

Roger Williams University School of Law
Fall 2020
Criminal Law, Section A
Prof. Allen

Welcome to Criminal Law! This welcome message concerns your textbooks, syllabus, first homework assignment and an upcoming in-class exercise.

(1) TEXTBOOKS

There are two required books for this class (1) a primary textbook that delves deeply into various topics, and (2) a supplemental textbook that provides a general overview of the topics.

- Ellen S. Podgor, et al., CRIMINAL LAW: CONCEPTS AND PRACTICE (Carolina Academic Press, 4th ed. 2018) (“Podgor”)
 - Be sure to obtain the **FOURTH EDITION** of the textbook.
 - This book is on order by the law school bookstore. It may also be available on amazon.com to rent or purchase new or used.
- Joseph E. Kennedy, A SHORT AND HAPPY GUIDE TO CRIMINAL LAW (West Academic Publishing, 1st ed. 2016) (“Kennedy”). The e-book version is available FREE through the law library at <https://law.rwu.edu/library>.
- Recommended texts and study guides are described in the syllabus.

(2) SYLLABUS

A partial syllabus will be posted on “Bridges,” the school’s electronic bulletin board, at least one week prior to the first day of class.

(3) FIRST ASSIGNMENT

Before our very first class you must read the following portions of your textbooks, a handout in the fictional case State v. Goldilocks and prepare for an in-class exercise. All the materials necessary to complete the first assignment are provided under the resources tab on bridges.

- Kennedy, Ch. 3, pp. 43-55
- Podgor, Ch. 1, pp. 1-16 (not including subsection B)
- Podger, Ch. 1, pp. 22-30
- Podgor, Ch. 2, pp. 34-37 starting with "Theories of Punishment" through Notes 1 & 2 (not including Problem 1)
- Handout: State v. Goldilocks

I'm looking forward to our lively discussion!