For this course syllabus the Instructor reserves the opportunity to make changes prior to or during the Term. The instructor will notify students via e-mail or Blackboard announcement, if/when changes are made.

INSTRUCTOR COMMENTS - Please read before you decide to take this course!

As you decide which courses you will take as you progress toward your MSCJ Degree, there are two related but distinct questions that should influence your decisions. Please think about these questions before you enroll in CJ6620.

**Question 1:** HOW DIFFICULT IS THIS COURSE?

**Question 2:** HOW MUCH TIME WILL I HAVE TO DEVOTE EACH WEEK IN ORDER TO EARN AN A IN THIS COURSE?

My Answer to Question 1: In my opinion, this is a relatively difficult course. Some students say CJ6620 is the MOST difficult and demanding course in the Troy University MSCJ Program. I don’t know about that; if it is true it is not something in which I take pride - it is not my intent to offer a “difficult” course or an “easy” course. The immediate mission of this course is to prepare each student for the Comprehensive Exam for CJ6620 which is given at the end of each student’s coursework. There is more information about this later in this Syllabus. This course will prepare you for the comp exam. It will provide far better preparation than any Comprehensive Exam Study Guide or any other Comp Exam instructions. I say this in part because, from the outset, the course it specifically identifies the ten issues or “subject areas” that are tested on the CJ6620 Comp Exam. The specific wording of the Comp Exam questions is not provided but the assignments in the class make the questions, and what you need to study, very clear. I am sure that if you master the topics covered in this class and can write about them in a clear, informed manner, you will have no trouble passing the Comp Exams for CJ6620.

In my opinion, overall, you will learn more in this class than you learn in any other course in the MSCJ Program. Again, this is not a boast or something in which I can take pride. It is simply the recognition of the fact that the law plays an enormous part in the criminal justice system and there is specialized legal knowledge that must be understood by anyone in the Criminal Justice System. Disastrous consequences can result from the failure to obtain and apply that knowledge.
There is a certain “legal mindset” that anyone can develop in themselves; at least, to some extent. It involves an understanding of the way lawyers, judges and specifically the Justices on the U.S. Supreme Court, think and operate. Law schools call it “thinking like a lawyer,” and it should be grasped and applied by everyone employed in any way with criminal justice. The CJ6620 course does not make a student into a lawyer but it provides some insight into how the law, specifically CONSTITUTIONAL law, shapes the Criminal Justice System and determines the procedures used in law enforcement, the courts and corrections. I do not think anyone can survive in any part of that System without a fundamental understanding of criminal law and procedure. Obtaining this understanding is difficult and time consuming but you need it. It is not more important than your family, your country or your human, spiritual (if I may use that term in a broad sense) development but you need it.

If you are not in a position this Term to devote a substantial amount of time to developing your understanding of how the law influences and operates within the Criminal Justice System, DO NOT TAKE THE COURSE AT THIS TIME. Wait until you can put yourself in that position, even if it means delaying graduation. This course requires you to respond to Quizzes and Discussion Board Topics and write essays. There are assignments due EACH WEEK of the Term and the deadlines for these assignments must be strictly observed.

My answer to Question 2: It depends. Some students “get” this stuff more quickly than others. The length of time you will need each week for CJ6620 depends on your background, experience, natural aptitude and the energy you decide to devote to it. The course requires that you do a lot of reading, thinking and analysis and that you produce academic work of high quality.

I do not recommend that you take CJ6620 with another course in a Term. In my opinion, unless you are a lawyer or a judge or have other legal experience, you will need to devote more time to this class than you will to most classes in the MSCJ Program. I do not recommend that CJ6620 be your first class in the MSCJ Program.

I would be delighted if every student in CJ6620 earned an A and I do not hesitate to award that grade to every student who earns it. I hate it when students enroll in CJ6620 and later drop the course. This happens for one of two primary reasons: 1) the student realizes that she/he is unable to devote sufficient time and energy to the course assignments or 2) the student is caught cheating (usually by plagiarism) and receives a harsh penalty that will prevent them from doing well in the course. With regard to that second reason, the TURNITIN Plagiarism Detection Program is always used for written assignments in this course – it does not catch all plagiarism but it catches a lot and when plagiarism is detected, a harsh penalty is always applied.

I have great respect for any student who decides to undertake the requirements for a Master’s Degree. It demonstrates an unusual degree of commitment and dedication. If you do the work you will get the grade. I consider your enrollment in this class to be your commitment to consistently put forth your best effort and to put in the time necessary to produce work of high
quality. I commit to you to grade your work fairly and to answer your questions to the best of my ability.

Finally, please think about “current trends in criminal law.” There are many important trends that are not addressed at all in CJ6620. For example, some of the most important issues in American Society today involve the reform of the Criminal Justice System. These reforms encompass the racial discrimination and institutional prejudice that are and have always been inherent in the Criminal Justice System. The proposed reforms grow out of riots, advances in DNA and other technology, prison overcrowding and many other factors that are not part of this course. That is because many of the proposed reforms have not been endorsed or even addressed by the Courts and so they are based on speculation about what the law will be. Like it or not, the U.S. Supreme Court almost always has the “final say” about the most important issues in criminal justice and many issues are not resolved until the Court actually rules. Some topics (for example, Due Process, the most important of all constitutional law topics in my opinion) are continually being developed. The issues and topics covered in this class have all been addressed by the U.S. Supreme Court; they are the specific issues and topics covered on the MSCJ Comp Exam for CJ6620. They can, within limits, be addressed with a significant degree of legal accuracy rather than with personal opinions.

I look forward to working with every student who decides to take this class.

**FACULTY:**
Ed Stevens, J.D., Ph.D.
Dept. of Criminal Justice and Social Sciences,
Troy University, Troy, Alabama 36082

**CONTACT:**
Email: estevens@troy.edu; Phone: 334-566-8942 (for emergency use only)

**CONSULTATION HOURS:** As needed.
Consultation times can be scheduled by phone or email.

**TEXTBOOK(S) AND/OR OTHER MATERIALS NEEDED**
Criminal Procedure: Constitution and Society; **Author:** Marvin Zalman **Publisher:** Prentice Hall - Hardcover, Latest Edition.
Here is the website where Troy University students may buy textbooks: [http://troy.bncollege.com.](http://troy.bncollege.com)
The Blackboard Store is no longer in use. Students will see links to the B&N bookstore in Blackboard and Trojan Web Express.
Students should have their textbook from the first week of class. Not having your textbook is not an acceptable excuse for late work. Students who add this course late should refer to the "Late Registration" section for further guidance. You do not need the textbook in order to complete the first assignment.
ADDITIONAL READING:

Students in the MSCJ Program have different levels of understanding and experience with respect to criminal law and procedure; students with less background in criminal justice will need to do more individual research. When the time comes for the MSCJ Comprehensive Exams, a Study Guide is available from the TROY Department of Criminal Justice. Some of the articles and cases listed in the MSCJ Comprehensive Exam Study Guide and used in this course are provided as a “background” for understanding the Fourth Amendment and other topics – students are urged to read all the assigned cases and articles. Each student will need to assess his/her need for additional background reading. Please see comments under COMPREHENSIVE EXAM PREPARATION in this Syllabus.

LATE REGISTRATION

Students who register during the first week of the term, during late registration, will already be one week behind. Students who fall into this category are expected to catch up with all of Week #1 and Week #2's work by the end of Week #2. No exceptions, since two weeks constitutes a significant percentage of the term's lessons. Students who do not feel they can meet this deadline should not enroll in the class. If they have registered, they should see their registrar, academic advisor, GoArmyEd/eArmyU representative, or Military Education officer to discuss their options.

