Rowan University

Title: International Criminal Law

Sponsor(s): Harry Rhea

Department: Department of Law and Justice Studies
College: College of Arts and Sciences

If LAS - check: ___ History/Humanities  X Social/Behavioral Sciences
Math/Science

Program:

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Signatures Required: represent

Date:

Department Chair:
Department CURRICULUM Cha
Academic DEAN:

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:
Open Hearing Date:
Not Approved
Approved

Signature: College Curriculum Chair
Signature: SENATE CURRICULUM CHAIR

Date:

Comments:

Signature: Executive Vice President/Provost:

Date:

Signature: REGISTRAR

Date:

Course Description Received & Approved
Hegis Taxonomy & Course

Notification Forward:

SCC CHAIR  Academic Dean
IR  Department Chair
CAP  VP/Student Affairs
Course Proposal

1. Details
   a. Course Title: International Criminal Law Seminar
   b. Sponsor: Harry Rhea
   c. Credit Hours: 3 s.h.
   d. Course Level: Graduate
   e. Curricular Effect: No effect on Undergraduate Curriculum. No effect on Graduate programs in other departments/colleges. Course will be offered as an elective course for graduate students in new Master’s Degree Program in Criminal Justice.
   f. **Prerequisites: Admission to the program; 2105.510 Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice 3 s.h. and 2105.515 Law and Society 3 s.h.
   g. Suggested time and scale of implementation: Course would be initially offered the second year of the program (estimated to be Fall 2007) and would be offered every other year.
   h. Staffing and resources: Current faculty and new faculty positions for the new Master’s Degree Program in Criminal Justice.
   i. Library Impact: Current holdings will be sufficient.
   j. Short-term Evaluations: None

2. Rationale:
   a. Students who are interested in working with international criminal affairs, investigating international criminal offenses, evaluating policies aimed at preventing international crimes, or doing research on international crimes need an in-depth understanding of the causes and impact of international crimes.
   b. International crimes create the greatest harm to the international community and involves some of the most heinous offenses known against humanity. Graduate students need an in-depth understanding of the causes and impact of international crimes in order to function effectively in the international criminal justice community.
c. Graduate students taking this course will critically analyze and compare the American criminal justice system with other national justice systems and the international criminal justice system. Through such analyses students will have a broader perspective on justice issues and concerns based on relativity.

d. Practically no undergraduate programs include international criminal law, but graduate students need to understand the causes and impact of such crimes in more depth. It is necessary that a person with a post-bachelor's degree be able to discuss issues relating to international crimes based on solid understandings of contemporary research in the field, the ability to debate the research, to critically assess both the research and the applications of the research, and the ability to apply an advanced understanding of the research to issues, problems, and potential trends.

e. The emerging focus on international armed conflicts and terrorism and the growing understanding of international law have created important new issues that generally do not get adequate coverage in current undergraduate programs.

f. Many graduates of the Master’s program will implement practices which are the result from some responsive effort to combat international threats to our nations and the international community overall, and we need to anticipate that many of our graduate students will currently be working in law enforcement arena. As such, it behooves us to offer the most up to date curriculum possible.

3. Essence of Course

a. Objectives

Upon completion the seminar, students will be able to:

1. Define and discuss differences between transnational and international crimes.
2. Define and discuss the historical developments of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.
3. Critically analyze international treaties preventing international crimes, i.e. Hague Conventions, Geneva Conventions, and Genocide Convention
4. Understand the developmental procedures of international criminal tribunals and their respective statutes.
5. Understand the purpose and consider the effectiveness of international organizations, i.e. United Nations and the International Committee for the Red Cross.
6. Define and discuss the limitations of international criminal law.
b. Illustrative Topical Outline

1. Overview of the various types of international criminal offenses and the impact of these offenses:
   a. The legal definitions of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide
   b. Patterns and trends in war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide
   c. The impact of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide
   d. Overview of emerging categories of violence that are getting increasing attention: The legality of international conflicts with Afghanistan and Iraq.

