

# **CRIMINAL LAW**

Professor Blaze  
Fall 2007

## **Tentative Syllabus**

The following is a tentative course syllabus. While there will possibly be changes as the semester progresses, the general content and sequence will follow this outline fairly closely. I will let you know each week what will be covered the following week.

All page references are to Crump et al., Criminal Law: Cases, Materials, and Lawyering Strategies (LexisNexis 2005). The assignments assume that you will read any relevant material from the appendices, particularly the Model Penal Code material. In addition, I will be making available relevant provisions from the Tennessee Code Annotated. The Tennessee statutes will be an essential part of our discussion.

Always be prepared to discuss the notes and problems contained in the reading. I will be handing out additional assignments, problems, and material during the semester.

## **Assignments and Coverage**

### **Topic**

### **Reading**

(Note: Also prepare relevant sections of the Model Penal Code in Appendix A and relevant sections of the TN Code provided.)

#### I. Introduction

A. Sources of Criminal Law	1-9
B. Overview of Elements and Proof	9-16
C. Process of Criminal Case	16-21
D. Purposes of Criminal Law	21-29

#### II. Homicide

A. Intentional, Knowing, and Malice Aforethought	31-69
B. Reckless and Negligent	69-81
C. Felony Murder	81-111

III. Elements of Crimes	
A. Overview	113-120
B. Act	120-140
C. Circumstances	140-141
D. Harm	141-142
E. Causation	142-148
F. Mental State	148-164
G. Transferred Intent and Ignorance	164-169
H. Strict Liability	169-173
I. Relationship Among Elements	173-176
J. Practice Issues and Review	176-178
IV. Proof Beyond a Reasonable Doubt	
A. Constitutional Dimension	193-199
B. Definition	199-207
C. Purpose	207-216
V. Assault and Related Offenses	
A. Assault	243-251
B. Stalking	251-253
C. Domestic Assault	253-258
VI. Property Crimes	
A. Historical Treatment	
1. Larceny	373-382
2. False Pretenses	382-389
3. Embezzlement	389-393
B. Theft	393-395
C. Robbery	413-419
D. Extortion	419-426
E. Burglary	426-432
V. Preparatory Crimes	
A. Attempt	535-553
B. Solicitation	553-557
D. Conspiracy	557-570
VI. Parties	
A. Conspiracies	571-575
B. Accomplices	575-585
C. Post-Crime	585

## VII. Defenses

A. Generally	285-295
B. Self-Defense	295-307
C. Defense of Third-Persons	310-312
D. Defense of Property	312-315
E. Necessity and Excuse	323-331
F. Entrapment	331-339
G. Mental Capacity	
1. Insanity	339-353
2. Intoxication	353-355
3. Diminished Capacity	355-357
H. Mistake	357-367

## VIII. Review