



Course Description

CJL1000 | Street Law | 3.00 credits

This course will cover the evaluation, debate, and critical analysis of law and legal issues that affect individuals, their families, and communities. Students will learn about practical aspects of civil, criminal, constitutional, family, immigration, and consumer law in a diverse society with an orientation toward civic involvement in the local community.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will be introduced to the law and the legal system by:

1. Discussing the meaning of law and explaining the need for the rule of law
2. Recognizing the importance of voting
3. Demonstrating dispute resolution methods
4. Describing the basic organization of the state and federal court system
5. Identifying the democratic principles of federalism, separation of powers, checks and balances, and state's rights

Competency 2: The student will describe the operation of the criminal justice system from investigation to release by:

1. Defining crime
2. Discussing the investigation process
3. Describing the criminal justice process before a trial
4. Describing the criminal justice process during a trial
5. Describing the sentencing and corrections processes
6. Recognizing the differences in cases involving juveniles
7. Recognizing the differences in cases involving terrorism

Competency 3: The student will learn about Tort law by:

1. Defining torts
2. Describing and identifying intentional torts
3. Describing negligence
4. Defining strict liability
5. Discussing torts and public policy

Competency 4: The student will analyze individual rights and liberties by:

1. Arguing how the Bill of Rights limits the authority and discretion of government in the criminal justice system and scrutinizing governmental limits on free speech
2. Identifying current problems in the administration of the civil justice system and proposing community-based solutions
3. Identifying current problems in the administration of criminal justice and proposing policy solutions
4. Discussing basic immigration law policies and suggesting ways to improve the nation's immigration practices in a diverse society

Competency 5: The student will learn about consumer, housing, and family law by:

1. Categorizing how the civil justice system regulates relationships between consumers and businesses, landlords and tenants, and family members
2. Identifying local, state, and federal agencies that address fair housing, immigrant services, discrimination complaints, consumer protection, domestic violence, and offender re-entry programs and explain how to access their services
3. Discussing the law and the American family

Learning Outcomes:

- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society