

# Minnesota State College Southeast

## CJSP 2202: Constitutional Law

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites:

This course requires both of these prerequisite categories

1. ENGL 1215 - College Writing I

And

2. One of these two

CJSP 1102 - Introduction to Criminal Justice

CJSP 1230 - Introduction to Corrections

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

This course is an overview of the U.S. Constitution, with special emphasis on topics relating to criminal justice. Areas of study include the structure of the Constitution and its amendments, separation of powers, as well as the role and decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court. The course will also include an introduction to individual rights and liberties, including right to privacy and the rights of criminal defendants.

(Prerequisites: College Writing I and either Introduction to Criminal Justice or Introduction to Corrections) (3 credits: 3 lecture/0 lab)

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 02/11/2009 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. U. S. Constitution and Amendments
2. U. S. Legal System
3. Rights and Liberties

#### **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. Describe the framework of the U.S. Constitution and its amendments;
2. Understand basic constitutional terminology and principles;
3. Explain the separation of powers doctrine and concept of checks and balances;
4. Articulate the roles of the federal, state and local governments;
5. Outline the U.S. Court System, explaining the various roles of Courts, with particular attention given to the U.S. Supreme Court;
6. Understand key judicial decisions, doctrines, standards, and tests under Constitutional law, particularly as related to the criminal justice system;
7. Understand the roles and responsibilities of judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and juries;
8. Articulate the basic concepts of due process and equal protection under the law;
9. Identify the guarantees and protections to citizens under the Bill of Rights, with a focus on those impacting the criminal justice system;
10. Examine police powers granted to governmental authorities and conversely, their limitations;
11. Recognize and analyze relevant real-life issues and factors pertaining to civil rights and liberties;
12. Critically think and discuss complex constitutional issues;
13. Read and brief Court decisions;
14. Identify and discuss relevant contemporary constitutional issues.

#### **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

None

#### **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

#### **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted