Institutional Syllabus

(Check one)

_____ New course                        Date of Last Review ___
___ X Substantive Change in Existing Course ___

I. Course Title: Constitutional Law and Criminal Justice

II. Course Number: 429

III. Credit Hours: 3

IV. Prerequisites: None

V. Catalog Description: This course examines Supreme Court
decisions and doctrine in areas such as search and seizure,
the exclusionary rule, interrogations, right to counsel, cruel
and unusual punishment and other issues in criminal justice
and the courts.

VI. Curricular Relationships: This course is part of the elective block of
U.S. History courses taken by history emphasis students; it is part of
the American Government component of the government emphasis;
it is a vital component of the pre-law emphasis at Adams State
College.

VII. Course Objectives: The Student Will:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the process of Supreme
  Court decision-making;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the Bill of Rights,
  particularly those dealing with defendants’ rights;
- Learn how to brief Supreme Court decisions, do legal research,
  and analyze Court opinions;
- Write major essays on various areas of constitutional law;
Demonstrate an understanding of different approaches to constitutional interpretation;

Participate in oral discussion and analyses of cases through a semi-Socratic teaching approach;

Demonstrate an understanding of the development of case law and precedent in the various areas of constitutional law.

VIII. Content Outline: The course is apportioned into three units as follows: Unit A- Law and the legal system; Fourth Amendment; Exclusionary Rule. Unit B- Fifth Amendment; Sixth Amendment. Unit C- Pretrial and trial processes; Eighth Amendment; Sentencing and Post-conviction Processes.

IX. Course Procedures: Students will stand for three in-class exams worth 100 points each; weekly pop quizzes and assignments totaling 200 points; and class participation, including making oral arguments in class on assigned cases.

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<tr>
<td>Test One</td>
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<td>Test Two</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Pop Quizzes and Take Home Assignments</td>
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<td>Class Participation</td>
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A 540-600
B 480-539
C 420-479
D 360-419
F Below 360


XI. Any Issues Unique to This Course: N/A

XII. Additional Issues of the Department’s Choosing: N/A