Below are the topics we plan to study, week-by-week. It is likely that changes will be made as we go along, by announcements in email or in class. Class attendance is required, and you are responsible for all such in-class announcements.

There is no textbook. Our materials will be sent to you electronically. The first class is Thursday, January 10. You must attend the first two classes (Jan. 10 and 15) to remain registered for the class. If you are on the waiting list please come to the first class – we will likely admit everyone who is there. Enrolled students not attending will be dropped.

6. Feb. 12 (the 14th is treated as a Monday, so no class): More Federal Criminal Sentencing.
7. Feb. 19, 21 Narcotics Offenses and Penalties
9. March 5, 7 Money Laundering and Currency Offenses. Tax Offenses.
   March 11-15 SPRING BREAK
11. March 26, 28 False Statements, Perjury, and Obstruction of Justice.
13. April 9, 11 Defense Perspective, Guest speaker(s).

Voluntary Final Exam Review Session: Thursday, April 25, at 4 pm.

Final Exam: Saturday, April 27. The exam will be similar to prior years: One-and-a-half hours (90 minutes), open book, open notes. Short answer and Essay questions, with a Pass/Fail option.
We are honored to have this class co-taught by United States District Judge Charles R. Breyer. Here are some of the “learning outcomes” we intend to reach:

1. Students will be able to analyze criminal statutes, and identify and apply the elements of the primary federal criminal statutes used today.
2. Students will be able to apply federal sentencing Guidelines, laws and cases.
3. Students will learn how to “take apart” decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court, including analysis of separate opinions within a single case.
4. Students will become familiar with non-statutory issues in federal criminal law, such as federal jurisdiction, mens rea, and general theories of criminal liability.

Text: There is no casebook. Edited materials prepared by the professors will be made available electronically shortly before classes, and will be supplemented by in-class or emailed handouts.

Class Format: We teach in a “seminar” format and expect the class to be heavily participatory. We expect you will find the class to be high-energy and fun, as well as demanding. The class meets twice a week. The two-hour session is generally attended by both instructors, while in the single hour Professor Little will usually teach alone. We expect every student to complete the assigned reading every week, and will call upon people freely. We will also place small groups of students “on call” each week to help lead our discussions. Attendance will be recorded and absences will be excused only for health reasons or serious personal emergencies. You must notify Professor Little in advance of any absence.

Grading: An anonymously-graded final exam will determine your grade, as well as possible upward adjustments for a few students for consistently exceptional classroom contribution (quality, not quantity), and downward adjustments for unexcused class absences or poor participation.

Reading Schedule and Pace: This is a sophisticated statutory survey course. WE will cover one or two separate topics each week. The reading load is heavy, and we move quickly. Breadth of coverage is sometimes stressed over depth, but both are preferred. The attached week-by-week syllabus describes our current plan. Our scope is ambitious and we may or may not complete all the topics. We almost certainly will make adjustments to the schedule, and other important announcements, in class. Again, class attendance is essential, as well as mandatory.

Office Appointments with the Instructors: Professor Little's office is Room 338 in the 200 McAllister Street building. His email is "littler@uchastings.edu", which is undoubtedly the best way to contact him. He is in his office virtually every day from at least 9 to 5. You are welcome to drop by anytime, but to secure his undivided attention you should email him, suggest some days and times, and keep emailing until a specific appointment is nailed down.

Judge Breyer's number in chambers at the federal building at 450 Golden Gate Avenue (a block from Hastings) is 415-522-3660. He welcomes contact with students. You can call him and schedule an appointment, or arrange to meet him at Hastings. Final point: Judge Breyer requests that you observe his criminal Calendar, which occurs most Wednesdays at 2 pm, in his courtroom once during the semester (or a criminal trial in his courtroom if one occurs). More about this in our first class.