

CRJS 2602 - Criminal Courts

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 41954,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Meghan Paulsey

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Meghan Paulsey

Instructor Professional Qualifications: J.D., University of Akron, 2005

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Course Description

2602. Criminal Courts. Structure and function of criminal courts in American society, perceptions of national commissions; organization, administration, and caseflow relationships with appropriate social agencies. Prereq.: CRJS 1500 or permission of the Chair. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	America's Courts and the Criminal Justice System (2026)	Neubauer, Fradella	13:9780357763285

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Chapter 1: Crime, Law, Courts & Controversy Chapter 2: Federal Courts		Introduction Writing assignment Discussion Week One Quiz
8/31	Chapter 3: State Courts Chapter 4: Juvenile Courts		Discussion Week Two Quiz
9/7	Chapter 5: Dynamics of Courthouse Justice Chapter 6: Prosecutors Chapter 7: Defense Attorneys		Writing Assignment Week Three Quiz
9/14	Chapter 8: Judges Chapter 9: Defendants, Victims, and Witnesses		Writing Assignment Week Four Quiz
9/21	Chapter 10: Pretrial Case Processing and Attrition Chapter 11: Disclosing and Suppressing Evidence		Discussion Week Five Quiz
9/28	Chapter 12: Negotiated Justice and Pleas Chapter 13: Juries and Trials		Writing Assignment Week Six Quiz
10/5	Chapter 14: Sentencing Chapter 15: Appellate and Habeas Corpus Review		Week Seven Quiz

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.