

ASP – Criminal Law (Prof. Steinman)
Fall 2005 – Semester Lesson Plan
Santa Clara University School of Law

Session #1 – 12 Sept 2005

1. Skills Desired
 - a. Managing fear of Crim w/ Steinman - esp. being on call and the midterm
 - b. How to read/brief for Steinman
2. Approach
 - a. Discussion about personal experience taking Crim from Steinman
 - b. Group activity related to mens rea (Problem #4) and related cases
 - c. Group hypos to practice applying mens rea

Session #2 – 26 Sept 2005

1. Skills Desired
 - a. Outlining
 - i. Try to get students to understand the purpose of an outline
 - ii. Its not just busy work – outline should help you deal with problems
 - b. Issue Spotting
2. Approach
 - a. Group outlining of 1st degree and 2d degree murder in CA vs. other jurisdictions
 - i. Try for 4 groups – 2 on CA and 2 on other jurisdictions
 - ii. Have class work on a flow chart to go from a death to a murder charge
 - b. Group hypos to practice using outlines to deal with problems

Session #3 – 12 Oct 2005

1. Skills Desired
 - a. Handling the Midterm

- i. Figure out what will be covered
 - ii. Managing stress/fear
 - iii. Tips for writing the exam
 - b. Issue Spotting/Outlining
- 2. Approach
 - a. Complete group outlines on homicide (including manslaughter)
 - b. Group discussion of old midterm problem
 - i. Have each group discuss the question and outline an answer
 - ii. Have groups present their answers to the other groups
 - c. Exam writing
 - i. Give out a hypo and have people work on it for ½ hour
 - ii. Have two other people in a persons group read the answer and give comments/ideas
 - iii. Have the group pool ideas about the answer and present that to the class

Session #4 – 24 Oct 2005

- 1. Skills Desired
 - a. Learning from the Midterm
 - i. Try to help people deal w/ results – don't get depressed
 - ii. Try and learn from the midterm in order to get better for the final
 - iii. Don't give up
 - b. Issue Spotting/Outline
- 2. Approach
 - a. Discussion of the Midterm (actual problem and otherwise)
 - b. Group outlining of attempt and conspiracy
 - i. Focus on advantages/disadvantages of attempt vs. conspiracy
 - ii. Have some groups focus on attempt law in various jurisdictions
 - iii. Have some groups focus on conspiracy in various jurisdictions
 - c. Attempt and Conspiracy Hypos
 - i. Give attempt hypo to two groups – one DA, other PD

- ii. Give conspiracy hypo to two groups – one DA, other PD
- iii. Class presentation of arguments for each hypo

Session #5 – 7 Nov 2005

1. Skills Desired

- a. Integrating the class - how to fit in defenses with attempt, conspiracy and accomplice liability
- b. Issue spotting for the Final
 - i. Don't forget the details (did someone really die, what jurisdiction's laws should apply, what side are you being asked to represent)
 - ii. What are the advantages/disadvantages of different charges?

2. Approach

- a. Group charting activity
 - i. Advantages/disadvantages of accomplice, attempt and conspiracy?
 - ii. Are there any differences in the various jurisdictions?
- b. Group outlining activity – self defense and defense of others
- c. Self Defense hypos
 - i. Give two groups self defense hypo – one group DA, other PD
 - ii. Give two groups defense of others hypo – one group DA, other PD
 - iii. Class presentation of the arguments for each hypo

Session #6 – 21 Nov 2005

1. Skill Desired

- a. Preparing for the Final
- b. Managing Stress

2. Approach

- a. Group discussion of old final exam
 - i. Split into 4 groups – 2 groups per question
 - ii. Have groups present their answers to the other groups