



**TRINITY VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ADMINISTRATIVE-MASTER SYLLABUS**

The Administrative- Master Syllabus is an administrative tool; it is **not intended to be distributed to students**. It is the intention of this Administrative-Master Syllabus to provide a general description of the course, outline the required elements of the course and to lay the foundation for course assessment for the improvement of student learning, as specified by the faculty of TVCC, regardless of who teaches the course, the timeframe by which it is instructed, or the instructional method by which the course is delivered. It is not intended to restrict the manner by which an individual faculty member teaches the course but to be an administrative tool to aid in the improvement of instruction. The Administrative-Master Syllabus will demonstrate that there is consistency and comparability in course offerings.

**Course Title**

Fundamentals of Criminal Law

**Course Prefix and Number**

CRIJ 1310

**Department – Division**

Criminal Justice/Vocational and Technical Division

**Course Type** – select from one of the following categories.

- **Academic General Education Course** (from ACGM – but not in TVCC Core)
- **Academic TVCC Core Course**
- **WECM Courses**

**Semester Credit Hours: Lecture Hours: Lab/other hours**

Semester Credit Hours	Lecture Hours	Lab/Other* Hours
3	3	0

Other hours include practicum, clinical or other types of non-lecture instruction. \*If other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

## Course Catalog Description

A study of the nature of criminal law; philosophical and historical development; major definitions and concepts; classification of crime; elements of crimes and penalties using Texas Statutes as illustrations; criminal responsibility.

## Prerequisites/co requisites

None

## Topical Outline

- I. A Foundation for Understanding Substantive Law. Penal Codes.
- II. Elements of the law required in each offense.
- III. Evidence necessary for each type of offense.

## Course Learning Outcomes

- The student will understand the concept of case preparation for criminal sanctions in the Texas Penal Code.
- The students will identify the laws of arrest, search and seizure necessary to affect the arrest and bring evidence into court.
- The student will learn the legal and constitutional restraints placed upon search, seizure and arrest.
- The student will acquaint himself with the laws of liability he faces in the purview of his authority.

**Relationship to General Education Outcomes** – In addition to the core competencies, Trinity Valley Community College has established ten general education goals which specify knowledge and skills that students should gain from completing courses in the various component areas of the core curriculum. Information regarding curriculum and assessment as a means for the improvement of student learning through the general education component. (Select all that apply.)

To gain an understanding of Criminal Law found in the Texas Penal Code as it pertains to classification of crime, penalties, criminal responsibility, and elements of prosecution.

Mark with  
an "X"

General Education Outcome

X	A. To communicate clearly and effectively in both oral and written English.
X	B. To improve reading skills focused on comprehending, analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating printed materials.
	C. To understand mathematical information and utilize mathematical skills.
X	D. To demonstrate qualitative and quantitative critical thinking skills.
X	E. To understand and appreciate cultural and ethnic diversity.
X	F. To utilize computer based technology in accessing information, solving problems, and communicating.
	G. To recognize and evaluate artistic achievements in the visual and performing arts.
X	H. To improve basic understanding of political, economic, and social systems.
	I. To demonstrate knowledge of the physical universe and living systems.
	J. To develop skills and strategies to become an engaged learner.

**Required Text(s)**

(Two Text) **Criminal Law**, Scheb & Scheb, Current edition.  
 Current edition of the Texas Penal Code. Gould Publications.

**Optional Text(s)**

Guide to Criminal Law for Texas, Belbot, Current edition, Thomson Publishing.

**Material/Technology to be supplied by the student.**

Note taking materials

**Course Requirements/Grading System** – describe any course specific requirements such as research papers or reading assignments and the generalized grading format for the course; not intended to restrict the individual nature by which each faculty member who teaches the course determines course requirements and final student performance, but should offer consistency within reason for all sections taught for those departments without a standardized format.

Do all assigned readings and related homework. Come to class on time. Come to class prepared and bring appropriate materials. Students are expected to demonstrate a mature attitude toward the subject matter and participate enthusiastically in class.

***Approvals – the contents of this document have been reviewed and are found to be accurate.***

Prepared by	Signature	Date
Department Head Ron Walker	Signature	Date 03-10-08
Division Chair	Signature	Date
Vice President	Signature	Date