

**SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY**  
**PLS 1000 INTRODUCTION TO LAW - FALL 2018**

August 27th - December 10th, 2018  
3 Credit Hours

COURSE SYLLABUS VERSION 1

**Last Modified**

**Please note that this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate instructional and/or student needs.** This syllabus (and any revised version) is located in Blackboard. The instructor will not respond to requests for information that is contained in this syllabus.

**Instructor:** Zoë Lemcovitz, J.D.

**Contact Information:** E-mail address [zoe.lemcovitz@slu.edu](mailto:zoe.lemcovitz@slu.edu)

**Office:** Verhaegen Hall, Room 105 or 117

**Office Hours:** TBA. **Appointments during specified office hours are preferred.** Requests for appointments should be made via e-mail no less than 48 hours before the requested appointment time.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant:** Caitlan Grombka-Murphy

**Contact Information:** E-mail address [caitlan.grombkamurphy@slu.edu](mailto:caitlan.grombkamurphy@slu.edu)

**Office:** Verhaegen Hall, Room 105 or 117

**Office Hours:** TBA

**Class Time:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.

CLASS MEETING DATES: 8/27, 8/29, 8/31, \*, 9/5, 9/10, 9/12, 9/17, 9/19, 9/24, 9/26, 10/1, 10/3, 10/8, 10/10, 10/15, 10/17, \*\*, 10/24, 10/29, 10/31, 11/5, 11/7, 11/12, 11/14, 11/16, 11/19, \*\*\*, 11/26, 11/28, 11/30, 12/3, 12/5, 12/7, 12/10

**NOTE: \*No class 9/3 - Labor Day, \*\*No class 10/22 - Fall Break, \*\*\*No class 11/21 and 11/23 - Thanksgiving Break**

LAB MEETING DATES: 8/31, 9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9

COURT VISIT DATES: (one of the following) 9/17, or 9/18; make up date 10/2

CLASSROOM LOCATION: Beracha Hall 214

**Required Text(s):** *The Study of Law: A Critical Thinking Approach* (4th Edition), Katherine A. Currier and Thomas E. Eimermann, Aspen Publishers (2016) ISBN: 978-1-4548-5222-3. [www.WKLegaledu.com](http://www.WKLegaledu.com), [www.wolterskluerlb.com](http://www.wolterskluerlb.com). Additional materials will be placed on electronic reserve (e-reserve), accessible through Pius Library, or on Blackboard.

**Recommended Text(s):** Any law dictionary; any English language dictionary; any thesaurus; *A Pocket Style Manual* (7th ed.), Diana Hacker, Nancy Sommers, Bedford/St. Martin's, (2015) [macmillanhighered.com](http://macmillanhighered.com) [hackerhandbooks.com/pocket](http://hackerhandbooks.com/pocket) or similar grammar and writing handbook.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the law and legal principles. The course will educate students on the structure of the court system, civil litigation, and methods of alternative dispute resolution. Specific areas of study include: torts, contracts, property, trusts and estates, corporations, family law, and criminal law and procedure.

**COURSE PREREQUISITES:** None

**COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES:** At the end of the course:

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the three branches of government in general.
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the structure and processes of the American legal system.
3. Students will identify various sources of law (e.g., common law, statutes, administrative regulations), describe how those sources are developed and articulate differences among them in terms of their legal effect.
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of state and federal court structures.
5. Students will demonstrate an understanding of alternative dispute resolution options.
6. Students will demonstrate an understanding of content area in the following areas of law: civil procedure, contracts, criminal law, torts, and property.

### INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

Lecture and discussion on assigned reading; homework assignments (described later in this syllabus); Blackboard; tests and/or quizzes (as described in this syllabus); pop quizzes may be given; guest lecturers may be invited to speak; handouts may be given; videos may be used; field trips may be arranged; other instructional methods may be used at the discretion of the instructor.

### EVALUATION OF STUDENT'S PERFORMANCE:

1. **Class attendance:** Please refer to "Attendance" under "Course Policies" below. Note: class attendance will be a part of the total course grade.
2. **Class participation:** Class participation is measured by the instructor's subjective determination of the frequency and more importantly the quality of the student's involvement in the classroom and/or online (if appropriate). Included in this are the instructor's observations regarding the student's engaging in work and/or activities not related to what is going on in the classroom including but not limited to violating the Technology In Class policy in this syllabus. Note: class participation will be factored in to determine the grade up or down for the course when the student is "on the bubble" of two grades.
3. **Assignments, tests and quizzes:** Grades will be based upon the total points earned by the student. Except as otherwise indicated the criteria and scale(s) to be used in assessing student performance are set forth in the "Grading" section of this syllabus. Assignments will be given including but not limited to those more particularly described in the "Assignments" section of this syllabus.

Assignments, tests and quizzes in this course shall have the following weights in the student's total grade for the course:

Case Brief	25	Points
Court Visit & Experience Summary	20	Points
Legislation Exercise	30	Points
Lab Project #1*	100	Points
Lab Project #2*	100	Points
Lab Project #3*	100	Points
Midterm (Chapters 1-6)	275	Points
Speaker Summary #1	15	Points
Speaker Summary #2	15	Points
Ethics Test	30	Points
Final Exam (Chapters 7-13)	275	Points
Attendance/Participation	15	Points
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>Points</b>

Pre-Law Scholars and Honors Students will have an additional assignment as described in the Assignments section of this syllabus.

\*These assignments are completed as part of the lab component of the class. Instruction on and grading of these assignments is provided by the graduate teaching assistant for the course. **A separate syllabus is issued for the lab assignments.**

**Extra Credit:** Extra credit opportunities are offered periodically across the semester. They are described in the Assignments section of this syllabus. These extra credit assignments must be submitted through Blackboard within the time window specified. Once the due date has passed, extra credit assignments will not be accepted unless you have spoken with the instructor and received an extension (this will occur on a case-by-case basis and cannot happen after the assignment date has passed – you must discuss any conflicts prior to the assignment due date). The following extra credit opportunities are available:

Extra Credit Opportunity #1 (goes toward total course grade)	6	Points
Extra Credit Opportunity #2 (goes toward Legislation Exercise grade)	5	Points
Extra Credit Opportunity #3 (goes toward total course grade)	5	Points
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Points</b>

**GRADING:**

- Criteria for tests and quizzes:** Correct answers to questions posed. Half credit will be given at the discretion of the instructor where appropriate.
- Criteria for written assignments:** (1) all assignment content requirements are met, (2) correct and/or logical conclusion is reached, sources used (if any) are credible, relevant, and properly integrated and cited, (3) the assignment is free of grammar, punctuation, and spelling errors, and has been adequately proofread and is free of typographical errors, (4) sentences are well formed, complete, clear and minimize passive voice and paragraphs are well structured, transition clearly, and are arranged in a logical order, and (5) formatting requirements have been met. *NOTE: Errors are identified/corrected only once on an assignment; recurring errors must be corrected. An A (including A-) will not be given to an assignment (other than a test, quiz or extemporaneous classroom work) containing five or more of any of the following errors: grammar, punctuation, spelling, typographical, poor sentence structure, poor paragraph structure, poor paragraph arrangement. Proofread your assignment before you turn it in. For assignments turned in on paper, if you find errors and do not have time to retype or reprint a corrected hard copy, make the corrections neatly in blue or black ink.*
- Criteria for oral report assignments:** (1) all assignment content requirements are covered, (2) report is delivered in a well prepared manner (not simply read aloud to the class), (3) questions posed by the class and/or instructor are adequately addressed, (4) professionally and articulately addressed to the class (no “um,” “you know,” “like”), and presented (visual aids such as PowerPoints, Keynotes, Prezis, videos, handouts, etc. look professional and are used competently), (5) professional appearance (countenance, posture, gestures, and dress).
- Assignment weights:** Unless indicated otherwise in this syllabus, all tests, quizzes, and assignments are equally weighted.

**Grading Scale**

Grade	Percent	Points
A	93-100	930-1000
A-	90-92	900-929
B+	87-89	870-899
B	83-86	830-869
B-	80-82	800-829
C+	77-79	770-799
C	70-76	700-769
C-	64-69	640-699
D	60-63	600-639
F	Below 60	0-599

## COURSE POLICIES:

- **Attendance:** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each classroom session. Attendance in class is critical to students achieving the learning objectives and development of skills necessary for success in the course. Student attendance and participation are part of the total course grade for each student. Students are expected to attend all classes and must contact the instructor (preferably via e-mail) in advance of a class that will be missed. It is within the instructor's discretion to determine whether an absence is excusable. Generally absences must be documented, for example providing an excuse from class letter for participation in University activities such as athletic, academic, professional and leadership development pursuits.

Note: *"absent" shall be defined as: (a) missing 30 minutes or more of any one class, therefore, arriving late and/or leaving early may result in an absence OR (b) the instructor observing that the student is engaging in work and/or activities not related to what is going on in the classroom including but not limited to sleeping or violating the Technology In Class policy in this syllabus.* Talk to the instructor if you have any questions about the attendance policy. A good rule of thumb for this course is a maximum of 4 absences.

The failure to be present for class is not an excuse for missing an assignment due to a change in the syllabus. Failure to adhere to the attendance policy may result in lost points toward the total course grade, or missed opportunities or both. You are responsible for your attendance and communicating with the instructor about that attendance. You are responsible for all material presented in class, including lectures, films, remarks of speakers, and announcements. ***In the event you miss a class you are responsible for getting lecture notes, class assignments or other information about the missed class from a source other than the instructor.***

- **Late Assignments:** *With the exception of an unforeseen excused absence, late assignments (including quizzes, tests and exams) will not be accepted and the grade for the assignment will be a zero (0).* In preparing assignments, plan ahead, save and back-up your work regularly.

- **Communication:** *The most effective way to get in touch with the instructor is via e-mail at [zoe.lemcovitz@slu.edu](mailto:zoe.lemcovitz@slu.edu). All e-mail communication (to and from) must be through your Saint Louis University e-mail account only.* Please sign your e-mails with your full name. The instructor will usually respond to e-mails in 24 to 48 hours excluding breaks and weekends. It is the student's responsibility to communicate any questions, concerns, and/or difficulties the student is having related to the course. ***Check your SLU e-mail regularly as this is how the instructor will communicate with you outside of class.***

- **Technology In Class:** Personal electronic devices (e.g., laptops, iPads, cell phones) can be used to enhance learning and instruction in a variety of ways, but during class time they should be used only for class-related activities. Texting and the use of personal electronic devices for non-class-related activities should be reserved for class break times. Students must ***silence and stow all personal electronic devices not being used for class-related activities*** prior to the commencement of class. Give your full and undivided attention to what is going on in class. ***If you are observed by the instructor engaging in non-class-related activities you will be marked as absent for that class meeting. NOTE: this will be considered an absence under the course attendance policy.***

### - **Academic Integrity Policy:**

Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care, and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy was adopted in Spring 2015, and can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at: [https://www.slu.edu/provost/policies/academic-and-course/policy\\_academic-integrity\\_6-26-2015.pdf](https://www.slu.edu/provost/policies/academic-and-course/policy_academic-integrity_6-26-2015.pdf).

Additionally, each SLU College, School, and Center has adopted its own academic integrity policies, available on their respective websites. All SLU students are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions, and appeals. Please direct questions about any facet of

academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program, or the Dean/Director of the College, School or Center in which your program is housed.

