departments are cross-listing*

Department Chair

Dean of the College

Date

Date

VI. Actions *Place all actions on one page.*

Course ID: POLC 320

Course Title: Criminal Law

1. College Academic Council: (for all courses)

Note: Insert additional lines for College Academic Council action for each college involved in cross-listed courses.

Approved ☒ Denied ☐  3-28-16
College Dean or Director Date

Approved ☐ Denied ☐ _____
College Dean or Director Date

2. Graduate Council: (for graduate level courses)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐ _____
Dean of Graduate School Date

3. Teacher Education Council: (when applicable)

Approved ☐ Denied ☐ _____

TEC Chair

Date

4. University General Education Council: (when applicable)

Approved ____ Denied ____ _____
Provost's designee Date

5. University Undergraduate Academic Council: (*undergraduate level courses*)

Approved ____ Denied ____ _____
Vice Provost Date

6. Academic Provost: (for all courses)

Approved ____ Denied ____ _____
Provost Date

7. President of the University Action: (for all courses)

Approved ____ Denied ____ _____
President Date

Attach notes, comments, or conditions from appropriate councils:

POLC 320 (3)

Criminal Law

Syllabus

Stuart Platt,
Assistant Professor

Office: AD 220-E

Phone: (O)
prere325/674-2147 (H) 325-232-
6564

Spring 2014 **Class Meetings:**

E-mail:

stuart.platt@acu.edu

Tuesday 6:30-9:20 p.m. in the
Hardin Administration Bldg. Room 219

Office hours: Monday/Wednesday
9-11; Monday 3:30-5:00; Tuesdays 1:30-4:00

Required Text: Criminal Law, by John L. Worrall and Jennifer L. Moore (2013)

Supplemental Assigned Readings: There will be a need to reference the Texas Penal Code, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, or the Federal Criminal Code and Rules periodically. Provisions will be made for you to use available resources either on-line or at ACU to accomplish relevant reading assignments. Additionally there will be other readings TBA during the semester. There are links at the end of this syllabus to assist you in tapping into US Constitutional law resources, Texas Codes and laws, or Federal laws as necessary.

Biblical Readings: During the semester there will be Biblical Readings, primarily from Proverbs, which will link students to God's Word during the study of criminal law and related justice concepts.

Mission of the University: The mission of Abilene Christian University is to educate its students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world.

Mission of the College of Arts and Sciences: The College of Arts and Sciences engages students with humanity's greatest ideas to create understanding, apply insights, and serve the world as Christian thinkers and problem solvers.

Mission of the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice: The mission of the Department is to provide a program of study to help students understand domestic and international politics and law enforcement theory and practice, and to prepare students for informed and active participation in the political arena and in criminal justice careers.

Course Description: POLC 320 is a one semester three hour course studying the criminal law. The

criminal law studied will primarily be generic rather than Texas specific, predominantly drawing substance from the Model Penal Code developed by the American Law Institute (ALI). The course should equip a successful student to understand basic criminal law, core concepts, the role of court decisions in criminal law, and the ability to be well equipped for further criminal law training in either law school or a police academy. The course will also include an opportunity for students to study Biblical examples of faith based guidance for applying discretion in justice.

Prerequisites: POLC 205 or permission of the instructor, junior standing.

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs): After successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

	Competency	Measurement
1	Understand the basis for the criminal law in our society.	Exam 1, Quizzes
2	Learn the criminal law system and its roots, from old common law of England to modern statutes in the United States.	Exam 1, Quizzes
3	Learn the elements of each particular crime and its possible defenses.	Exams 1, 2, Quizzes
4	Demonstrate the ability to apply criminal offense elements to factual scenarios.	Exams 3, 4, Quizzes
5	Apply a biblical worldview in dialogue discussions to critically reason through ethical decision making in the topics.	Class attendance and participation

Class Policies and Procedures: The class will combine lecture, class discussions, assignments and scheduled exercises to facilitate learning. You are encouraged to participate fully in class discussions. It is essential you adequately prepare for each class meeting, which means that all students should diligently keep pace with the reading assignments. Lectures are designed as a springboard for discussion and interaction among class members.

