

## CRJS 3719 - Criminal Law

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 02, CRN 41971,

Credit hours: 3

### Instructor

Patricia Wagner

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### Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Attorney Wagner

Instructor Professional Qualifications: Former Chair, Department of Criminal Justice, three decades of university teaching experience, and JD Northwestern University School of Law

Instructor Office Location: Cushwa Hall, Room 2173

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-3279 (CJ Department main office)

### Course Description

3719. Criminal Law. Development, theories, and purposes of criminal law; elements of a crime, parties to a crime. Prereq.: CRJS 2602. 3 s.h.

### Course Readings

| Group    | Title                      | Author             | ISBN          |
|----------|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Required | Criminal Law, 14th edition | Gardner & Anderson | 9780357935491 |

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

### Tentative Course Schedule

| Week of | Reading(s)         | Proposed Topic                                                                              | Due/To Prepare for Class                                                |
|---------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8/24    | Chapter 1          | Introduction; Criminal Law: Purposes, Scope, and Sources                                    | Read Chapter 1                                                          |
| 8/31    | Chapters 1 and 2   | Jurisdiction                                                                                | Read Chapters 1 and 2                                                   |
| 9/7     | Chapters 2 and 3   | Essential Elements of a Crime                                                               | Read Chapters 2 and 3                                                   |
| 9/14    | Chapters 4 & 5     | Criminal Liability; Criminal Responsibility and Capacity to Commit Crime                    | Read Chapters 4 and 5                                                   |
| 9/21    | Chapter 6          | Law Governing Use of Force                                                                  | Read Chapter 6                                                          |
| 9/28    | Chapter 7          | First Exam and Other Criminal Defenses                                                      | Review Chapters 1-6 for First Exam Tuesday September 26; Read Chapter 7 |
| 10/5    | Chapters 8 and 9   | Criminal Punishments; Free Speech, Public Order Crimes, and Bill of Rights                  | Read Chapters 8 and 9                                                   |
| 10/12   | Chapter 10         | Homicide                                                                                    | Read Chapter 10                                                         |
| 10/19   | Chapters 11 and 12 | Assault, Battery and Other Crimes Against Persons; Sexual Assault, Rape, Prostitution, etc. | Read Chapters 11 and 12                                                 |
| 10/26   | Chapter 12         | Continued on Sexual Assault, Rape, ...                                                      | Review Chapters 7-12, Second Exam on Thursday October 29                |
| 11/2    | Chapter 13         | Theft                                                                                       | Read Chapter 13                                                         |
| 11/9    | Chapter 14         | Robbery, Burglary and Related Crimes                                                        | Read Chapter 14                                                         |



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| 11/16 | Chapters 15 and 16     | White-Collar Crime, Cybercrime, and Commercial Crime; Drug Abuse and Alcohol-Related Crimes | Read Chapters 15 and 16                                                         |
| 11/23 | Chapter 17             | Terrorism                                                                                   | Read Chapter 17; YSU Closed Thursday November 26                                |
| 11/30 | Chapters 18 and 19     | Organized Crime and Gangs; Immigration Crimes, Contempt, etc.                               | Read Chapters 18 and 19                                                         |
| 12/7  | Chapters 13 through 19 | Third Exam / Final Exam                                                                     | Review Chapters 13-19 for Third Exam / Final Exam Tuesday December 8 from 1-3pm |

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.