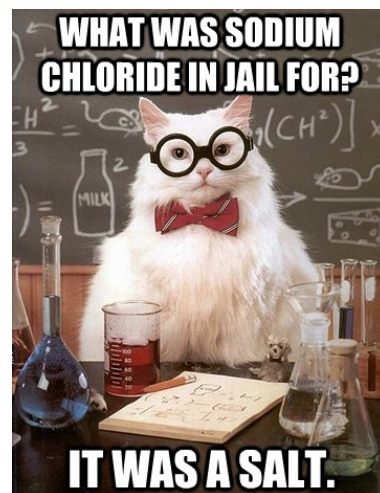


MARY BALDWIN UNIVERSITY
CJ 256 WA CIVIL LIABILITY FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Spring 2021 – Syllabus

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Those working in the criminal justice system face an increasing amount of litigation due to their employment. The goal of this course is to help you understand civil law in the United States in the criminal justice context. In particular, we will examine case law, with the aim to understand the state of the law in order to perform one's duties within its confines and to protect oneself and others from harm and liability.

II. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS & OTHER MATERIALS

- (1) Civil Liability in Criminal Justice, 7th Edition ISBN: 978-0323356459
- (2) Other documents that may be posted to Canvas.

III. CLASS ATTENDANCE, LOCATION, & PARTICIPATION

The class meets online on MBU's Canvas platform.

- (1) Attendance
 - a. Students are expected to attend class, participate in class discussions, and complete all assignments given. As this is an online course, it is expected that students actively participate in discussion boards and keep in contact with the professor and classmates.
- (2) Participation
 - a. It is expected that you read all material, be prepared to discuss, and apply the material you have read. Discussion, questions, and the exchange of ideas pertaining to class material are imperative for success in this course. The online format allows for students to engage in discussion via discussion boards and the professor is always available for further discussions or questions.

Important Dates

January 11, 2021	First day of class
April 19, 2012	Final Exam/Last day of class

Course Schedule

See attached.

IV. GRADING POLICY & GRADING SCALE

930 – 1000 points	93 – 100%	= A
900 - 929 points	90 – 92.9%	= A -
870 - 899 points	87 – 89.9%	= B +
830 – 869 points	83 – 86.9%	= B
800 - 829 points	80 – 82.9%	= B -
770 - 799 points	77 – 79.9%	= C +
730 – 769 points	73 – 76.9%	= C

700 - 729 points	70 – 72.9%	= C -
680 - 699 points	68 – 69.9%	= D +
630 – 679 points	63 – 67.9%	= D
600 – 629 points	60 – 62.9%	= D -
Below 600 points	0 – 59%	= F

V. METHODS OF ASSESSMENT (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

ALL EXAMS, QUIZZES, ESSAYS, AND POSTS WILL BE COMPLETED ON CANVAS

- (1) Exams – worth 30% of your final grade (*300 points: 100 points per exam*)
 - a. Students will be required to take **THREE** (3) exams during the session.
 - b. If you must miss an exam, then you **MUST** let your instructor know **in advance**. If you do not provide advance notice, your instructor may refuse to allow you to make up the test.
- (2) Quizzes – worth 20% of your final grade (*200 points*)
 - a. There will be regular quizzes.
- (3) Essays – worth 30% of your final grade (*300 points*)
 - a. Students will be required to submit essays at various points during the course. Writing prompts will be posted on Canvas.
 - b. Essays must be completed by the deadlines listed on the course calendar, unless the professor notifies you otherwise.
 - c. I do not accept late assignments.
- (4) Class Participation – worth 18% of your final grade (*180 points*)
 - a. You can earn points for your final grade by participating in discussion board posts. Each week, you will complete one original discussion post that must be at least 150 words in length and respond to one (or more) posts by your classmates (at least 75 words each), whether that is to their original post or someone else’s responsive post. This makes for a total of two weekly discussion posts.
 - b. Your discussion posts need to properly cite any references you make (citations are not included in word count) and they need to follow proper writing style for an academic setting (i.e., please proofread and edit before you post).
- (5) Syllabus Quiz – worth 2% of your final grade (*20 points*)
- (6) Extra Credit
 - a. The professor may offer various assignments throughout the semester that will count towards extra credit.
 - b. All extra credit, unless otherwise stated, will be due by April 2, 2021 at 11:59 pm.