Absence and Attendance Policy: Your presence at class sessions is important. Attendance will be checked each class meeting. Irregular attendance can result in a lower grade. **Students who miss more than three (3) classes will be dropped from the course with a grade of WF. If you have an official university related activity excused absence, when possible, let the instructor know in advance. Communicate with the instructor about your schedule or an event that interferes with the challenges and journey of this course. The instructor reserves the right to grant exceptions to**

this mandatory drop provision for unique and compelling situations.

Special Needs (ADA): Abilene Christian University is dedicated to removing barriers and opening access for students with disabilities in compliance with ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The Alpha Scholars Program facilitates disability accommodations in cooperation with instructors. In order to receive accommodations, you must be registered with Alpha Scholars Program, and you must complete a specific request for each class in which you need accommodations. If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please call the Alpha Scholars Program office directly at 325-674-2667.

Grades Will Be Based on the Following:

90-100 =A
80-89 =B
70-79 =C
60-69 =D
Below 60 =F

Grade Composition Will Be Composed of the Following Elements:

60% Exams (includes a comprehensive Final Exam with all exams of equal weight)*
25% Quizzes (both Unannounced and Announced) **
10% Special Assignments (short assignments designed to respond to in-class discussions)
5% Class attendance and participation, timeliness in meeting responsibilities, respect to others in discussions, and class participation (Volume of participation is not the metric of measurement, but demonstrated preparation and substantive content of comments are measures.)

A failure to take a quiz or exam results in a zero point score for that test unless the student meets the eligibility requirements to take a make-up quiz or exam as described below. At that point it is the responsibility of the student to schedule the make-up test pursuant to the guidelines herein.

Make-up Quiz or Exam Policy: The privilege of making-up exams/quizzes will be reserved for “excused absences” for those encountering such problems as illness or other health and welfare issues, participation in official university activities, or death or serious illness in the family. Absences anticipated to be treated by the professor as “excused absences” must be capable of verification by the instructor or based on prior approval from the professor. Students have a duty to provide verification as requested by the instructor.

It is imperative the student provide the professor the justification for an excused absence either prior to the absence or within three (3) days of the absence (unless completely impractical to

provide the justification within that time frame and in that event, as soon as a reasonable person would deem it practical). There may be "unique circumstances" in which advance coordination with the professor will allow a student to make-up an exam (not a quiz) that does not fit the criteria for an "excused absence" noted above. Such circumstances will only apply to matters addressed with the professor well in advance of the exam and based on unique and compelling facts. Pre-approval is the key for retaining the privilege to make-up a missed exam based on the "unique circumstances" exception noted above.

***An Exam**, other than the Final Exam, can be made-up for verified or professor approved reasons set forth in the prior two paragraphs. No exams will be dropped or excluded from grade calculation.

***Quizzes**-There will be at least two (2) quizzes that will be dropped without penalty. Quizzes can only be made-up if originally administered to the class and a student has an excused absence for that quiz. A student may choose to waive the option of a make-up quiz (not an exam) by not taking the make-up quiz missed within the parameters of the number of dropped quizzes authorized. Failure to take an exam and/or make-up exam (if authorized) will result in a zero for that exam.

Make-up Quiz and Exam dates (other than the Final Exam): There will be one time during the semester to make up exams/quizzes for students who meet the criteria noted above for excused absences and make-up policies. Students must fill out a form which will be provided to all students in advance of the mandatory make-up date and must deliver it to the professor at least seven days before the designated "make-up" date of April 30, 2014 and specify the exam/quiz to be made-up. If the student meets the eligibility for a make-up exam/quiz, the student may take more than one exam/quiz during the make-up session, however notification must be provided in advance to the instructor of each exam/quiz requested by the student to take so verification of eligibility can be accomplished and the test scheduled for make-up on the predetermined date.

