

**Criminal Procedure**  
**CJUS 4200.001**  
**Spring 2026**  
**Tuesday/Thursday 11:00AM-12:20PM**  
**Gateway 137**

Welcome to CJUS 4200: Criminal Procedure. I look forward to having you in this class.

**Professor Contact Information**

- Eric J. Fritsch, Ph.D.
- Office: Chilton Hall, Room 265 (Department of Criminal Justice)
- Office phone: 940-565-4954
- Email contact: [fritsch@unt.edu](mailto:fritsch@unt.edu)
- Office hours: By appointment

**Teaching Assistant Contact Information**

- Heriberto Ramirez
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**Course Description**

*Undergraduate Catalog Course Description:* This course examines the constitutional and statutory bases and judicial interpretations of the procedures governing the administration of criminal justice.

**Course Objectives**

Upon successful completion of this course, students 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**

del Carmen, Rolando V. and Craig Hemmens. *Criminal Procedure: Law and Practice*, 11th ed. Mason, OH: Cengage, 2025.

This text is required for all students enrolled in the class and is the only required text for the course. Reading assignments are noted in the Course Schedule at the end of this syllabus.

## **Course Requirements**

There is 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.

## **Grading Scale**

360 – 400 points = A

320 – 359 points = B

280 – 319 points = C

240 – 279 points = D

Below 240 points = F

*I do not offer extra credit in this course.*

***PLEASE NOTE: I DO NOT DEVIATE FROM THE ABOVE GRADING SCALE EVEN IF YOU ARE ONLY ONE POINT AWAY FROM THE NEXT LETTER GRADE.***

## **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 any modules in Canvas. Exams are timed (75 minutes), so plan your time efficiently to do your best.

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

*For the midterm exam, you will have from Monday at 8:00 am until Thursday at 11:59 pm to set aside 75 minutes to take the exam. For the final exam, you will have from Monday at 8:00 am to Thursday at 11:59 pm to set aside 75 minutes to take the exam.* The exams will be timed. From the time that you log in to take the exam, you will have up to 75 minutes to complete the exam.

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.

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.*

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

*There will be 12 online quizzes for this class which will be available on the course site when they are released.* The quizzes are designed to assess the knowledge that each of you has individually learned regarding the textbook and course materials. Therefore, I expect your quiz 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 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.

Each quiz is comprised of 10 multiple-choice questions and is worth 10 points. Quizzes will cover textbook readings and any modules in Canvas. Quizzes are timed (15 minutes), so plan your time efficiently to do your best.

**QUIZZES COVER MATERIAL FROM THE COURSE TEXTBOOK AND ANY MODULES IN CANVAS. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU READ THE CORRESPONDING CHAPTER MATERIAL AND CANVAS MODULE BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO TAKE A MODULE QUIZ.**

The quizzes will be timed. From the time that you log in to take the quiz, you will have up to 15 minutes to complete the quiz.

You are allowed only 1 attempt to take each quiz. Once you start the quiz, you cannot exit (and return to) the quiz or pause the quiz time.

Students who do not complete any quiz during the scheduled time period will receive a zero for the quiz. *Quiz grades will be available immediately upon completion of each quiz.*

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

There are four discussion boards due by the end of time reflected in the Course Schedule.

These discussion board assignments are included in the related Course Materials, under *Modules*, and should be submitted there.

Grading rubrics will be utilized for the discussion boards so students can identify how their discussion posts will be graded.

Your discussions will be graded on depth of explanation, utilization of outside sources (if applicable), specific efforts to back up your arguments with logical points and sources, grammar and spelling, and adhering to the assignment requirements. In order to receive full credit you must post an original response and respond to at least 1 other students' post. Note that you will NOT be able to see any other students' posts until you have first posted a thread yourself.

Each discussion submission should be thorough and well-written and *at least three paragraphs in length*. The discussion boards will ask you to provide your own posting *and* respond to the posting of at least 1 other student. Responses to other students should be *at least one paragraph long*.

*There will be a total of 4 discussion board assignments. Each will be worth a maximum of 20 points – up to 15 points for your posting and up to 5 points for your response to another student’s posting.* The discussions boards will close at the time indicated on the Course Schedule.

