

SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Course Number: LECJ 300 Department: Law Enforcement

Course Title: Criminal Law I Semester: FALL Year: 2003

Course Objective	Competencies
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. This course explores and examines the substantive law of crimes, including the general and special areas of Criminal Laws.2. Of special interest are parties to a crime, defenses based on jurisdiction and responsibility, and the nature of the criminal act and conduct.3. To acquaint the law student with essential elements of crimes in Massachusetts and major Federal crimes.4. To enable the police officer to identify and distinguish several possible criminal acts or crimes arising from one (1) incident or episode.5. Students must learn the basic defenses to specific crimes, and their applicability to those crimes.6. The area of criminal punishment is covered.7. The area of criminal jurisdiction is also covered.8. Balancing of constitutional rights with the need for public order, especially the 1st and 2nd Amendments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The methods by which the substantive criminal law is enacted and enforced.• Students are required to familiarize themselves with the elements of major crimes, i.e., what the government must prove in order to obtain a conviction.• Students are required to familiarize themselves with the elements of common, often-committed crimes, and how the courts process them. They recognize the difference between a misdemeanor and felony.• A definition of the various defenses available to the criminal defendant, such as the defenses of insanity and the tests for determining insanity, the concept of self-defense, entrapment, double jeopardy, statute of limitations consent, duress and mistake of fact and law.• Students must be familiar with the roles and duties of various court officials, such as the judge, district attorney, clerk magistrate, probation officer, defense counsel and public defender.• The history, theory, types, issues and contemporary application of criminal punishment.• Jurisdiction includes the power to create law. Jurisdiction

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	<p>over the offense charged and the person charged. Also Long arm statues, federal, state, local, International jurisdiction as well as jurisdiction over Native American Tribes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The student will study the individual rights contained in the First Amendment. The student will learn how they effect enactment and enforcement of substantive criminal law. This includes freedoms of speech, assembly, and religion.• The Second Amendment and the government regulations of firearms are covered.