#### STUDENTS REQUIRING ASSISTANCE:

**Disabilities Services Academic Accommodations Statement:** Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course.

Please contact Disability Services, located within the Student Success Center, at [Disability\\_services@slu.edu](mailto:Disability_services@slu.edu) or 314.977.3484 to schedule an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services and viewed within Banner via the instructor's course roster.

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact to Disability Services

**Student Success Center:** In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. The Student Success Center assists students with academic-related services and is located in the Busch Student Center (Suite, 331). Students can visit <https://www.slu.edu/life-at-slu/student-success-center/> to learn more about tutoring services, university writing services, disability services, and academic coaching.

**University Writing Services:** Students are encouraged to take advantage of University Writing Services in the Student Success Center; getting feedback benefits writers at all skill levels. Trained writing consultants can help with writing projects, multimedia projects, and oral presentations. University Writing Services offers one-on-one consultations that address everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit <https://www.slu.edu/life-at-slu/student-success-center/> or call the Student Success Center at 314-977-3484.

**Library Resources:** The Pius XII Memorial Library is located on the Frost Campus. Services available through the Pius Library include Ask-A-Librarian and On-Call Librarian Services. Ask-A-Librarian Service is a 24 hour chat service available at <https://libanswers.slu.edu/> (and through many of SLU's databases). Students can also meet with a librarian on a drop in basis anytime between 9 and 5 Monday-Friday. More information can be found at <http://lib.slu.edu>.

Pius Librarian Rebecca Hyde ([rebecca.hyde@slu.edu](mailto:rebecca.hyde@slu.edu)) has specializations that make her a great resource for this course. Additionally, at the Saint Louis University School of Law Library, Librarian Lynn Hartke ([lynn.hartke@slu.edu](mailto:lynn.hartke@slu.edu) 314-977-2756) is another resource for materials or information not available at Pius Library.

**Title IX:** Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX coordinator, Anna R. Kratky (DuBourg Hall, room 36; [akratky@slu.edu](mailto:akratky@slu.edu); 314-977-3886) and share the basic facts of your experience with her. The Title IX coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the University Counseling Center at 314-977-TALK. To view SLU's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web addresses: [www.slu.edu/here4you](http://www.slu.edu/here4you) and <https://www.slu.edu/general-counsel>.

**Personal:** If you are struggling emotionally or undergoing a personal/family crisis, contact the University Counseling Center for free, confidential, counseling at 314-977-TALK (8255), or visit the clinic in Wuller Hall, 2nd Floor (3711 West Pine Mall, Saint Louis, Missouri 63108). The office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday. More information can be found at: <http://www.slu.edu/university-counseling-center>.

**Basic Needs Security:** Students in personal or academic distress and/or who may be specifically experiencing challenges such as securing food or difficulty navigating campus resources, and who believe this may affect their performance in the course, are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students Office ([deanofstudents@slu.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@slu.edu) or 314-977-9378) for support. Furthermore, please notify the instructor if you are comfortable in doing so, as this will enable them to assist you with finding the resources you may need.

**Campus Notification System: RAVE Messenger:** All members of the Saint Louis University community, including students, staff, and faculty, are strongly encouraged to sign up for the campus notification system that is designed to enhance and improve communication in the event of an emergency. Information about RAVE Messenger and how to sign up can be found at <http://www.slu.edu/public-safety-and-emergency-preparedness-home/emergency-notification/register-with-rave-messenger>.

**Technical Support:** Information Technology Services (ITS) supports the faculty, staff, and students of the University. Contact ITS at 314-977-4000. More information can be found at: <http://www.slu.edu/its>. The Tech Service Center (TSC) located in the Busch Student Center and TSC-South located in Caroline Hall support the University community. Contact TSC at 314-977-4000 extension 2, e-mail/chat at [studentservicedesk@slu.edu](mailto:studentservicedesk@slu.edu) or walk in to either location. More information can be found at: <http://www.slu.edu/busch-student-center/student-tech-service-center/service-support-and-information/about-the-tsc>.