2. International Conventions
   a. Geneva Convention of 1864
   b. Hague Conventions of 1899 & 1907
   c. Geneva Convention of 1949
   d. Genocide Convention of 1948

3. International Organizations
   a. League of Nations
   b. United Nations
   c. International Committee for the Red Cross
   d. Non-Governmental Organizations

4. Terrorism
   a. terrorism as an international crime
   b. motivation of terrorists
   c. national vs. transnational terrorism
   d. responses to terrorism

5. Responses to International Crimes: International Criminal Tribunals
   a. Nuremberg Trials
   b. Tokyo Trials
   c. International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia
   d. International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
   e. The International Criminal Court

6. Required Text:


c. Course Processes and Pedagogy

The course will be largely a lectured course, with materials directly presented by the professor. Students will participate regularly in a responsive style and will take part in open discussions after critically analyzing international legal treatise and precedents.

d. Evaluation and Grading of Students:

Students will be required to demonstrate effective test-taking and writing skills. Grades will be determined based on, both, a midterm and final examination and a class presentation. Each student is required to think critically about international crimes and victimization of such atrocities, the ability to participate in abstract and practical debates, and an ability to communicate research and critical analysis both in writing and orally. They will review the literature on a topic relating to international criminal law, submit a research paper on the topic of their choosing, and descriptively present their topic to the class. Other activities may also be included per each professor.

e. Course Evaluation:

The course will be evaluated using the Student Instructional Reports (SIRs) or an analogous student evaluation instrument designed by the department. Faculty teaching the course also will personally assess the effectiveness of the course based on student mastery of course materials.

Catalogue Description

2209.527....................... 3 s.h.
International Criminal Law
(Prerequisites: 2105.511; 2105.515)

This course considers international crimes—crimes for which international law imposes criminal liability directly on individuals who have committed them. This category predominantly consists of the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. International criminal tribunals, including Nuremberg and Tokyo trials, the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, and the creation of mixed national/international tribunals will be analyzed, as well as the negotiation and entering into force of the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court.
February 10, 2006

Harry Rhea, M.S.
Department of Law and Justice Studies
Rowan University

Dear Mr. Rhea:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposal for a new graduate course entitled, "International Criminal Law Seminar." I understand that the department intends to offer this course as part of the master's degree program in Criminal Justice.

I am very supportive of this proposal. I believe that it will give students in the program the opportunity to study in a timely and much-needed field. Moreover, the course's focus on international law issues is in keeping with Rowan's expanding interest in global education. I believe that this course will be an excellent addition to those that will be available to students in the master's program.

For all of these reasons, I support the proposed course. I look forward to continuing to work with the Department of Law and Justice to implement the program.

Sincerely,

S. Jay Kuder, Ed.D.
Associate Provost for Research and
Dean of The Graduate School

cc. Dean Jay Harper
December 14, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been delegated by the History Department to write a letter of support for the proposed new graduate course by the Department of Law and Justice entitled International Criminal Law Seminar. I have carefully reviewed the proposal, and on behalf of myself and my colleagues I would like to express our enthusiastic encouragement for the adoption of this course.

A course in International Criminal Law is a natural topic for a Law and Justice graduate program, especially on the seminar level. We in History are pleased to see that the course has such a strong historical approach to its subject as well as considers the biological, psychological, and sociological causes of violent behavior on an international scale. The sponsor has carefully considered the curriculum and seems to have covered all the principle aspects of it. We also believe that this course can serve as a natural addition to courses in our own proposed program for a MA in History. Subjects like the World Court, the various Hague and Geneva Conventions, and the post World War II trials are natural supplements to my own courses in World War II, the Vietnam War, and Twentieth Century American History.