*Students who do not complete any discussion board assignment within the scheduled time period will receive a zero for the discussion board. Discussion post grades will be available within 7 business days after the applicable discussion post period closes.*

## **General Class Policies**

### *Communication:*

For email communication, use my unt.edu email address: [fritsch@unt.edu](mailto:fritsch@unt.edu). *You should use your UNT email account for all email communications with me.* My phone number is 940-565-4954. If you leave a voicemail, please clearly identify yourself and leave a return phone number where I can reach you. I will return emails and voicemails within 48 hours during Monday-Friday. If you do not receive a response from me during that period, assume that I did not receive your communication and contact me again. You are, of course, also welcome to communicate with me in person in Chilton Hall 265 by appointment.

If you are having technical or technological issues regarding the exams, quizzes, and discussion boards on Canvas, your first communication should be with the help desk at [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu) or 940-565-2324. The technicians there have the expertise to help you resolve your issues.

### *Attendance:*

Research has shown that students who attend class are more likely to be successful. You should attend every class unless you have a university excused absence such as active military service, a religious holy day, or an official university function as stated in the Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy available at <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039>

### *Classroom Behavior:*

I value the many perspectives students bring to this course. Please work with me to create a classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. All discussions should be respectful and civil. Although disagreements and debates are encouraged, 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. We are all learning together.

Student behavior that interferes with my ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and I may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classrooms and discussion groups. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/conduct>

*Syllabus Change:*

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 case 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/notifications/emails so that any and all changes are documented. Failure to obtain syllabus changes because of failure to check and read announcements/notifications/emails does not constitute a basis for a missed applicable change.

*Posting of Grades:*

Students can access their grades via the *Grades* tab on the course page in Canvas.

*Academic Integrity:*

The university rules (UNT Policy 06.003 available at <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>) concerning cheating and plagiarism will be strictly enforced. *Your work on exams, quizzes, and discussion boards should be your own individual and independent work. These are not group projects. You should not consult other persons when completing exams, quizzes, or discussion boards.*

*Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties:*

The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive outage assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation.

*SPOT (Student Perceptions of Teaching):*

You will have the opportunity to complete the SPOT survey at the end of the semester and share your thoughts about the course. I value the feedback that I receive from the SPOT survey and strongly encourage you to participate by completing the survey in this class and all of your classes.

*ADA Statement:*

The University of North Texas makes reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. To request accommodations, you must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) by completing an application for services and providing documentation to verify your eligibility. Once your eligibility is confirmed, you may request your letter of accommodation. ODA will then email your faculty a letter of reasonable accommodation, initiating a private discussion about your specific needs in the course.

You can request accommodations at any time, but it's important to provide ODA notice to your faculty as early as possible in the semester to avoid delays in implementation. Keep in mind that you must obtain a new letter of accommodation for each semester and meet with each faculty member before accommodations can be implemented in each class. You are strongly encouraged to meet with faculty regarding your accommodations during office hours or by appointment. Faculty have the authority to ask you to discuss your letter during their designated office hours to protect your privacy. For more information and to access resources that can support your needs, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access) website (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>).

*Intellectual Property Statement:*

The material posted online for this course is my personal intellectual property or that of the university. You may not use this material for anything other than class purposes.

*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.

*Technology Requirements:*

This course has digital components. To fully participate in this class, students will need internet access to reference content on the Canvas Learning Management System. If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content. Information on how to be successful in a digital learning environment can be found at [Learn Anywhere](https://online.unt.edu/learn) (<https://online.unt.edu/learn>).

*Generative Artificial Intelligence Use:*

You are not allowed to use GenAI tools for the exams or quizzes. However, you are permitted to use GenAI tools (such as ChatGPT, Grammarly, or similar platforms) to supplement—rather than substitute—your learning during the discussion boards. These tools can assist with brainstorming, drafting, editing, and exploring complex ideas, helping you develop skills relevant to your future careers.