Also note that late registration may mean you do not receive your book in time to make up the work you missed in Week #1. Not having your book on the first day of class is not an excuse for late work after the deadlines in the Schedule.

Troy instructors respond to student email messages within 48 hours.

PREREQUISITES – Graduate student status

ENTRANCE COMPETENCIES - The student must possess the knowledge and skills of a college graduate and the capability to perform academic work on the graduate student level.

STUDENT EXPECTATION STATEMENT

The student is expected to participate in the course via e-mail exchanges with the instructor, by reading the assigned readings, submitting comments to the discussion forums, completing and submitting assignments as they are due. Students are expected to check their e-mails daily and the announcements at least every 48 hours.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

A critical review through case studies of recent trends and developments affecting the interpretation of major portions of the U.S. Constitution which safeguard personal liberties and those which safeguard the public. An examination of principle trends and changes in the judicial processes in the light of historical experience.

PURPOSE (COURSE OBJECTIVES)

1. Understand and evaluate the role of the courts, primarily the U.S. Supreme Court, in the criminal justice system and in the development of American criminal law and procedure.
2. Analyze the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights with respect to the rights of criminal defendants.

2. Analyze the facts, issues and reasoning in major U.S. Supreme Court decisions and evaluate the constitutional rationale upon which these decisions are based.

3. Recognize and analyze the evolution of statutory and case law in the context of criminal law and procedure.

4. Understand, identify and apply interrelationships that may occur between the decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court and American society.

5. Analyze the decision-making processes of the courts with emphasis on the associations and compromises employed by Justices on the U.S. Supreme Court.

6. Recognize, analyze and evaluate significant current trends in criminal law and procedure as developed by The U.S. Supreme Court.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of CJ-6620, the student will have:

1. Demonstrated ability to analyze criminal law and procedure as set out by laws and the U.S. Supreme Court and to apply constitutional doctrines underlying the U.S. Supreme Court’s interpretation of the U.S. Constitution.

2. Demonstrated ability to recognize and interpret the evolution of criminal law and procedure in specific cases and areas in which the Supreme Court has recently issued landmark decisions including, but not limited to, the death penalty, search and seizure, guideline sentencing, self-representation by defendants with mental disabilities, crime victim issues, warrantless searches and due process of law.

3. Demonstrated ability to apply the concepts of substantive and procedural due process as interpreted by the U.S. Supreme Court in its analysis of the 5th and 14th Amendments.

4. Demonstrated ability to describe and evaluate significant current trends in criminal law and procedure in order to anticipate potential developments in the field of criminal law and procedure.

This course also fosters the following Common Objectives:

1. Effective written and oral communication;
2. Global understanding and an appreciation of the criminal justice system;
3. Research and computer skills;
4. The skills and capacity for critical thinking, problem solving, and life-long learning;

COMPREHENSIVE EXAM PREPARATION

Students in the Masters of Science in Criminal Justice Program should be aware that they are required to successfully complete the Comprehensive Examinations at the conclusion of their course work. These exams are designed to assess each student’s collective knowledge of the material in each of the individual MSCJ courses as well as the student’s ability to integrate this material as part of the totality of the body of knowledge gained through the program.

This course is among those for which a comprehensive exam question is included. The course objectives provide an initial guide to the MSCJ Comprehensive Exam. The Course Objectives are a starting point in preparation for the Comprehensive Exams. The required coursework is important not only for the student’s grade in CJ6620 but also in preparation for the comprehensive exam. Additional Comprehensive Exam materials are available through the TROY Campus Criminal Justice Office.

In this course each student is urged to make sure he/she understands the essay questions and the Discussion Board Topics. The burden is on the student to make sure that he/she is properly prepared for the Comp Exams. As indicated above there is a great deal of recommended reading on the MSCJ
Study Guide for this course; some students will need to do more reading and research than others based on their academic background, employment experience and other variables.