Therefore, we are happy to lend our support to the proposal and hope that it will soon be adopted by the College and the University Curriculum Committees and approved by the Senate and the Provost.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lee Bruce Kress
Associate Professor of History

Cc: Dr. Q. Edward Wang,
Chairman, History Department
January 30, 2006

Professor Harry Rhea
Department of Law and Justice Studies

Dear Professor Rhea:

This is the letter of consultation which you requested. I have read your curriculum proposal for a new graduate course: International Criminal Law Seminar and have only a few suggestions which I hope will be helpful.

(1) Your proposal calls for only one text for the course; that seems to me to be quite limited for a graduate course. I would like to see a bibliography of current texts which could be used to enhance students’ understanding of international criminal law.

(2) The catalog description of the new course does not seem to square with the content of the course that you have outlined. The description focuses on “the biological, psychological, and sociological causes of violent behavior.” And yet, the content of the course seems to rely mostly on descriptions of international conventions, tribunals, and the like. Perhaps I am missing something, but there doesn’t seem to be a match between the two.

If you can address these matters, I would be happy to support your new proposal.

Yours very truly,

Bernadyne Weatherford, Chair
Department of Political Science
This form **MUST BE COMPLETED FOR NEW COURSE or PROGRAM PROPOSALS, and EXTENSIVE CHANGES TO A COURSE or PROGRAM.**

The purpose of this form is to provide a channel of communication between the Campbell Librarians and faculty when submitting new course or program proposals, or making extensive changes to existing courses or programs. The information will be used to assess the resources available in the library, and to identify resources the library should acquire to support the new courses/programs, or extensive changes to same. The information will also provide the rationale for institutional support for library acquisitions. This form should be completed in a coordinated effort between the course sponsor(s) and the academic department liaison librarian.

**Note:** Sponsor(s) complete parts A & B
If assistance is required to complete, please notify the librarian liaison.
Forward this form to the librarian who will complete parts C, D & E

**When form is completed, attach to the original curriculum proposal before submitting to the Senate office.**

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B. **List specific resources that should be acquired to support this course.**

No additional resources needed

C. **Describe the resources available in the library to support this course/program, including reference, monographic, electronic databases, audio-visual materials, etc. A summary statement is sufficient.**

See Attached

D. **List key periodicals available in the library to support this course/program.**

See Attached

E. **Librarian comments & recommendations:**

See attached

**LIBRARIAN LIAISON:** Cynthia Mullens  **Signature:** Cynthia Mullens
C. The library’s electronic resources (bibliographic indexes) for the Law/Justice department include Criminal Justice Abstracts, Criminology FT, Criminal Justice Periodicals Index, CQ Researcher, Digital Dissertations, Humanities Full-text, Humanities & Social Science Retro, J-Stor (use Law & Sociology journals), LexisNexis Academic, Legal Research module. One paper index, PAIS International In Print, located in Room 219 is valuable for this department. The library maintains federal and state depositories located on the second floor of the library. Many of the federal and state publications are available electronically. The monographic and audio visual collections support this course.

D. Key Periodicals to Support this course/program

1. American Journal of International Law
2. British Journal of Criminology
3. Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice
4. Crime and Delinquency
5. Criminal Justice and Behavior
6. Criminal Justice Policy Review
7. Criminal Justice Review
8. Criminology/An Interdisciplinary Journal
9. International Criminal Justice Review
10. International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology
11. International Journal of the Sociology of Law
12. Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice
13. Journal of Crime and Justice
14. Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology
15. Journal of Gang Research
17. Journal of Legal Studies
18. Journal of Offender Rehabilitation
19. Journal of Quantitative Criminology
21. Journal of Social Service Research
23. Juvenile and Family Court Journal
24. Law and Human Behavior
25. Law and Order
26. Police Chief
27. Police Practice and Research
29. Prison Journal
30. Security Management
31. Theoretical Criminology
32. Trial: The National Legal Newsmagazine
33. Violence and Victims

E. Librarian Comments:
Since the library collection is very strong in this subject area, there are no recommendations to make at this time.
Bibliography


