

INTRODUCTION

Criminal Law refers to a body of rules and statutes that defines conduct prohibited by the government because it threatens and harms public safety and welfare and that establishes punishment to be imposed for the commission of such acts. It consists of the criminal laws themselves and the law of criminal procedure. Each state and federal government has its own set of criminal laws. Criminal law (CJ 301) provides analysis of the origin and sources of criminal law as well as definition of parties to crimes and affirmative defenses. It also provides discussion of specific crimes of common law and in state and national statutes. Seminar in Contemporary Criminal Justice Issues (CJ 500) provides an overview of the criminal justice system and its various sub systems. Most related print sources (such as books, periodicals) are located on 4th floor and 10th floor in Houston Cole Library (HCL), electronic sources (such as databases) can be accessed via computer stations on each floor.

PRINT SOURCES

Books and print journals are the main print sources in the HCL providing a foundation for research. Books and journal articles may also contain useful bibliographies which may lead to additional sources of research.

When looking for print materials, consult the Library of Congress Subject Headings to select the proper term(s) to use as subjects under "Library Catalog". Some possible subject headings can be: Crime, Criminal investigation, Criminal courts, criminal behavior, Criminal Justice, and etc. "Keyword Anywhere" & "Title" searches can also be conducted under the "Library Catalog" (<http://library.jsu.edu/>). The following table shows criminal law in the Library of Congress System:

HV6025	Criminology	KF 9434	Criminal Law
--------	-------------	---------	--------------

JSU students can also use ALLIES (Alabama Libraries Exchange Services, <http://library.jsu.edu/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?PAGE=dbPage>) to borrow circulating books from UAB Sterne Library, University of Alabama, Auburn University, Auburn University at Montgomery, either on-site with the student ID or by requesting the items through the library catalog.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Electronic Databases are the main electronic sources in the HCL providing indexes, fulltext books (via netLibrary), articles, statutes, and legal cases, etc. To access the HCL subscribed databases off-campus, your student ID and your Last name are required for log-in at: <http://www.jsu.edu/library/resources/>. The following table lists some commonly used databases for your research:

Database Title	Description	Full Text?
Academic Search Elite	Journal articles in all subject areas.	Yes
Criminal Justice Periodicals Index	Journal articles about criminal justice.	Yes
Elsevier ScienceDirect	Journal articles in a variety of subject areas.	Yes
Expanded Academic ASAP	Scholarly journals, news magazines, and newspapers	Yes
GPO Access	U.S. Congressional and government publications.	Yes
LegalTrac	Articles in all major law reviews, law journals, specialty law and	Yes

	bar association journals and legal newspapers.	
NCJRS Abstracts Database	National Criminal Justice Reference Service	No
Omini File	Full text articles, page images, article abstracts, and citations from over 4,000 journals.	Yes
ProQuest Databases	U.S. and international news sources.	Yes
Westlaw Campus Research	Federal and state statutes, administrative codes, cases, encyclopedias, law reviews	Yes

Some Core Electronic Journals are:

Thomas Jefferson Law Review (Call Number: K3.R472x)

National Institute of Justice Journal (E-journal, no Call Number available)

Criminal Justice Ethics (Call Number: HV7231.C75)

Criminal Justice Review (Call Number: K3. R49)

Journal of Crime & Justice (Call Number: HV6201.J68)

Criminal Justice (Call Number: HV8138.A67)

OTHER SOURCES

Buffalo Criminal Law Center (<http://wings.buffalo.edu/law/bclc/resource.htm>): Provides on-line access to criminal law materials from the United States and throughout the world, including, among other things, criminal codes, criminal procedure codes, and enforcement codes.

Criminal Law: An Overview (<http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/criminal.html>): An overview of criminal law with links to key primary and secondary sources.

Criminal Procedure: An Overview (http://www.law.cornell.edu/topics/criminal_procedure.html): An overview of criminal procedure law with links to key primary and secondary sources.

International Criminal Law (<http://www.asil.org/resource/crim1.htm>): The American Society of International Law electronic resources for international law.

Bureau of Justice Statistics (<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>): Includes statistics about crimes, victims, criminal offenders, the justice system, as well as the Sourcesbook of Criminal Justice Statistics.

Case Sources

United States Reports (U.S) (Call Number: KF101.U5)

United States Supreme Court Reports, Lawyer's Edition (L.Ed) (Call Number: KF101.U52)

United States Supreme Court Reporter (S.Ct.) (Call Number: KF101.S9)

Alabama Reporter (Ala.) (Call Number: KFA45.A22)

Campus Research (Westlaw) (Library electronic database: <http://www.jsu.edu/library/resources/>)

Findlaw.com (General web site)