VI. STUDENT CONDUCT

- (1) Expectations for Conduct
 - a. Respect every individual in the class. Disrespect of any kind will not be tolerated.
 - b. Please be advised that I utilize Canvas in order to post notes and other handouts. You are responsible for reading/printing handouts on Canvas before class. I will also send e-mails. If you do not regularly check your MBU e-mail, you will want to do so, or make arrangements with a classmate. I am NOT able to accommodate the use of outside email addresses. I

- generally reply to e-mails sent to me within 2 days. If you do not receive a reply from me within 3 days, assume that I did not receive the e-mail and please send again.
- c. Please be respectful in e-mail communication, just as you are respectful in person. For example, an e-mail to a professor could begin with “Dear Ms. Pettman” but never “Hey Meredith.” Unprofessional emails will not receive a response.
 - d. Students are expected to:
 - i. Be prepared for class
 - ii. Participate in class
 - iii. Notify the instructors of any obstacles that may interfere with learning
 - iv. Adhere to college-wide policies regarding prohibited conduct (see student handbook)

(2) Academic Honesty

Scholastic honesty is expected in all of the work in this course. Any dishonesty will not be tolerated. If there is any evidence of academic dishonesty, the student will receive a zero on that assignment and will be reported to the Honor Council.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism and cheating. Students are required to cite the sources they used in preparing their assignments.

Please let me underscore my sincerity; absolute honesty is required: no exceptions, no excuses.

(3) Other Class Expectations

- a. Have FUN!! Law and the discussion of public policy can be a lot of fun. My goal is that we not only learn the material, but also *enjoy* our time together.

(4) Instructional Accommodations

- a. All students will be treated with respect to their individual needs. If you are receiving services related to a disability or medical condition from Accessibility Services, please make an appointment to talk to me privately to review your Request for Accommodation form. Any information about your disability or medical condition we discuss is confidential and will not be shared with anyone. If you feel you need accommodations for a disabling condition, please contact the Accessibility Services Program Coordinator.

VII. COURSE FEEDBACK & COMMUNICATION

Information, announcements, and required readings for the course will be distributed regularly throughout the semester via e-mail or posts on Canvas.

As in all your classes, you will have a chance to evaluate the course and the instructor at the end of the course. But please do not wait until then if you have any comments, complaints, or suggestions -- especially if they are critical or negative. They will do me (and therefore you) much more good if you share them as the course progresses, anonymously if need be. Your notes will be kept strictly confidential, and will promptly receive whatever reply is appropriate. Your comments and suggestions will be immediately integrated into my ongoing efforts to improve the course and my teaching methods.

VIII. COURSE SCHEDULE

*PLEASE NOTE: This schedule, assignments, and all dates are **subject to change**.

DATES	WEEK	CLASS DESCRIPTION	ASSIGNMENTS (COMPLETE BY SUNDAY AT 11:59 PM)
1/11 to 1/24	1 & 2	Introduction to the course and Overview of Civil Liability	Review syllabus; Complete Syllabus Quiz Complete discussion posts; Read Chapter 1
1/25 to 1/31	3	Foundations for Civil Liability	Read Chapter 2; Complete Quiz; Complete Discussion Posts
2/1 to 2/7	4	Civil Liability Under State and Federal Tort Law	Read Chapter 3; Complete Discussion Posts; First Exam
2/8 to 2/14	5	Civil Liability and Federal Law: Section 1983 Litigation	Read Chapter 4; Complete Discussion Posts; Complete Quiz
2/15 to 2/21	6	Defenses to Civil Litigation and Risk Management	Read Chapter 5; Complete Discussion Posts; First Essay Due by 2/21
2/22 to 2/28	7	Administrative and Supervisory Liability	Read Chapter 6; Complete Discussion Posts; Complete Quiz
3/1 to 3/7	8	Liability for Failure to Train	Read Chapter 7; Complete Discussion Posts; Second Exam
3/8 to 3/14	9	Operating Criminal Justice Agencies Under a Consent Decree	Read Chapter 8; Complete Discussion Posts; Complete Quiz
3/15 to 3/21	10	Personnel Issues and Liability	Read Chapter 9; Complete Discussion Posts; Complete Quiz
3/22 to 3/28	11	Use of Force in Law Enforcement and Corrections	Read Chapter 9; Complete Discussion Posts; Second Essay Due by 3/28
3/29 to 4/4	12	Section 1983 and Correctional Liability Issues, and Actions in Law Enforcement	Read selected pages in Chapters 10 and 11; Complete Discussion Posts; Complete Quiz
4/5 to 4/11	13	Liability and Arrest-Related Deaths and Suicides in Detention	Read selected pages in Chapters 12 and 13; Complete Discussion Posts; Complete Quiz
4/12 to 4/19	14	Review and Final Exam	Final Exam