

**Common Course Outline**  
**CRJU 122**  
**Criminal Justice and the Constitution**  
**3 Semester Hours**

**Community College of Baltimore County**

**Description**

**Criminal Justice and the Constitution**

Studies development of the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and XIV Amendment; discusses the U.S. Supreme Court and its authority to interpret the constitution and laws, civil liability and its relationship to criminal law, double jeopardy, and constitutional issues such as judicial review, criminal rights, and due process.

Prerequisites: ACLT 052 or ACLT 053

**Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course a student should be able to:

- develop a general understanding of the history and purpose of the U.S. Constitution
- identify the constitutional limitations imposed upon all levels of governments in America
- relate the history of constitutional authority to the criminal justice system
- state the functions of the Supreme Court
- distinguish between Maryland and Federal court systems
- define civil liability and its legal implications

**Major Topics**

- I. Introduction to constitutional Law
  - A. History
  - B. Philosophy
- II. Laws
  - A. Types of crime
  - B. Sources of law
- III. Federalism
- IV. Jurisdiction and venues
- V. Maryland court system
  - A. Court commissioner
  - B. Maryland district court
  - C. Circuit court
  - D. Court of Special Appeals
  - E. Court of Appeals
- VI. Federal Court Systems
  - A. U.S. Magistrates Court
  - B. U.S. District Court
  - C. U.S. Court of Appeals
  - D. U.S. Supreme Court

- VII. Constitution and the Bill of Rights
  - A. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> amendments
- VIII. Supreme Court discussions
  - A. Exclusionary rule
  - B. Due process
  - C. Arrest
  - D. Search and seizure
  - E. Right to counsel
- IX. Criminal Trial Procedures
  - A. Grand jury
  - B. Pretrial procedure
  - C. Burden of proof
  - D. Appeals
- X. Case Law
  - A. Doctrine of stare decisis
  - B. Citations
  - C. Hierarchy
- XI. Civil Liability
  - A. Tort
  - B. Damages
  - C. Civil forfeiture

### **Course Requirements**

Grading/Exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty members but will include the following:

- Written assignments
- Tests/quizzes
- Attendance and participation

Writing: The individual faculty member will determine specific writing assignments

### **Course Information**

This course is a criminal justice core course. It is taught in the classroom using a variety of instructional techniques, which are intended to meet the varied learning styles of our diverse population. These strategies rely on positive interdependence on a cooperative learning environment. Individual accountability is a key of these strategies.