RESEARCH COMPONENT (a.k.a. “FINAL ESSAY”)
Use APA Style (but no cover page and no Abstract); the subject of the Final Essay will be provided during the first week of the course (see Course Documents). Students should begin working on the Research Paper topic (“Due Process”) as soon as the course begins. The Research Paper accounts for 30 points toward the total 100 points available in this class.

USEFUL WEB SITES FOR THIS COURSE
www.findlaw.com
www.oyez.org

eTROY COURSES AT TROY UNIVERSITY
All eTROY courses at Troy University utilize Blackboard Learning System. In every eTROY course, students should read all information presented in the Blackboard course site and should periodically check for updates—at least every 48 hours.

TROY E-MAIL
All students were required to obtain and use the TROY e-mail address that is automatically assigned to them as TROY students. All official correspondence (including bills, statements, e-mails from instructors and grades, etc.) will be sent ONLY to the troy.edu (@troy.edu) address.

- **All students are responsible for ensuring that the correct e-mail address is listed in Blackboard by the beginning of Week #1.** E-mail is the only way the instructor can, at least initially, communicate with you. It is your responsibility to make sure a valid e-mail address is provided. **Failure on your part to do so can result in your missing important information that could affect your grade.**

Your troy.edu e-mail address is the same as your Web Express user ID following by @troy.edu. Students are responsible for the information that is sent to their TROY e-mail account. You can get to your e-mail account by logging onto the course and clicking "E-mail Login". You will be able to forward your TROY e-mail to your eArmy e-mail account. You must first access your TROY e-mail account through the TROY e-mail link found on the Web site. After you log in to your TROY e-mail account, click on "options" on the left hand side of the page. Then click on "forwarding." This will enable you to set up the e-mail address to which you will forward your e-mail.

ASSIGNED ESSAYS AND FINAL PAPER
Each ESSAY ASSIGNMENT submitted in this course should (loosely) follow APA Style - for example, be single-spaced with 12-point font (Times New Roman), use 1 inch margins and list References within and at the end of each paper. Submissions should be written with clarity and precision.

**Grammatically correct English is required in all written assignments.** The “backbone” of each Essay should be the assigned cases and readings. The major resource for CJ6620 assignments is the assigned cases; a second resource is the assigned readings and a third resource is each student’s individual research. The use of all three of these resources should be the basis for all assignments for this class.

*Cases and readings should be specifically cited on a References Page and in the body of assigned essays in order to buttress the positions taken. Appropriate citations must be made for all direct quotations and close paraphrases not based on the student’s personal knowledge [see material on Plagiarism below].
*Limit direct quotations. No essay submitted for this class should contain more than 20% quotations. Do not submit an essay that is simply a string of quotations from the work of other students (including yourself) or authors.

IN ALL ASSIGNMENTS FOR THIS CLASS (INCLUDING BOTH DISCUSSION BOARD TOPICS AND ESSAYS), DO NOT DESCRIBE OR REFER TO THE ACTIONS, HOLDING OR REASONING USED BY ANY COURT OTHER THAN THE U.S. SUPREME COURT. Explaining or considering what lower courts did leads to confusion because the Supreme Court USUALLY changes something in the cases it accepts. If the Court does not intend to make a change, it will simply refuse to take the case and the Holding of the lower court will become the precedent.

DISCUSSION BOARD TOPICS – See instructions on each DB assignment as to length and content.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Interaction with the Instructor of this course may be made by way of Blackboard, e-mail and telephone contact. Although physical class meetings are not part of this course, participation in all interactive, learning activities and submission of assignments by the assigned deadline dates is required.

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY

Missing any part of this schedule may prevent completion of the course. If you foresee difficulty of any type (i.e., an illness, employment change, etc.) which may prevent completion of this course, notify the instructor as soon as possible. Failure to do so will result in failure for an assignment and/or failure of the course. See “Attendance,” above.

If the Instructor has not heard from you **by the deadline dates for assignments, exams, or forums**, no make-up work will be allowed (unless extraordinary circumstances existed, such as hospitalization). Requests for extensions must be made in advance and accompanied by appropriate written documentation if the excuse is acceptable to the instructor. "Computer problems" are not an acceptable excuse.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

Missing any part of the Course Schedule may prevent completion of the course. If circumstances will prevent the student from completing the course by the end of the term, the student should complete a request for an incomplete grade. **Please note that it extremely rare that the Instructor in this course will agree to a grade of Incomplete; the eTROY rules below will be strictly followed.**

A grade of incomplete or "INC" is not automatically assigned to students, but rather must be requested **by the student** by submitting a Petition for and Work to Remove an Incomplete Grade Form. Requests for an incomplete grade must be made on or before the date of the final assignment or test of the term. The form will not be available after the last day of the term. A grade of “INC” does not replace an “F” and will not be awarded for excessive absences. An “INC” will only be awarded to student presenting a valid case for the inability to complete coursework by the conclusion of the term. **It is ultimately the Instructor’s decision to grant or deny a request for an incomplete grade, subject to the policy rules below.** If the problem that triggers a request for a grade of Incomplete was reasonably foreseeable, the grade of Incomplete will not be given.

Policy/Rules for granting an Incomplete (INC)

- An incomplete cannot be issued without a request from the student.
- To qualify for an incomplete, the student **must**:
  - Have completed over 50% of the course material and have a documented reason for requesting the incomplete. (50% means all assignments/exams up to and including the mid-term point, test, and/or assignments.)
  - Be passing the course at the time of their request.

If both of the above criteria are not met an incomplete cannot be granted.
• An INC is not a substitute for an F. If a student has earned an "F" by not submitting all the work or by receiving an overall F average, then the F stands.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION
This is an eTROY class. It is not a correspondence course in which a student may work at his/her own pace. There will be assignments, quizzes, on-line discussion topics and a Final Essay each with specific due dates that must be observed.

METHOD OF EVALUATION
The grades in this course are A, B, C, D, and F. The final letter grade is determined by the number of points accumulated at the end of all assignments: 90 - 100 points equals an A; 80 - 89 points equals a B; 70 - 79 points equals a C; 60 - 69 points equals a D and below 60 points equals an F.

Five points will be deducted from the students overall score in the class for each day that an assignment is late.
The principal tool of assessment for the course will be the demonstrated ability of the student to master, synthesize and articulate various principles in criminal law and procedure. Each student’s grade in CJ-6620 will be determined by the quality of the papers and comments he/she submits and the Quiz scores he/she receives.

COURSE GRADING:
There are a total of 100 points available for this course. These points are from scores on Quizzes, Discussion Board Comments and Essays. The points available for each assignment are shown below in this Syllabus and in the assignment. There is a Research Paper, a.k.a. the “Final Essay” due prior to the end of the class.

ASSIGNMENT OF GRADES
All grades will be posted in the grade book on Blackboard and the student’s final letter grade will be assigned according to the following scale:

A 90 – 100 points
B 80 – 89 points
C 70 – 79 points
D 60 – 69 points
F 59 points or below

“FA” indicates the student failed due to attendance. This grade will be given to any student who fails to participate in the course for three or more weeks.

NON-HARASSMENT, HOSTILE WORK/CLASS ENVIRONMENT
Troy University expects students to treat fellow students, their instructors, other TROY faculty and staff as adults and with respect. No form of “hostile environment” or “harassment” will be tolerated in any aspect of this course.

Adaptive Needs (ADA)
Troy University recognizes the importance of equal access for all students. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University and its Adaptive Needs Program seeks to ensure that admission, academic
programs, support services, student activities, and campus facilities are accessible to and usable by students who document a qualifying disability with the University.

Reasonable accommodations are available to students who:

- are otherwise qualified for admission to the University
- identify themselves to appropriate University personnel
- provide acceptable and qualifying documentation to the University.

