Skillful use of case studies as a vehicle for exploring the full range of Criminal Law makes Criminal Law: Case Studies and Controversies, Second Edition, distinctly compelling for students. A smart pedagogical design and generous teaching support make teaching from it a real pleasure.

This carefully crafted text conveys traditional material in a refreshing and engaging new format that includes:

- excellent case studies representing many different jurisdictions and based on interesting and colorful real world cases. These are accompanied by over 100 photographs.
- each principal case is followed by the statutes that existed in the jurisdiction at the time of the offense. This allows teaching statutory interpretation and application, treatise-like summaries of the law that give students an overview, introduce underlying principles, and provide context.
- problem hypotheticals that enable students to test their understanding of and apply legal principles.

The Second Edition continues to offer exciting innovations and updates:

- a core case opinion of particular historical or theoretical importance has been added to each section to allow teachers to incorporate appellate opinions into their teaching.
- nearly 100 new real-world problem cases that test students on issues presented in the treatise materials and are effective and entertaining.
vehicles for teaching the material in class, each section identifies issues of current controversy in the area, and an advanced issues appendix includes excerpts from the literature on each side of the issue allowing professors the flexibility to select the issues they have a special interest in covering, timely new topics such as battered spouse syndrome, the torture of terrorists, and more

a thoroughly updated Teacher's Manual that includes:

updates to the aftermath subsections

new and additional handouts for class use

an extensive author website provides

a digital version of the Teacher's Manual

appellate opinions for principal cases

a list of sources used to develop the principal case narratives

a discussion board

an on-line liability survey for polling students on appropriate punishment in the principal cases

additional public criminal law resources


My Personal Review:

1L criminal law case book. The book is set up different than most other first year books, but pretty interesting. I suggest purchasing an "understanding" series to accompany it.