

Faculty	Management and Social Sciences	
Department	Sociology	
Course Title	Criminal Law in Action	
Year of Study	III	
Course Code	CSS 310	
Credit Hours	2	
Contact Hours	30	
Mode of Delivery	Classroom Lectures	
Mode of Assessment		Weight%
Continuous Assessment		30%
Final Examination		70%
Total		100%
Course Lecture/Instructor	Mr. Ameh Musa	
Course Description	Criminal Law in Action explores the practical application of criminal law in the justice system. The course covers the investigation, prosecution, defense, and adjudication of criminal cases, providing students with a hands-on understanding of legal processes.	
Course Objectives	<p>By the end of this course, students should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand the practical application of criminal law. 2. Analyze the roles of key actors in the criminal justice system. 3. Examine the stages of criminal proceedings from investigation to trial. 4. Evaluate the ethical considerations in criminal law practice. 5. Develop skills in case analysis and legal reasoning. 6. Participate in mock trials to simulate real-world legal scenarios. 	

Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completing the course, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss the practical application of criminal law. 2. Analyze the roles of investigators, prosecutors, and defense attorneys. 3. Explain the stages of criminal proceedings, from investigation to trial. 4. Evaluate ethical considerations in criminal law practice. 5. Demonstrate skills in case analysis and legal reasoning. 6. Participate effectively in mock trials simulating legal scenarios.
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Teaching and Learning	The class will meet for two hours each week. Class time will be utilized for lectures.
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Detailed Course Content	
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Course Content Sequencing

Weeks	Detailed Course Outline	Allocated Time
Week 1	Introduction to Criminal Law in Action	2 hours
Week 2	Roles and Responsibilities of Key Actors	2 Hours
Week 3	Criminal Investigation: From Crime Scene to Arrest	2 Hours
Week 4	Interrogation, Confessions, and Preliminary Hearings	2 Hours
Week 5	Charging and Initial Appearance	2 Hours
Week 6	Grand Juries and Indictments	2 Hours
Week 7	Arraignment and Plea Bargaining	2 Hours
Week 8	Pretrial Motions and Discovery	2 Hours

Week 9	The Trial Process: Jury Selection and Opening Statements	2 Hours
Week 10	Presentation of Evidence: Examination and Cross-Examination	2 Hours
Week 11	Legal Defenses and Closing Arguments Verdicts, Sentencing, and Appeals	2 Hours
Week 12	Examination	

Recommended Reading Materials

Gardner, T. J., & Anderson, T. M. (2018). *Criminal Law: A Systematic Approach* (10th ed.). West Academic Publishing.

Samaha, J. (2020). *Criminal Law* (12th ed.). Cengage Learning.

Dressler, J. (2015). *Understanding Criminal Law* (7th ed.). LexisNexis.

Robinson, P. H., & Cahill, M. (2019). *Criminal Law Conversations*. Oxford University Press.

Schulhofer, S. J., & Bienen, L. B. (2018). *Criminal Law: Cases and Materials* (8th ed.). Wolters Kluwer.

(Note: Additional readings, case studies, and legal documents may be assigned during the course.)