Make-up exams/quizzes are currently scheduled for April 30, 2014 at times specified by the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to adjust the date/time of "make-up" exams or quizzes and deviate from the scheduled date above by providing reasonable notice to students. See course schedule below! If a student arrives late to any exam, including the Final Exam, the student will not be allowed to begin the exam if another student has already completed the exam in class. If the tardiness is the result of a reason meeting the definition for an excused absence, then an alternate time will be established for the student. However if the tardiness is not excused, the student will receive a zero on the exam. An excused absence make-up for a Final Exam will require coordination with the instructor.

An exception to any portion of the testing make-up policy will be based only on extremely unique and factually driven circumstances of extraordinary measure as determined by the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to make that determination at an appropriate time

and event.

***** All dates, including reading assignments and test dates, are tentative and subject to change at the professor's discretion. Any exam date change will be announced at least one week in advance. Quizzes are typically unannounced.**

Extra Credit: Students may be provided a means of receiving extra credit during the semester. The limit of extra credit points for a student for the overall semester is 75 points applied to the Quiz grade points percentage of the overall grade prior to averaging. The means for obtaining extra credit are: 1) Acceptance of extra tasks or assignments offered to the entire class; and, 2) Demonstrated proficiency and effort to apply Biblical principles studied and discussed during the semester from scripture, primarily the Old Testament Book of Proverbs, to the topic of criminal law and justice. This may include voluntary extra credit special assignments offered to the entire class.



CELL PHONE POLICY: Turn your cell phone or other electronic device off or to SILENT during class. **Do not use devices during class, unless the instructor authorizes such action.** An exception would be a device used for note-taking and only in that mode. Otherwise keep cell phones out of sight. During a break you can use your electronic device, however before returning to the active class setting, **it is your responsibility to turn off or silence the device and place it out of sight. First offense violations of this electronic device policy will result in a warning. Subsequent violations may result in a loss of course grade points on each occasion,** depending solely on the instructor's determination of the level of distraction created by the device to the student, class or professor. The unauthorized use of such devices in class demonstrates a lack of respect for the learning environment. If you use an electronic device for note taking, limit its use to that purpose during class. A violation of this privilege will not only result in the loss of the privilege to use an electronic device in the classroom, but can result in a loss of grade points.

There is clear and convincing evidence human beings can live more than three hours at a time without access to a cell phone. **The "Moses and Elijah Rule":** If you have a clear emergency need to monitor your cell phone, such as you have been notified Moses and/or Elijah will be texting you during the class session to schedule a special spiritual meeting with you, notify this course instructor in advance of the class session and he will make arrangements for you to receive the urgent text or call.

Integrity: Academic integrity is defined as academic work completed as assigned for each class by the individual or group responsible for the work. Violations of academic integrity and other forms of cheating involve the intention to deceive, mislead, or misrepresent and therefore, are a form of lying. Such actions are contrary to behavioral norms that flow from the nature of God. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following: 1) Failure to give credit to sources used in a work in an attempt to present the work as one's own, 2) Submission of papers or projects obtained from another source (e.g., research service or club paper file) as one's own, and 3) Falsifying information orally or in writing. Academic misconduct may result in, but is not limited to, a zero on the assignment and/or an F in the course. Additionally, the department chair, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Dean of Student Life will be notified. See the full university policy, including how to appeal a decision, by following this link: www.acu.edu/campusoffices/studentlife/judicialDocuments/AcademicIntegrityPolicy.pdf.

