

## **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE SYLLABUS**

Professor Bandes, Fall Semester 2008

Office Hours: Mondays 1-2:30 or by appointment.

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### **GOALS AND COVERAGE OF THE COURSE**

This course is designed to give you a basic understanding of certain key aspects of American constitutional criminal procedure. Specifically, we will study in detail many of the procedural issues presented by the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments. Goals include knowledge of the substantive law and how it has developed, understanding of the conflicting policies shaping the law, and an ability to analyze and critique difficult cases.

### **PREPARATION**

In the Assignments section, there is an assignment sheet for the semester. All assignments are in the required text: Dressler and Thomas, *Criminal Procedure: Principles, Policies and Perspectives* (Third Edition 2006), unless otherwise noted.

For each class you should prepare the next full assignment, unless I inform you in class that we will cover a greater or lesser amount of material. This will be a discussion class, not a lecture class. Therefore thorough preparation and participation are crucial, and will be expected. Please also get into the habit of checking Blackboard a couple of times a week. A current syllabus will be posted on Blackboard, and I may also post last minute announcements regarding class or reading assignments.

### **OPTIONAL READING AND STUDY AIDS**

I highly recommend Dressler and Michaels, *Understanding Criminal Procedure, Volume 1: Investigation* (4th Edition), LaFare, Israel and King's hornbook on *Criminal Procedure*, and Bloom and Brodin's *Criminal Procedure: Examples and Explanations* (5th ed 2007). Copies of the essay portions of some of my previous exams will be posted on Blackboard.

### **GRADING**

I will administer a three hour, closed book exam on the date scheduled by the law school. The exam will consist of two essays, worth half the exam grade, and 45 multiple choice questions, worth the other half of the exam grade. I strongly encourage you to take the exam on ExamSoft.

Failure to sign the seating chart, frequent absence or frequent lack of class preparation will result in a lower grade or receipt of a grade of FX.