

LAW 713-001-Intro to Study of Law

Fall 2023

Credit Hours: 1

Lecture



Contact Information

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UA Campus Directory:

<https://www.ua.edu/directory/>

Course Description

This course will focus on preparing students for their upcoming law school experience. It will provide information on what to expect in law school, review the fundamentals of the legal system, introduce legal analysis skills, and preview various techniques, concepts, and strategies to assist your law school studies. This course includes instruction on bias, cross-cultural competency, and racism.

Required Texts

GEORGE / (eBook) What Every Law Student Really Needs to Know

Subtitle: GEORGE / (eBook) What Every Law Student Really Needs to Know

ISBN: 978-1-5438-1717-1

Required or Recommended: E - Book

GEORGE / WHAT EVERY LAW STUDENT REALLY NEEDS...*

Subtitle: GEORGE / WHAT EVERY LAW STUDENT REALLY NEEDS...*

ISBN: 978-1-5438-0573-4

Publisher: W KLUWER

Required or Recommended: Required

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to

1. Identify types and sources of law
2. Read and summarize a judicial opinion
3. Understand core concepts used in legal analysis
4. Begin synthesizing rules and engaging in legal analysis

Outline of Topics

Monday, 8/7

Thinking Like a Lawyer

How to Approach Cases and Statutes

Tuesday, 8/8

Anatomy of an Opinion

Briefing Cases

Holdings and Rules

Case Briefs to Outlines

Wednesday, 8/9

Sources, Types, and Weight of Authority

Thursday, 8/10

Diversity and Inclusion trip to the Equal Justice Initiative Legacy Museum

Lunch presentation and debrief

Friday, 8/11

Litigation Timeline and Terminology

Parsing Statutes

Foundational Concepts

Monday, 8/14

Approaching Law School Classes

Study Skills: Class Prep to Exam Prep

This section of Introduction to the Study of Law is an extended version of the course. Accordingly, we will meet four times during the fall semester. The dates and topics we will

cover in those extended sessions are below.

August 30

Revisiting Your Study Schedules and Techniques

Reinforcing Class Takeaways (Holding, Reasoning, Rules)

September 20

Putting Your Outlines Together

October 18

Creating Exam Tools

Exam Study Plans

November 15

Exam Writing in Law School

Exams and Assignments

The exam is scheduled for Tuesday, August 15 at 9:30 am. It will contain multiple choice and short answer questions. The exam will be administered in our classroom.

Grading Policy

This course is Pass/Fail, and your grade will be based on the final exam.

Policy on Missed Exams and Coursework

The assignments indicated in your Class Schedule are tentative; I will notify you of any changes. Assignments due "in class" must be ready at the beginning of the indicated class.

Attendance Policy

You should be present, on time, and prepared. We have limited time together, so each class period will be critical to your success in the course. Please notify me if you will be unable to attend any class.

Notification of Changes

The instructor will make every effort to follow the guidelines of this syllabus as listed; however, the instructor reserves the right to amend this document as the need arises. In such instances, the instructor will notify students in class and/or via email and will endeavor to provide reasonable time for students to adjust to any changes.

Academic Misconduct and the Honor Code

Law students must adhere to the Honor Code, which is accessible from the [Students](#) tab of the law school website. The Honor Code prohibits both intentional and non-intentional academic misconduct, which it defines as "all acts of dishonesty in any academic matter." Students should refer to the Honor Code for additional information.

Statement On Disability Accommodations

The University of Alabama is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented disability (or think you may have a disability) and need reasonable accommodation(s) to participate in this class, contact the Office of Disability Services (or ODS; 205-348-4285, ods@ua.edu, Houser Hall 1000, www.ods.ua.edu) as soon as possible. If you have been approved to receive accommodations through ODS, please meet with your instructor or College designee

during office hours or by appointment to review your accommodation letter and discuss how accommodations can be implemented in this course.

Severe Weather Protocol

Please refer to the Severe Weather Guidelines located on the [Office of Emergency Management website](#).

Pregnant Student Accommodations

Title IX protects against discrimination related to pregnancy or parental status. If you are pregnant and will need accommodations for this class, please review the University's FAQs on the [UAct website](#).

Religious Observances

Under the Guidelines for Religious Holiday Observances, students should notify the instructor in writing or via email during the first two weeks of the semester of their intention to be absent from class for religious observance. The instructor will work to provide reasonable opportunity to complete academic responsibilities as long as that does not interfere with the academic integrity of the course. See full guidelines at [Religious Holiday Observances Guidelines](#).

UAct Statement

The University of Alabama is committed to an ethical, inclusive community defined by respect and civility. The [UAct website](#) provides extensive information on how to report or obtain assistance with a variety of issues, including issues related to dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, sexual violence or other Title IX violations, illegal discrimination, harassment, hate or bias incidents, child abuse or neglect, hazing, threat assessment, retaliation, and ethical violations or fraud.

Wellness Resources

College can be a stressful time. If you or someone you know is facing a challenging time or dealing with academic or personal stress, anxiety, depression, or other concerns, we strongly encourage and support you to seek assistance or to help friends find the care that they may need by reviewing the [Campus Resource List for Students](#).

If you are experiencing a personal crisis and need urgent assistance, you can also contact the following resources:

Counseling Center

Monday-Friday during routine Center hours (205-348-3863).

Weekends, holidays, after-hours (contact UAPD at 205-348-5454 and ask to speak with the on-call counselor).

You may also text BAMA to 741-741 to text with a trained volunteer.

Women and Gender Resource Center

Monday-Friday during routine Center hours (205-348-5040).

Weekends, holidays, after-hours: contact UAPD at 205-348-5454 and ask to speak to the on-call advocate for the WGRC.

Technology

- You must check your law school e-mail regularly for announcements, assignments, and other information related to your class. Please note that I frequently use email to communicate with my students.

In-Person Technology Use

Many portions of our class time will not require laptops or tablets. Plan to take notes by hand and engage in our class discussions without a screen.

You may not record or photograph any portion of the class without my prior approval. You should not use a cell phone during class for any purpose.

Artificial Intelligence

Unless explicitly permitted for a specific assignment, you are prohibited from using generative AI platforms, including but not limited to ChatGPT, Claude, Dragonfly, or Bard, on assignments for this course.

You are prohibited from using generative AI platforms, including but not limited to ChatGPT, Claude, Dragonfly, or Bard, during the exam for this course.