



Criminal Courts: A Contemporary Perspective

By Craig T. Hemmens, David C. Brody, Cassia C. Spohn

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Written by three nationally recognized experts in the field, **Criminal Courts: A Contemporary Perspective** explores all conventional topics (court structure, courtroom actors, and the trial and appeals process) as well as others seldom covered, such as specialty courts and the goals and functions of the law. Authors Craig Hemmens, David C. Brody, and Cassia Spohn take a comprehensive and accessible approach which allows instructors to cover all of the “standard” material and the option to add selections they consider interesting and relevant to their particular course. This text will provide students with an understanding of the foundational concepts and enable them to hold a detailed discussion about the criminal courts system and the participants involved.

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Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #472336 in Books
- Published on: 2016-01-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .90" h x 7.30" w x 9.10" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 536 pages



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Review

“This book is very well written, informative, to the point, and discusses the courts from a general perspective...The authors are scholars in the field, and their work has been and will be respected for years to come. The ancillary resources are very helpful, detailed, and in abundance.”

(Mai E. Naito)

“This text is both affordable for students and presents material in an easy to understand format. The boxes on research articles present students with summaries of research on court processing without overwhelming lower-level undergraduates with entire articles to read. The boxes with high profile cases help students apply the concepts covered in a chapter to real-life examples. Finally, the course site has excellent resources for both students and instructors.”

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“This is a well written, well arranged, and a very informative book. It will definitely be an asset to students taking this course.”

(Emil Moldovan, M.P.A.,)

About the Author

Craig Hemmens is Department Chair and Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Washington State University. In addition to being the editor for the SAGE Text/Reader Series in Criminology/Criminal Justice, he has published several books, including *Law, Justice and Society* (Oxford University Press, ©2012), *Legal Guide for Police* (Anderson, ©2011) and *An Introduction to Criminal Evidence* (Oxford University Press, ©2009). He holds a J.D. from North Carolina Central University School of Law and a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from Sam Houston State University. He served as the President of the Association of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) from 2012 to 2013.

David C. Brody is an associate professor and the Academic Director of the Criminal Justice Program at Washington State University. He received a JD from the University of Arizona College of Law and a PhD in Criminal Justice from the State University of New York at Albany. He is the co-author of textbooks on criminal law and criminal procedure, and over twenty scholarly articles that have been published in such journals as the American Criminal Law Review, Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice, Hastings Women's Law Journal, Crime and Delinquency, and Judicature.

Cassia C. Spohn is a Foundation Professor and Director of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Arizona State University. She is the author or coauthor of six books, including *Policing and Prosecuting Sexual Assault: Inside the Criminal Justice System*, which was published in 2013. Her research interests include prosecutorial and judicial decision making, the intersections of race, ethnicity, crime and justice, and sexual assault case processing decisions. In 2013 she received ASU's Award for Leading Edge Research in the Social Sciences and was selected as a Fellow of the American Society of Criminology.

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