

Prepared by the Department of Social Sciences, Behavioral Sciences, and Human Services

Date of Departmental Approval: March 2014

Date Approved by Curriculum and Programs: May 2014

Effective: Fall 2014

- 1. Course Number: LGS138**  
**Course Title: Criminal Law and Procedure**
- 2. Description:** (formerly BIT138) This course is a study of criminal law and procedure with special emphasis on both substantive and procedural criminal law and constitutional issues. Students learn to draft motions and other documents necessary for criminal defense and prosecution, prepare affidavits, briefs, and discovery. Particular attention is given to the skills needed by paralegals to assist attorneys and other legal professionals.
- 3. Student Learning Outcomes:**  
Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following.
  - Engage in critical thinking by reading, writing and explaining the history and evolution of criminal law and procedure.
  - Describe the role of the paralegal in the specialized law office or court which concentrates in criminal law defense or prosecution.
  - Analyze criminal statutes, constitutional amendments and cases relative thereto
  - Apply general and specific criminal procedures to specific facts and cases for use in the law office or court.
  - Research cases and statutes.
  - Draft documents and briefs.
  - Demonstrate communication skills by organizing and presenting ideas in a logical order.
  - Engage in critical thinking with respect to criminal and constitutional law as well as the social policy behind those laws and cases which impact individuals as well as society in general.
- 4. Credits:** 3 credits
- 5. Satisfies General Education Requirement:** No
- 6. Co-requisite:** LGS130/BIT130
- 7. Semester Offered:** Fall
- 8. Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation:** The student's final grade will be based on tests, written assignments, including preparation of a criminal procedure project.
- 9. General Topical Outline**
  - Introduction to Criminal Law-Federal and State
  - Two Essential Elements
  - Crimes against the Person
  - Crimes against Property and Habitation
  - Crimes against the Public
  - Parties and Inchoate Offenses
  - Factual and Statutory Defenses
  - Constitutional Defenses
  - Introduction and Participants
  - The Constitutional Aspects of Criminal Procedure
  - Searches, Seizures and Arrests
  - Interrogation and Other Law Enforcement Practices
  - The Pre-Trial Process
  - Trial
  - Sentencing and Appeal
  - Juvenile Delinquency
  - Abuse-Neglect-Dependency
  - Parentage Actions
  - Children in Need of Services