However, you remain responsible for the accuracy, integrity, and originality of your work. GenAI tools can produce errors, biases, or fabricated information, so you must critically evaluate all AI-generated content. Proper citation of GenAI use is required. Any work submitted must reflect your own understanding, analysis, and critical engagement with course material. Misuse of GenAI—such as submitting AI-generated work as your own without proper attribution or critical engagement—constitutes academic misconduct under UNT Policy 06.003.

**Course Schedule**  
**CJUS 4200: Criminal Procedure**  
**Spring 2026**

Week	Readings, Quizzes, Discussions, Exams
<b><u>Week 1</u></b> Tuesday January 13 & Thursday January 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Course Introduction</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – <i>No Class</i> – Read Chapter 1 in textbook and module in Canvas and complete Chapter 1 Quiz by Thursday January 15 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 2</u></b> Tuesday January 20 & Thursday January 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 3: Probable Cause and Reasonable Suspicion</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – Chapter 3: Probable Cause and Reasonable Suspicion</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 3</u></b> Tuesday January 27 & Thursday January 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – <i>No Class</i> – Read Chapter 2 in textbook and module in Canvas and complete Chapter 2 Quiz by Tuesday January 27 at 11:59PM</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – <i>No Class</i> – Complete Chapter 3 Discussion and Chapter 3 Quiz in Canvas by Thursday January 29 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 4</u></b> Tuesday February 3 & Thursday February 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 4: The Exclusionary Rule</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – Chapter 4: The Exclusionary Rule</li> <li>• Complete Chapter 4 Quiz in Canvas by Thursday February 5 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 5</u></b> Tuesday February 10 & Thursday February 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 5: Stop and Frisk</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – Chapter 5: Stop and Frisk</li> <li>• Complete Chapter 5 Quiz in Canvas by Thursday February 12 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 6</u></b> Tuesday February 17 & Thursday February 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 6: Arrests and Use of Force</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – Chapter 6: Arrests and Use of Force</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 7</u></b> Tuesday February 24 & Thursday February 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 6: Arrests and Use of Force</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – <i>No Class</i> – Complete Chapter 6 Discussion and Chapter 6 Quiz in Canvas by Thursday February 26 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 8</u></b> Tuesday March 3 & Thursday March 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</b> – <i>No Class</i> – Complete Midterm Exam in Canvas by Thursday March 5 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>
<b>March 9-15 - Spring Break – No Class</b>	
<b><u>Week 9</u></b> Tuesday March 17 & Thursday March 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 7: Searches and Seizures of Things</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – Chapter 7: Searches and Seizures of Things</li> </ul>

<b><u>Week 10</u></b> Tuesday March 24 & Thursday March 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 7: Searches and Seizures of Things</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – <i>No Class</i> – Complete Chapter 7 Discussion and Chapter 7 Quiz in Canvas by Thursday March 26 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 11</u></b> Tuesday March 31 & Thursday April 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 8: Motor Vehicle Stops and Searches</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – Chapter 8: Motor Vehicle Stops and Searches</li> <li>• Complete Chapter 8 Quiz in Canvas by Thursday April 2 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 12</u></b> Tuesday April 7 & Thursday April 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 9: Plain View, Open Fields, etc.</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – <i>No Class</i> – Complete Chapter 9 Discussion and Chapter 9 Quiz in Canvas by Thursday April 9 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 13</u></b> Tuesday April 14 & Thursday April 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 10: Pretrial Identification Procedures</li> <li>• Complete Chapter 10 Quiz in Canvas by Tuesday April 14 at 11:59PM</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – Chapter 11: Confessions and Admissions</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 14</u></b> Tuesday April 21 & Thursday April 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 11: Confessions and Admissions</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – Chapter 11: Confessions and Admissions</li> <li>• Complete Chapter 11 Quiz in Canvas by Thursday April 23 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 15</u></b> Tuesday April 28 & Thursday April 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday</b> – Chapter 12: Constitutional Rights during Trial</li> <li>• Complete Chapter 12 Quiz in Canvas by Tuesday April 30 at 11:59PM</li> <li>• <b>Thursday</b> – <i>No Class</i> – Prepare for Final Exam</li> </ul>
<b><u>Week 16</u></b> Final Exam Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete Final Exam in Canvas by Thursday May 7 at 11:59PM</li> </ul>