**Blackboard Learn:** Blackboard Learn is the learning management system (LMS) available to the Saint Louis University community. Blackboard provides an online space for instructors to share course content, manage student work, and access to tools that can support activities such as group work, class discussions, and student projects. Students will find the syllabus, assignments, modules, course content, announcements, grades, discussions, and student evaluations on Blackboard. Unless otherwise indicated, all quizzes and examinations are taken through Blackboard and all assignments are to be submitted through Blackboard. SLU's Blackboard LMS is accessed at: [https://blackboard.slu.edu/webapps/portal/execute/tabs/tabAction?tab\\_tab\\_group\\_id=90\\_1](https://blackboard.slu.edu/webapps/portal/execute/tabs/tabAction?tab_tab_group_id=90_1). For help with Blackboard contact Information Technology Services at 314-977-4000. More information can be found at <http://www.slu.edu/its/services-and-products/academic-resources/blackboard-learn/faculty-support/getting-started/>.

#### TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

Learning about the law is a lot like learning a foreign language. Initially you may feel overwhelmed by the terminology and amount of material that you are expected to cover. Unfortunately, much of legal writing, such as court opinions, is written for attorneys and not for students. Therefore, the writers presuppose a knowledge of the law that you, of course, do not have. With persistence, however, you will find that studying will become progressively easier as the semester proceeds. In the meantime, the following is suggested:

- 1) Plan on reading everything at least twice. The first time through do not be too concerned with understanding every detail. Rather, try to gain an overview of the material. The second time through be more meticulous. Take notes, circle or highlight especially important points, and bring your questions with you to class. Look up words (both legal and non-legal) that are unfamiliar to you.
- 2) Do not plan on doing all of an assignment at one sitting. Also, do not put off beginning an assignment to the night before it is due.
- 3) If there are too many distractions at home, do your studying elsewhere.
- 4) Buy and use a legal dictionary, and a grammar/style handbook.

Do assignments timely; be attentive and take active notes in class; read and write critically; ask the instructor for help after you have exhausted all other independent resources for answers; do not wait until the last minute to begin working on assignments.

Take your education seriously; treat it as you would any paid employment you would undertake.

#### NO LEGAL ADVICE:

No material in this course is intended to constitute legal advice. The instructor is prohibited by professional ethics and University policy from giving students specific legal advice. Please do not rely on the information presented in this course in lieu of obtaining a professional legal opinion from an attorney licensed to practice law in the applicable jurisdiction.

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

*Please note that this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate instructional and/or student needs.*

*All revised versions of this syllabus will be posted on Blackboard.*

**NOTE:** Work described in “Homework” below is to be prepared in advance of class and unless otherwise indicated is due in class, at the beginning of class. The assignments referenced below are more particularly described in the “Assignments” section of this syllabus. Checkboxes (  ) are included below to help you track completion of homework and assignments.

### **ABBREVIATIONS:**

“TSOL” refers to the textbook *The Study of Law: A Critical Thinking Approach*

### **WEEK 1**

**Class MONDAY - 8/27**

**Homework:**  None

**Classroom Work:** Introduction to the course; syllabus review; discuss semester assignments, Court Visit and Experience Summary, Case Brief, Legislation Exercise, Lab Projects, Extra Credit Opportunities; in-class exercises.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**Class WEDNESDAY - 8/29**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**Class FRIDAY - 8/31**

**Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

### **WEEK 2**

**NOTE: No class 9/3 - Labor Day.**

**Class WEDNESDAY - 9/5**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 1 Introduction to the Study of Law AND TSOL Chapter 2 Functions and Sources of Law. Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment paper topic.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment paper topic due in Weeks 2-4.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**Class FRIDAY - 9/7**

**Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

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### **WEEK 3**

#### **Class MONDAY - 9/10**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 3 Classification of the Law. Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment paper topic.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment paper topic due in Weeks 2-4.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