COURSE OUTLINE SPRING 2014

Date	Topic	Reading/Assignment
Tuesday, January 14	Syllabus/Introduction/Overview Table of Contents Introduction to Basics of Criminal Law "Journaling Daniel" In Government	Textbook: Table of Contents; Chapter 1, Modules 1.1-1.4, Pages 1-31
Tuesday, January 21	General Limitations on Criminal Law and Constitutional Limitations Federal versus State Criminal Law	Textbook: Module 1.5 and all of Chapter 2 <u>See link to Special Reading on the Constitution, federal, and state law at end of Outline- become familiar with the US Constitution</u>
Tuesday, January 28	The Elements of Criminal Liability	Textbook: Read Chapter 3

(Elements of Proof)

Tuesday, February 4

Exam 1

Exam covering:

Chapters 1, 2, & 3, and US
Constitutional Limitations

Prepare for Exam 1

Textbook: Chapter 4,
Modules 4.1-4.4

Justification Defenses

Tuesday, February 11

**Justification Defenses
Excuse Defenses**

Textbook: Chapter 4, Module
4.5 and all of Chapter 5

Tuesday, February 18

**Complicity and Vicarious
Liability**

Textbook: Chapter 6

Tuesday, February 25

**Inchoate Crimes-Attempts and
Conspiracies**

Textbook: Chapter 7

Tuesday, March 4

Exam 2

Exam covering: Chapters 4, 5,
6, & 7
Homicide

Prepare for Exam 2

Textbook: Chapter 8,
Module 8.1

Tuesday, March 18

	Homicide	Textbook: Chapter 8, Modules 8.2-8.3
Tuesday, March 25	Assaultive Crimes/Offenses	Textbook: Chapter 9
Tuesday, April 1	Property Crimes: Damage and Invasion Crimes	Textbook: Chapter 10
Tuesday, April 8	Exam 3 Exam covering: Chapters 8, 9, & 10	Prepare for Exam 3
	Theft and Analogous Offenses	Textbook: Chapter 11, Modules 11.1-11.2
Tuesday, April 15	Theft and Analogous Offenses Public Order, Morality, and Vice Crimes (Sex, drugs, gambling, and alcohol)	Textbook: Chapter 11, Module 11.3; Chapter 12, Module 12.1
Tuesday, April 22	Public Order, Morality, and Vice Crimes Terrorism and Offenses Against the State	Textbook: Chapter 12, Modules 12.2-12.3; Chapter 13, Module 13.1

Tuesday, April 29

**Terrorism and Offenses Against
the State**

**Textbook: Chapter 13,
Module 13.2**

Review

**Review Study Guide for Final
Exam Review Session**

**Wednesday, April 30th @
8 a.m. to 1 p.m. then 3:30
p.m. to 6 p.m.**

**Excused Exam and Quiz Make-
ups
Location TBD**
(Not an official class session.
Make-up tests on appointment
basis.)

**Tuesday, May 6th
6:30-8:15 p.m.
FINAL EXAM**

**Final Exam Cumulative of Entire
Course, however intense
focus on: Chapters 11, 12, & 13**

**Review Study Guide for Final
and all class notes**

Special Readings and Assignments and Relevant Resources (Others TBA)

<http://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2005/nr05-09.html>

<http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/>

<http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/>

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text>

Biblical Passage Theme:

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction." Proverbs 1:7

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

LIBRARY

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 24, 2015
TO: Dr. Neal Coates
FROM: Mark McCallon, Associate Dean for Library Resources
RE: Course Application for POLC 320 – Criminal Law

After reviewing the course application and syllabus, the library can adequately support the proposed course. Please let assigned faculty know that they can contact the library's Political Science Liaison Laura Baker (bakerl@acu.edu) for specific resources that the library needs to purchase for the course. Thank you for letting us examine the course proposal.

ACU Syllabus Checklist

Revised on July 15, 2014 based on ACU New Course Application v10.5.

