

College Quest: Criminal Law
WWU Pre-College Program—1 Credit

Sponsored by
The Center for Law, Diversity and Justice at
Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies
and by Summer and Extended Educational Programs

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Course Description

Students will learn about the American Legal System, with an emphasis on criminal law. The sources and hierarchy of laws and the court process will be examined. Students will engage in a mock criminal trial at the end of the course.

Course Objectives

- Understanding of the sources and hierarchy of laws, including constitutions, statutes and ordinances
- Understanding of the trial court and appellate court system
- Understanding of basic legal terminology
- Introduction to case analysis, with an emphasis on criminal law
- Introduction to trial skills, including direct and cross examination, opening statements and closing arguments

Evaluation

Quality of daily participation	70%
Preparation for mock trial	20%
Mock trial evaluation	10%

Expectations

- Students should come to class on time, and be prepared to discuss the assigned reading.
- Additional readings outside of class may be required for difficult or complicated course material. This is typical for comprehension of legal writing.
- As class discussion will be the main vessel for student learning, students are expected to participate in class discussions openly and honestly, and be quality listeners to others.
- Students are expected to participate fully in the mock trial, including extensive preparation before class. Students should be able to accurately describe the mock trial case and defend their legal positions.

College Quest: Criminal Law Schedule

Sunday, July 13, 2008

3-4 p.m. Student Check-in
4 p.m. Packet of case readings handed out
Homework for Monday: read packet

Monday, July 14

9 a.m. -Noon Introduction to American Legal System
Discuss Cases
12-1:30 *Lunch*
1:30 p.m.-2 p.m. *Western Card Office (Edens 108)*
2-3 p.m. *Introduction to Computer Labs*
3 p.m. *Admissions: WWU (MH 112)*
4:15-5:15 p.m. Guest Speaker: Mediation
Homework: Read mock trial materials

Tuesday, July 15

9 a.m. -9:45 a.m. Stages of a Trial
10:00 -12:30 Video with College Class and discussion
12:30 *Lunch*
2 -4 p.m. Opening Statements and
Direct Examination
4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. *WWU Student Panel (MH 112)*
Homework: Draft Opening Statements
and direct examination questions

Wednesday, July 16

9 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Share opening statements and direct examinations
10:45 a.m. Admissions: Fairhaven College
11 a.m.-Noon Rules of Evidence and Objections
Noon Lunch
1:30 p.m.-3:45 Cross-examination
4 p.m.-5 p.m. Guest Speaker: Defense Attorney
Homework: Draft Cross-examination questions

Thursday, July 17

9 a.m. -10:00 a.m. Jury Selection
10:30 a.m. - noon Closing Arguments
Noon Lunch
1:30-5 p.m. Work in small groups/receive individual feedback

Friday, July 18

Four Mock Trials—Whatcom County Courthouse

8:15 a.m. Vans to Courthouse

9-10:30 a.m. Mock Trial #1

9 am Jury Instructions (5 minutes)
9:05 a.m. Opening Statements (10 minutes)
9:15 a.m. Prosecutor Case-in-chief (15 minutes)
9:30 a.m. Defense Case (10 minutes)
9:40 a.m. Jury Instruction (5 minutes)
9:45 s.m. Jury deliberation (10 minutes)
9:55 a.m. Verdict and discussion (30 minutes)

10:45 a.m.- 12:15p.m. Mock Trial #2

Jury Instructions (5 minutes)
Opening Statements (10 minutes)
Prosecutor Case-in-chief (15 minutes)
Defense Case (10 minutes)
Jury Instruction (5 minutes)
Jury deliberation (10 minutes)
Verdict and discussion (30 minutes)

12:15-1 p.m. Lunch outside (brownbag)

1-2:30 p.m. Mock Trial #3

Jury Instructions (5 minutes)
Opening Statements (10 minutes)
Prosecutor Case-in-chief (15 minutes)
Defense Case (10 minutes)
Jury Instruction (5 minutes)
Jury deliberation (10 minutes)
Verdict and discussion (30 minutes)

2:45-4:15 Mock trial #4

Jury Instructions (5 minutes)
Opening Statements (10 minutes)
Prosecutor Case-in-chief (15 minutes)
Defense Case (10 minutes)
Jury Instruction (5 minutes)
Jury deliberation (10 minutes)
Verdict and discussion (30 minutes)

- 4:30 *Vans back to Fairhaven*
- 5 p.m. Reception at Fairhaven for parents and students
- 5:30 p.m. Check-out from residence hall