

College Document # _____ UCC Document # 179
Date Received 01/25/06



CATALOG YEAR 2006-2007 (Please use separate form for each add/change)

COLLEGE/SCHOOL : Arts and Sciences

Current Catalog Page(s) Affected 269

Course: Add: Delete: _____ (check all that apply)
Change: Number _____ Title _____ SCH _____
Description _____ Prerequisite _____

If new, provide Course Prefix, Number, Title, SCH Value, Description, prerequisite, and lecture/lab hours if applicable. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

CRIJ 3302: Philosophy of Law.

An examination and evaluation of some basic practices and principles of Anglo-American law. This course will focus on such problems as: the nature and extent of legal liability, strict liability statutes, "Good Samaritan" laws, the law of criminal attempts, the enforcement of community moral standards, the obligation to obey the law, the justification of punishment and capital punishment, civil disobedience, and affirmative action and reverse discrimination. We will examine prominent legal cases and their underlying principles, but the emphasis will be on the philosophical analysis and evaluation of the law in these areas. Readings will be drawn from both classical and contemporary sources. (Cross-listed with PHIL 3302)

Justification: The CRIJ faculty has unanimously approved the addition of this course to its undergraduate program. Furthermore, given the fact that the course is already in existence as part of the philosophy minor and that it is undeniably an appropriate course for CRIJ, cross-listing the course is justified.

Program: Add: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

Minor: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed minor. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

Faculty: Add: _____ Delete: _____ Change: _____ Attach new/changed faculty entry. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

College Introductory Pages: Add information: _____ Change information: _____ Attach new/changed information. If in current catalog, copy and paste the text from the [on-line catalog](#) and indicate changes in red.

Approvals: Signature Date

Chair _____
Department Curriculum Committee

Chair _____
Department

Chair _____
College Curriculum Committee

Dean _____

TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SYLLABUS

Phil 3302: Philosophy of Law

Course Description

An examination and evaluation of some basic principles and practices of Anglo-American law. The course will focus initially on the nuts and bolts of the law and the legal system, and the general areas of philosophy most germane or apropos to the study of law, then on such problems as: the nature and extent of legal liability, strict liability statutes, “Good Samaritan” law (i.e. the legal and moral duty to render aid), the obligation to obey the law, the law of criminal attempts, the legal enforcement of community moral standards, equality and preferential treatment, the justification of punishment and capital punishment, and plea bargaining. We will examine prominent legal cases and their underlying principles, but the emphasis will be on the philosophical analysis and evaluation of the law in these areas. Readings will be drawn from both classical and contemporary sources.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. The course will motivate students, most of whom are not philosophy majors or minors, to care about the philosophical issues or problems the law raises and to promote philosophical engagement with the law and legal texts.
2. Students will be introduced to the basic principles and practices of Anglo-American law.
3. Students will develop and strengthen their analytical and critical thinking skills through careful reading of the assigned materials and engagement in class discussion.