Course Title and Number

POLC 320: Criminal Law

Reviewer

David Christianson

Developer

Stuart Platt, Neal Coate

About the course

- ☐ Course number and title
- ☒ Credit hours
- ☒ Semester and year
- ☒ Meeting time and place
- ☒ Prerequisites/co-requisites

About the instructor(s)

- ☒ Name and title or rank
- ☒ Office location
- ☒ Contact information
- ☒ Office hours/contact expectations

Mission statements

- ☒ ACU mission statement
- ☒ College mission statement
- ☒ Department mission statement
- ☐ Personal mission statement (optional)

Unique Christian Perspective

- ☒ Description of how learning and Christian faith are integrated in the course

Course Content

- ☒ Catalog description

☐ Intended audience

☒ Outline of topics

Teaching/Learning Methods and Format of Class Sessions

☒ Description of the types of activities students should expect in the course

Materials

☒ Required and optional materials, including textbooks, etc.

Learning Objectives/Competencies

☒ Specific competencies stated in measurable terms

☐ Assignments or instruments that will be used to assess the competencies.

Assessment/Grading Criteria

☐ Complete and accurate details of factors and elements that will comprise the final grade

☒ Weight or point value of all graded elements

☒ Grading scale with clear expectations for grades

☐ Extra credit opportunities (optional)

University Policies

☒ Special needs policy -ADA

☒ Academic integrity policy (recommended)

☐ Title IX policy (recommended)

Course Policies

Expectations and consequences regarding:

☒ Participation

☒ Attendance and tardiness

☐ Course specific academic integrity policy (optional)

Calendar

(Note: Calendar is not required for Course Application, but it must be included in all syllabi distributed to students.)

☒ Exam dates

☒ Assignments

☒ Due dates and other deadlines (and late assignment/exam policy)

☒ Schedule of readings and topics

☒ Statement to reserve the right to modify the calendar as necessary

Any comments?

-Please list the course code as listed in the catalog.
-Please make it clear how each student learning objective will be assessed for mastery. Which readings/assignments/exams address each one? You could list the appropriate SLO's being addressed on the course schedule by each assignment, or list the assignments used for assessing each SLO in the section where they are listed. This will help students to keep the purpose of each assignment in mind as they learn.
-The syllabus indicates that 10% of the grade will come from "Special Assignments." Further explanation of what these assignments are will be beneficial to students so they have some idea of what to expect, how these assignments will be assessed, and when they must be completed.

Submit

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Thursday, April 23, 2015

Abilene Christian University

Re: POLC 320 Application

Dear Stuart,

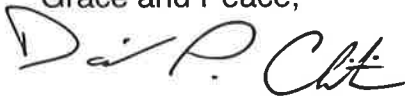
The Adams Center for Teaching and Learning has completed the review POLC 320: Criminal Law. The syllabus was reviewed based on the ACU Syllabus Guidelines. The syllabus proposed meets or exceeds most of the expectations described in these guidelines.

Please give special attention to these items before submitting the syllabus to the Council.

- Please list the course code as listed in the catalog.
- Please make it clear how each student learning objective will be assessed for mastery. Which readings/assignments/exams address each one? You could list the appropriate SLO's being addressed on the course schedule by each assignment, or list the assignments used for assessing each SLO in the section where they are listed. This will help students to keep the purpose of each assignment in mind as they learn.
- The syllabus indicates that 10% of the grade will come from "Special Assignments." Further explanation of what these assignments are will be beneficial to students so they have some idea of what to expect, how these assignments will be assessed, and when they must be completed. For example, you may indicate if they are writing assignments that will be based on student interests, open-ended assignments where the product is student-choice but the application is specific, or some other explanation of what the assignment will be.

There is no need to return the syllabus to the Adams Center for further review. Of course, if you would like to discuss these suggestions or any other aspect of your syllabus or instructional strategies, please contact me and we will schedule a time as soon as possible. We are here to serve you as you help prepare students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Christianson".

David Christianson
Instructional Designer
Adams Center for Teaching and Learning
Abilene Christian University