Each student must provide recent documentation of his or her disability in order to participate in the Adaptive Needs Program. Please visit the Adaptive Needs Website @ http://www.troy.edu/ecampus/studentservices/adaptiveneeds.htm to complete the necessary procedure and forms. This should be accomplished before the beginning of class.

HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

The awarding of a university degree attests that an individual has demonstrated mastery of a significant body of knowledge and skills of substantive value to society. Any type of dishonesty in securing those credentials therefore invites serious sanctions, up to and including suspension and expulsion (see Standard of Conduct in each TROY UNIVERSITY Catalog). Examples of dishonesty include actual or attempted cheating, plagiarism*, or knowingly furnishing false information to any university employee. Plagiarism is academic dishonesty and is unacceptable at Troy University. Based on United States law, words and ideas are intellectual property and are protected from theft.

Defining Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is representing someone else’s ideas or work as your own original ideas or work. Plagiarism encompasses many things, and is by far the most common manifestation of academic fraud. For example, copying a passage straight from a book, a website, or any other source into a paper without using quotation marks and explicitly citing the source is plagiarism. Additionally, paraphrasing is plagiarism where you fail to cite your original source and, in some cases, where you fail to use quotation marks as well. It is very important that students properly acknowledge all ideas, work, and even distinctive words or phrases that are not their own. (1)

All of the following are considered plagiarism:

- Turning in someone else’s work as your own
- Copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- Failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
- Giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
- Changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
- Copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not (2)

Additionally, if you download a paper from the Internet and submit it as your own work or if you submit a paper you wrote and submitted in a previous class, you have committed acts of plagiarism.

Penalties:

At Troy University, penalties for plagiarism include, but are not limited to, a reduction of grade on an assignment and/or a course as well as such sanctions as loss of student privileges, probation, suspension, and expulsion. These penalties for plagiarism are described in the Standards of Content section of The Oracle: The Troy University Student Handbook. (4)

Guidelines to Academic Honesty:

If you are unsure if an assignment is plagiarized, use the following checklist for guidance:
You need to cite the specific source(s) on your Reference Page and in the body of each essay, even if:
1. You put all direct quotes in quotation marks.
2. You changed words used by the author into synonyms.
3. You completely paraphrased the ideas to which you referred.
4. Your sentence is mostly made up of your own thoughts, but contains a reference to the author’s ideas.
5. You mention the author’s name in the sentence.

When in doubt, provide the proper citation to show that the ideas and materials are not your own.

**Academic honesty is a cornerstone of learning and should be practiced with all academic assignments.**

**Sources:**

Troy University employs plagiarism-detection software, through which student assignments may be processed for comparison with material published in traditional sources (books, journals, magazines), on the internet (including essays for sale), and papers turned in by students in the same and other classes in this and all previous terms.

**DO NOT SUBMIT WORK THAT YOU HAVE DONE IN ANY OTHER CLASSES FOR THIS CLASS. DO NOT SUBMIT WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE BY ANYONE OTHER THAN YOURSELF.**

Link to the [Writing Center](#).

**EXAMINATION SCHEDULE & INSTRUCTIONS -** THERE WILL BE NO PROCTORED EXAM IN THIS COURSE

**Internet Access**
- This is an on-line class. Students must have access to a working computer and access to the internet. Students can use the TROY computer lab, a public library, etc., to insure they have access.
- "Not having a computer" or "computer crashes" are not acceptable excuses for late work. Have a backup plan in place in case you have computer problems.
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Introductions (not graded)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>QUIZ ONE (10 points)</td>
<td>August 20, 2015</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Module One Essay (10 points)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>QUIZ TWO (10 points)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Module Two Essay (10 points)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Discussion Board Response ONE (10 points)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Module Three Essay (10 points)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Discussion Board Response TWO (10 points)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Final Essay – DO NOT BE LATE (30 points)</td>
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