#### **Class WEDNESDAY - 9/12**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

#### **Class FRIDAY - 9/14**

**REMINDER: Extra Credit Opportunity #1 due.**

#### **Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

### **WEEK 4**

**REMINDER: Court Visit date(s) this week: Monday, 9/17; Tuesday 9/18.**

**REMINDER: Court Visit Summary for last week's visit(s) due this week on Thursday.**

#### **Class MONDAY - 9/17**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 4 Court System and Role of Judges; prepare case brief and presentation if applicable. Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment paper topic.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises; Group 1 Case Brief Presentation.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Group 1 upload Case Brief Presentation to Blackboard. Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment paper topic due in Weeks 2-4.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

#### **Class WEDNESDAY - 9/19**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

#### **Class FRIDAY - 9/21**

**REMINDER: Legislation Exercise topic due.**

#### **Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

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## **WEEK 5**

**REMINDER: Court Visit Summary for last week's visit(s) are due this week on Thursday.**

**REMINDER: Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Students meet with instructor sometime during Weeks 5-6 regarding Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment.**

### **Class MONDAY - 9/24**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 5 Civil Litigation and Its Alternatives; prepare case brief and presentation if applicable.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises; Group 2 Case Brief Presentation.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Group 2 upload Case Brief Presentation to Blackboard.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class WEDNESDAY - 9/26**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class FRIDAY - 9/28**

#### **Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

## **WEEK 6**

**REMINDER: Make-up date for Court Visit this week: Tuesday 10/2.**

**REMINDER: Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Students meet with instructor sometime during Weeks 5-6 regarding Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment.**

### **Class MONDAY - 10/1**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 6 Constitutional Law; prepare case brief and presentation if applicable.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises; Group 3 Case Brief Presentation.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Group 3 upload Case Brief Presentation to Blackboard.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class WEDNESDAY - 10/3**

**REMINDER: Extra Credit Opportunity #2 due.**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class FRIDAY - 10/5**

**REMINDER: Legislation Exercise due.**

#### **Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

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## **WEEK 7**

### **Class MONDAY - 10/8**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 6 Constitutional Law continued; prepare case brief and presentation if applicable.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises; Group 4 Case Brief Presentation.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Group 4 upload Case Brief Presentation to Blackboard.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class WEDNESDAY - 10/10**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class FRIDAY - 10/12**

#### **Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

## **WEEK 8**

**REMINDER: Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Students topic proposal due this week for Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment.**

### **Class MONDAY - 10/15**

**Homework:**  Prepare for Midterm.

**Classroom Work:** Midterm Exam (Chapters 1-6)

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class WEDNESDAY - 10/17**

**Homework:**  None (subject to change).

**Classroom Work:** TBA.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment Topic Proposal.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class FRIDAY - 10/19**

#### **Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

## **WEEK 9**

**NOTE: No class 10/22 - Fall Break.**

### **Class WEDNESDAY - 10/24**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 7 Torts.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

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**Class FRIDAY - 10/26**

**Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**WEEK 10**

**REMINDER: Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Students paper outline due this week for Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment.**

**Class MONDAY - 10/29**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 8 Contracts; prepare case brief and presentation if applicable.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises; Group 5 Case Brief Presentation.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Group 5 upload Case Brief Presentation to Blackboard.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**Class WEDNESDAY - 10/31**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment outline.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**Class FRIDAY - 11/2**

**Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**WEEK 11**

**REMINDER: Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Paper due this week.**

**Class MONDAY - 11/5**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 9 Property and Estate Law; prepare case brief and presentation if applicable.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises; Group 6 Case Brief Presentation.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Group 6 upload Case Brief Presentation to Blackboard.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**Class WEDNESDAY - 11/7**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**Class FRIDAY - 11/9**

**Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments; Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Paper.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

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## **WEEK 12**

### **Class MONDAY - 11/12**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 10 Laws Affecting Business AND TSOL Chapter 14 Ethics.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class WEDNESDAY - 11/14**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class FRIDAY - 11/16**

#### **Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Homework:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Classroom Work:** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

**Returned Assignment(s):** Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

## **WEEK 13**

### **Class MONDAY - 11/19**

**Homework:**  Prepare for Ethics Test.

**Classroom Work:** Ethics Test (Chapter 14).

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**NOTE: No class 11/21 & 11/23 - Thanksgiving Break.**

## **WEEK 14**

### **Class MONDAY - 11/26**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapter 11 Family Law.

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class WEDNESDAY- 11/28**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

### **Class FRIDAY - 11/30**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

## **WEEK 15**

**REMINDER: Please complete an online evaluation for this course.**

### **Class MONDAY - 12/3**

**Homework:**  Read TSOL Chapters 12 Criminal Law AND TSOL Chapter 13 Criminal Procedure

**Classroom Work:** Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**Class WEDNESDAY - 12/5**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** Same as previous class.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**Class FRIDAY - 12/7**

**Homework:**  Read same as previous class.

**Classroom Work:** TBA.

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None.

**WEEK 16**

**REMINDER: Extra Credit Opportunity #3 due this week.**

**Class MONDAY - 12/10**

**Homework:**  Prepare for Final Exam (Chapters 7-13).

**Classroom Work:** Final Exam (unless rescheduled to Week 17)

**Turn In Assignment(s):** None.

**Returned Assignment(s):** None; Pink Sheets.

**WEEK 17**

**NOTE: Final Exam will be held in in the last regular class meeting (Week 16) unless it becomes necessary to hold it during Final Exam week (Week 17). Advanced notice will be given if the Final Exam must be rescheduled.**

If the Final Exam is rescheduled it will be held: Monday, 12/17, 8:00 a/m. - 9:50 a.m.

Location: Regular classroom.

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## ASSIGNMENTS

*Please note that this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate instructional and/or student needs.*

*All revised versions of this syllabus will be posted on Blackboard.*

### GENERAL ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS:

1. Unless otherwise indicated all assignments are to be completed prior to the beginning of class.
2. Use full sentences, correct grammar, spelling and punctuation to the best of your abilities in all your assignments. If you have weaknesses in any of these areas, utilize the writing services in the Student Success Center or University Writing Center or both to polish your work. *NOTE: An A (including A-) will not be given to an assignment (other than a test, quiz or extemporaneous classroom work) containing **five** or more of the following errors: grammar, punctuation, spelling, typographical, poor sentence structure, poor paragraph structure, poor paragraph arrangement. Proofread your assignment before you turn it in. For assignments turned in on paper, if you find errors and do not have time to retype or reprint a corrected hard copy, make the corrections neatly in blue or black ink.*
3. Unless instructed otherwise, formatting for all written assignments is Times New Roman 12 point font (or equivalent), reasonable margins, and double-spaced unless the particular assignment specifies different formatting. Include a footer with your name and the page number and page count i.e. Zoë Lemcovitz, Page 1 of 3. In the upper right hand corner of the first page please include your name, the date, the name of the course, the name of the assignment, and any other necessary or appropriate information. For assignments that are to be submitted on paper, in addition to the foregoing formatting requirements they should be typed or computer processed on 8 1/2" X 11", 20-lb. white paper and stapled. Double sided printing is permitted.

#### **Assignment: Case Brief & Presentation**

**Weight:** 25 Points (brief 20 points, presentation 5 points)

**Due:** Written case brief & presentation slide show by 11:59 p.m. on the Sunday of the week assigned for presentation; presentation assignment due in the assigned week based on sign-up.

**Submission Format:** Sign up - in class or online (TBD); Written case brief assignment - online through Blackboard (only one document should be submitted for the group); Presentation slideshow - upload presentation slideshow to Blackboard and present in person in class. *NOTE:* Case brief and slideshow are submitted to the same dropbox.

**Description:** Groups of students will be formed. Each group will work together to prepare and present one case brief of a case in the textbook. The case brief sign-up will either be circulated in class or available on Blackboard and the final list will be posted on Blackboard. Students must use a presentation slideshow and may provide handouts (optional) in presenting their case. In advance of the presentation make sure your slideshow software is compatible with the technology in the classroom.

The case brief must follow general case brief formatting and include:

1. the citation (*NOTE:* correct citation form must be used),
2. the facts of the case both historical and procedural,
3. the issue presented,
4. the court's holding,
5. the court's reasoning.

The case brief must be written in the group's own words. Groups will lose points if they merely pull language directly from the text of the case.

The presentation must include:

1. a presentation slideshow presenting the case brief,
2. answers to the questions related to the case that appear in the textbook,
3. a discussion of how the case related to the topic of the chapter we are studying.

Groups are expected to engage the class in a discussion of these questions. Presentations should be 5 minutes long, plus 1-2 minutes for question and answer. Groups must load/set up their presentation prior to the start of class so that no class time is spent setting up. If a student is absent on the day of their group's scheduled presentation the student will not receive any presentation points. These points cannot be made up.

Be creative. Feel free to let the instructor know at least one week prior to your scheduled presentation if you want to use different presentation and class engagement methods.

☐ **Assignment: Court Visit & Experience Summary**

**Weight:** 20 Points

**Due:** Court Visit Dates: (see dates in Description section below); Sign-up deadline: (see date in Description section below).

Experience Summary due by 11:59 p.m. on the Thursday of the week after court visit.

**Submission Format:** Sign up for visit date - online through Blackboard; Written assignment - online through Blackboard.

**Description:** All students are required to participate in the Missouri 22nd Judicial Circuit Court, Federal Court, and Saint Louis University School of Law visit. Students must sign up on Blackboard by **Week 2: Friday 9/7** for one of the following dates:

**Week 4: Monday 9/17;**

**Week 4: Tuesday 9/18;**

Make up date: **Week 6: Tuesday 10/2.**

Each visit will be in a group of no more than 12 students.

Students will be gone from approximately 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The Scott Hall shuttle will leave the Busch Student Center promptly at 8:00 a.m. arriving at Scott Hall at 8:10 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. arriving at Scott Hall at 8:40 a.m. You must be on one of these shuttles to ensure you are at the courthouse by 8:50 a.m. Please be sure to board the **Scott Hall shuttle**.

SCHEDULE:

8:00 - Board shuttle at BSC

8:20 - Shuttle arrives at law school, walk to Carnahan Courthouse

8:30 - MO Courts, 22nd Judicial Circuit. Includes Carnahan and Civil Courthouses, return to Carnahan. (60 minutes. Thom Gross, Public Information Officer)

9:30 - Travel to St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office.

9:35 - St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office. Includes courtroom observation if available. (60 minutes. Michael Warrick, Chief of Staff)

10:35 - Depart Carnahan to walk to Eagleton Courthouse.

10:45 - Meet U.S. Courts staff at corner of Walnut and 11th. Walk to front entrance of Eagleton Courthouse. Enter through security screening.

10:55 - U.S. Courts. Includes courtroom observation if available. (60 minutes. Rachel Marshall OR Susan Ryan, U.S. Courts)

11:55 - Depart Eagleton to walk to law school

12:10 - Arrive at law school for lunch (40 minutes. Mike Kolnik or Aly Ricci, SLU Law)

12:50 - Shuttle back to BSC

**EXCUSE FROM CLASS LETTER**

If you need it, an excuse from class letter is available for you to provide to your professor(s) requesting an excused absence on the date you have chosen for your court visit.

COURT SECURITY, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

EXPECTATIONS OF THE COURT PERSONNEL

The following bullet point expectations have been provided by the court personnel making this tour possible:

Please remind students of the following:

- Please be on time and be prepared to move quickly. You will be covering a lot of ground in a short period of time. Each of your presenters is taking time out of their day to highlight the most important concepts in each area.
- Pay attention throughout. Show respect for the players and for the process.
- Be prepared to ask questions and otherwise engage in the experience.
- