

# **Criminal Procedure CJUS 4200.400 - Fall 2025**

## **Instructor Information**

Name: Brandy Wilson, Esq.  
Pronouns: She/her/hers  
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## **Course Description**

This course examines the constitutional and statutory bases and judicial interpretations of the procedures governing the administration of criminal justice. The course material is divided into chapters and modules. The order in which we will cover the chapters and modules is provided in the Course Schedule later in this syllabus. Online modules that accompany each chapter will highlight and supplement the assigned text readings. All learning modules will have an accompanying quiz while some learning modules will also have a discussion board. The quizzes and discussion boards that accompany the learning modules are designed to verify and extend your knowledge and understanding of the class materials. The discussion boards also provide a mechanism to apply such knowledge and understanding.

## **Course Structure**

This course will take place completely online through Canvas. The course is composed of several modules. Each module contains relevant chapter outlines as well as other supplementary material as needed. Online materials that accompany each module will highlight and supplement the assigned text readings. The students will also participate in twelve (12) quizzes through Canvas during the course. The students will also have four (4) discussion board assignments, and two exams (midterm exam and final exam), all in Canvas.

## **Course Objectives**

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to: Describe the exclusionary rule and probable cause, analyze court decisions and judicial interpretations involving arrests, searches, and seizures, define the law regarding interrogations and confessions, recognize constitutional rights and defenses during trial, apply contemporary U.S. Supreme Court decisions to fact patterns.

## **Required Text**

- Required Text: del Carmen, Rolando V. and Craig Hemmens. Criminal Procedure: Law and Practice, 11th ed. Mason, OH: Cengage, 2025.
  - Paperback ISBN-13: 978-0-357-76363-6.
    - Available at the UNT Bookstore.

## **Course Technology & Skills**

### ***Minimum Technology Requirements***

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Speakers
- Microphone
- Plug-ins
- Microsoft Office Suite
- [Canvas Technical Requirements](https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements) (<https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements>)

### ***Computer Skills & Digital Literacy***

- Using Canvas
- Using email with attachments
- Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats (.doc, .pdf)
- Downloading and installing software

## **Technical Assistance**

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

**UIT Help Desk:** [UIT Student Help Desk site](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm) (<http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>)

**Email:** [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

**Phone:** 940-565-2324

**In Person:** Sage Hall, Room 130

**Walk-In Availability:** 8am-9pm

**Telephone Availability:**

- Sunday: noon-midnight
- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
- Friday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm

**Laptop Checkout:** 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328) (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

## **Teaching Philosophy**

My teaching philosophy is that students interact with course materials and one another using critical thinking skills. Students should engage with each other throughout the course via the class discussions. At the beginning of each week, the student should refer to the course schedule (see below) for their



reading assignment for that week. After completing each reading assignment in its entirety, the student should open the corresponding module and study the notes. As noted in the course calendar, throughout the semester the student will have discussion posts to complete. They will respond to material that is pertinent to the theme of the course that week and then respond to one of their peers' posts. The textbook chapters and the online modules will help you complete the discussion posts and satisfy all learning objectives. The textbook chapters and online modules will assist the students in completing the online quizzes and exams as well.

## Course Policies

### Communication Expectations

Correspondence for this course will take place primarily through Canvas Announcements. This means that all communications sent through the course will go to your Canvas Inbox and should also go to your official UNT Email. Therefore, it is **your responsibility** to read all Canvas and email messages you may receive. You must also make sure to check your official UNT email, or make sure you receive official UNT emails to your preferred email address. You may also correspond with other classmates this way. Please make sure to check this frequently for any change to the course or schedule.

### ADA Policy

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website (<http://www.unt.edu/oda>). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

(<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>).

### Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. To read more about the policy, please visit: Academic Integrity Policy <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>



Every student in my class can improve by doing their own work and trying their hardest with access to appropriate resources. Students who use other people's work without citations will be violating UNT's Academic Integrity Policy. Please read and follow this important set of [guidelines for your academic success](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>). If you have questions about this, or any UNT policy, please email me or come discuss this with me during my office hours.

### **Attendance and Participation**

Students are required to login regularly to the online class site. The instructor will use the tracking feature in Canvas to monitor student activity. Students are also required to participate in all class activities and assignments.

### **Emergency Notification & Procedures**

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

### **Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses**

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website](http://www.ecfr.gov/) (<http://www.ecfr.gov/>). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

- (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
- (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.



Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email [internationaladvising@unt.edu](mailto:internationaladvising@unt.edu)) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

### **Supporting Your Success**

All discussions should be respectful and civil. While disagreements and debates are acceptable, personal attacks are unacceptable. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please let me know.

### **Assessing Your Work**

There are a total of 400 points that students can earn in this class: 2 exams (100 points each, for a total of 200 points); 12 quizzes (10 points each, for a total of 120 points); 4 discussion boards (20 points each, for a total of 80 points). The grading scale and descriptions of the assessment measures are described below.

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Points Possible</b>
<b>Module Quizzes (12) total of 120 points</b>	<b>10 points each</b>
<b>Discussion Posts (4) total of 80 points</b>	<b>20 points each</b>
<b>Midterm &amp; Final Exam - total of 200 points</b>	<b>100 points each</b>
<b>Total Points Possible</b>	<b>400 points</b>

### **Grading Scale**

A = 360-400 points

B = 320-359 points

C = 280-319 points

D = 240-279 points

F = Below 240 points

### **Late Work**

There are no make-up tests/assignments in this class with the exception of authorized absences according to University policies prescribing authorized absences in certain situations. I reserve the right to consider extreme circumstances and modify this rule. Those in athletics, those who are absent for religious holidays, and/or those involved in other school supported activities that require being absent from class will be allowed make up if proper procedures are followed in requesting an excused absence. I must have written documentation in advance that you will be away from class for the absence to be excused (e.g., traveling for a basketball game, observing a religious holiday). If you were critically ill in such a way that you could not complete any required assignment or exam, you must submit a doctor's note to me within calendar 3 days.



### **Syllabus Change Policy**

I reserve the right and have the discretion to change this syllabus. While every effort will be made to follow this syllabus as closely as possible, it is sometimes the case that it must be modified. In the event that it needs to be adjusted, I will announce such adjustments to the class. I will make every effort to ensure that any changes to the syllabus benefit the class as a whole. It is the student's responsibility to check announcements/email so that all changes are documented. Failure to obtain syllabus changes because of failure to check and read announcements/email does not constitute a defense against a missed reading, test/assignment date, or other applicable changes.

### **Course Requirements**

#### **Module Quizzes (120 points total)**

There will be a total of twelve (12) quizzes in this course for a total of 120 points (each worth 10 points). The quizzes are designed to assess the knowledge that each of you has individually learned regarding the textbook and the course materials. Once you start the quiz you will have only 15 minutes to take it. You may use your textbook and all course materials while completing the quizzes. The quizzes themselves should not be copied or duplicated by you or anyone else for any purpose whatsoever. The university rules concerning academic integrity will be strictly enforced. ***The quizzes are included in the related Course Materials, under Modules, and should be submitted there. Quiz due dates are listed in the course calendar below.***

#### **Discussion Posts (80 points total)**

Each student will be required to respond to 4 Canvas discussions throughout the course of the semester. Each Canvas discussion is worth 20 points (up to 15 points for your posting and up to 5 points for your response to another student's posting), for a total of 80 points towards your final grade. The discussions boards will close at the time indicated on the Course Schedule. Discussion posts should include your response to the post, and a response to a classmate's post. Your discussion submission should be thorough and well-written and at least three paragraphs in length. ***Students must reply to at least one other student's posts for full point potential*** (responding appropriately and meaningfully). Responses to other students should be at least one paragraph long. ***Discussion due dates are listed in the course calendar below.***

Your discussions will be graded on the depth of explanation, utilization of sources, connection to course materials, specific efforts to back up your arguments with logical points and sources, grammar and spelling, and adhering to the assignment. ***A detailed rubric for the discussions is provided in Canvas.***

To locate the discussion boards in Canvas, click the Discussions tab to the left of the main screen. Select the appropriate Canvas Discussion assignment. Next click on the appropriate forum. To post a comment select "Create Thread." In order to receive full credit, you must post an original response and respond to at least one other students' post. ***Note that you will NOT be able to see any other students' posts until you have first posted a thread yourself.***



**Exams (200 points total)**

There will be 2 online exams (a midterm exam and a final exam) for this class which will be available on the course site when they are released. The exams are designed to assess the knowledge that each of you has individually learned regarding the course materials. Therefore, I expect your exam responses to reflect your own individual and independent knowledge and work, without assistance from any other person. You may use your textbook and all course materials while completing the exams. The exams themselves should not be copied or duplicated by you or anyone else for any purpose whatsoever. The university rules concerning academic integrity will be strictly enforced. The exams are included in the related Course Materials, under Modules, and should be submitted there.

Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. Each multiple choice question is worth 2 points. Thus, each exam is worth 100 points. Each exam will cover the assigned text material and the modules in Canvas. Exams are timed (75 minutes), so plan your time efficiently to do your best. You are allowed only 1 attempt to take each exam. Once you start the exam, you cannot exit (and return to) the exam or pause the exam time. For the midterm exam and the final exam, you will have from the date it is released until Sunday at 11:59 pm to set aside 75 minutes to take the exam. Students who do not complete any exam during the scheduled time period will receive a zero for the exam. Exam grades will be available immediately upon completion of each exam.

EXAMS COVER MATERIAL FROM THE COURSE TEXTBOOK AND THE MODULES IN CANVAS. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU READ THE CORRESPONDING CHAPTER MATERIALS AND CANVAS MODULES BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO TAKE AN EXAM.

### Course Schedule

Chapter materials will open on *Mondays* on the course site in Canvas each week as indicated in the Opening Date column below. Students will have until the following *Sunday* night at 11:59 pm to complete any related exam, quiz or discussion board.

Week & Opening Date	Readings, Assignments, Quizzes, Exams	Due Dates & Times
<b><u>Week 1</u></b> 8/18-8/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Start Here</i> Module in Canvas</li> <li>• Read <i>Read First: Important Course Information</i> Module in Canvas</li> <li>• Read <i>Syllabus</i> in Canvas</li> </ul>	
<b><u>Week 2</u></b> 8/25-8/31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 1: The Court System, Sources of Rights, and Fundamental Principles</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 1 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 1 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 1</b> due by Sunday, August 31 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 3</u></b> 9/1-9/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 2: Overview of the Criminal Justice Process</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 2 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 2 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 2</b> due by Sunday, September 7 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 4</u></b> 9/8-9/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 3: Probable Cause and Reasonable Suspicion</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 3 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 3 in Canvas</b></li> <li>• <b>Complete Discussion 1 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 3 and Discussion 1</b> due by Sunday, September 14 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 5</u></b> 9/15-9/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 4: The Exclusionary Rule</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 4 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 4 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 4</b> due by Sunday, September 21 at 11:59PM



<b><u>Week 6</u></b> 9/22-9/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 5: Stop and Frisk and Stationhouse Detention</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 5 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 5 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 5</b> due by Sunday, September 28 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 7</u></b> 9/29-10/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 6: Arrests and Use of Force</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 6 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 6 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 6</b> due by Sunday, October 5 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 8</u></b> 10/6-10/12	<b><u>Midterm Exam</u></b> (covering chapters 1-6)	<b><u>Midterm Exam</u></b> due by Sunday October 12 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 9</u></b> 10/13-10/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 7: Searches and Seizures of Things</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 7 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 7 in Canvas</b></li> <li>• <b>Complete Discussion 2 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 7 and Discussion 2</b> due by Sunday, October 19 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 10</u></b> 10/20-10-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 8: Motor Vehicle Stops, Searches, and Inventories</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 8 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 8 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 8</b> due by Sunday, October 26 at 11:59PM



<b><u>Week 11</u></b> 10/27-11/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 9: Plain View, Open Fields, Abandonment, and Border Searches</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 9 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 9 in Canvas</b></li> <li>• <b>Complete Discussion 3 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 9 and Discussion 3</b> due by Sunday, November 2 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 12</u></b> 11/3-11/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 10: Lineups and Other Means of Pretrial Identification</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 10 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 10 in Canvas</b></li> <li>• <b>Complete Discussion 4 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 10 and Discussion 4</b> due by Sunday, November 9 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 13</u></b> 11/10-11/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 11: Confessions and Admissions: Miranda v. Arizona</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 11 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 11 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 11</b> due by Sunday, November 16 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 14</u></b> 11/17-11/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read <i>Chapter 12: Basic Constitutional Rights of the Accused during Trial</i> in textbook</li> <li>• Read Chapter 12 Module in Canvas</li> <li>• <b>Complete Quiz for Chapter 12 in Canvas</b></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz for Chapter 12</b> due by Sunday, November 23 at 11:59PM
<b><u>Week 15</u></b> 11/24-11/30	.....	
<b><u>Week 16</u></b> 12/1-12/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Final Exam</b> (covering chapters 7-12)</li> </ul>	<b>Final Exam</b> due by Sunday December 7 at 11:59PM