



# CRIJ 2323 – Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement

## Course Syllabus: Fall 2017

---

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide responsible, exemplary learning opportunities.”

**Robert W. Moore**

**Office:** IT 106

**Email:** [rwmoore209@gmail.com](mailto:rwmoore209@gmail.com)

Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Email
	Online	N/A	9:30 – 10:00	N/A	N/A	Any Time
The best way to communicate with me is via email. I will answer all questions as quickly as possible, but no later than 24 hours after receipt of your email.						

*The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.*

**Catalog Course Description:**

Topics for this course shall include: police authority; responsibilities; constitutional constraints; laws of arrest, search, and seizure; police liability.

**Prerequisites:**

No formal course requirements, but students should understand how to access the Internet via a web browser.

**Textbook(s):**

*Texas Criminal and Traffic Law Manual*, LexisNexis, Mathew Bender & Company; 2015-2016 Edition

**Resources:**

**Computers and computer labs assistants** are available in MS 103. The LRC and the Academic Skills Center have computers available for students but with limited or no assistance.

**Your instructor** can be your greatest resource. Your instructor is here to assist you in learning the material and helping you earn the grade you wish to earn in the course. This is a commitment by your instructor. Please utilize this resource by contacting him with any matter you feel he can assist you with, both within this class or your college success in general. It is your responsibility to learn the material, but this can often be best accomplished by initiating contact with the instructor on topics you need clarification or further assistance. Please do this!

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Understand and Identify the US and Texas Constitutionally guaranteed rights of citizens.
- Identify the various types of Texas Peace Officers and their respective duties.
- Understand the meaning of Family Violence and List the duties of Peace Officers investigating such crimes.
- Explain the duty of Peace Officers to prevent Crimes and Criminal Activity.
- Identify the elements of Reasonable Suspicion, Probable Cause, and explain the mechanisms for a Warrantless Arrest or Search.
- Understand and explain the legal elements necessary for obtaining and serving Arrest and Search warrants.

**Exemplary Educational Objectives:**

N/A

**SCANS Skills:**

N/A

**Lectures & Discussions:**

	Monday	Wednesday
Week 1 – Aug28/30	Syllabus Quiz	Course Introduction – Texas Code of Criminal Procedure
Week 2 – Sept 5/7	Chapter 1 – General Provisions	Chapter 2 – Duties and Powers of Peace Officers
Week 3 – Sept 11/13	Chapter 2 – Who are Peace Officers	Chapter 2 - Conclusions
Week 4 – Sept 18/20	Defining the “Family” – Chapter 71 Family Code	Chapter 5 – Family Violence Prevention
Week 5 – Sept 25/27	Quiz #1 – Chapters 1, 2, & 5	Chapter 6 – Duty to Prevent Offenses
Week 6 – Oct 2/4	BB Discussion – Reasonable Suspicion	Reasonable Suspicion Cont....
Week 7 – Oct 9/11	BB Discussion – Probable Cause	Probable Cause Cont...
Week 8 – Oct 16/18	Mid-Term Review	Mid-Term Exam
Week 9 – Oct 23/25	BB Discussion – Why are Warrants Important?	Thanksgiving Break
Week 10 – Oct 30/Nov 1	Chapter 14 – Warrantless Arrest	Chapter 14 – Warrantless Arrest
Week 11 – Nov 6/8	Chapter 14 – Warrantless Arrest	Chapter 15 – Warrant Arrest
Week 12 – Nov 13/15	Chapter 15 – Warrant Arrest	Chapter 15 – Warrant Arrest
Week 13 – Nov 20/21	Quiz #2 – Chapters 6, 14, & 15	Warrantless Search
Week 14 – Nov 27/29	BB Discussion – Warrantless Search	Chapter 18 – Search Warrants
Week 15 – Dec 4/6	Chapter 18 – Search Warrants	Final Review
Week 16 – Dec 11/13	Finals	Week

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

Grades of A, B, C, D, and F will be determined by the student's achievement of a total number of possible points based on the below listed categories.

<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Pts. Per Assign.</u>	<u>Total Pts. Possible</u>
Class Participation	1	N/A	50
Class Assignments			
Blackboard Assignments	11	10	110
Quizes	2	50	100
Blackboard Discussion Items	4	10	40
Mid-Term Exam	1	250	350
Final exam	1	250	350
Total			<b>1000</b>

The letter grade is based on the following Grading Scale:

<b>Total Pts. Earned</b>	<b>Ltr. Grade</b>
900-1000	A
800-899	B
700-799	C
600-699	D
Below 600	F

**CLASS PARTICIPATION:****In-Class Meetings vs Blackboard Meetings**

This is a hybrid format class, meaning that 1 class meeting per week will be held face-to-face with the instructor, and one will be delivered through the NTCC Blackboard environment. It is important that the student understands that the Blackboard sessions and corresponding assignments are equally as important as the in-class instruction. Failure to participate in Blackboard classes or assignments will count as an absence in the same way as missing a face-to-face class. Additionally, testable material will be derived from the Blackboard and in-class instruction equally. It is the individual student's responsibility to access and complete the on-line portion of this course, prior to coming to class each week.

## TESTS/EXAMS:

**Mid-Term Exam: October 18, 2017**

**Final Exam: December 13, 2017 (Monday – Thursday)**

This course consists of four exams, two quizzes, a mid-term, and a final. The mid-term will consist of information from the start of the semester, up to the time of the exam. The final will be comprehensive and contain information from the entire course. **If you have a conflict with the exam dates**, you must contact the instructor prior to the exam week to attempt to resolve the conflict in a mutually agreeable manner.

## Assignments:

### BLACKBOARD ASSIGNMENTS:

There will be eleven Blackboard assignments that will be completed during this course. **Each assignment varies in length and complexity.** All necessary materials and direction will be provided by the instructor through the Blackboard system. Students are expected to fully participate in all on-line exercises as they will be a significant source of testing material for both quizzes and major exams.

### BLACKBOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS:

There will be four Blackboard Discussion questions that will be completed during this course. Blackboard discussions will be aimed at expanding the students understanding of the presented material by providing real-world examples of the topics covered in class. Blackboard discussions will be treated just as an in-class discussion would be and participation will be graded as such. **Therefore, while completing the minimum requirements for post and responses will earn a passing grade, only active and meaningful participation and effort will result in an A+ level score.**

The instructor reserves the right to modify the topics to be covered in order to best prepare the student with the above stated learning outcomes.

## Student Responsibilities/Expectations:

*Class Attendance:* **Participation in class discussions and assignments is mandatory.** Students' participation grade (50 points of the total Class Grade) will be heavily based on in-class engagement.

Withdrawal requests MUST BE initiated by the student. The last day for a student to drop a course with a grade of "W" is **Tuesday, October 13, 2017**. Requests for withdrawal become official and effective the date they are received in the records office. Students who stop coming to class but fail to drop the course will earn an "F" for the course.

*Late Work:* To be considered “on time,” **all work must be submitted at the beginning of class on the day that it is due.** Assignments can be submitted for a 10% deduction for one week following the assignment due date. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact your instructor.

### **NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:**

Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook (see Student Handbook on the student MyEagle Portal).

### **Academic Ethics**

The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

### **ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student’s responsibility to arrange an appointment with a College counselor to obtain a Request for Accommodations form. For more information, please refer to the NTCC Catalog or Student Handbook.

### **Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children’s educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered “eligible students.” In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child’s college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as “directory information” may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student’s name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.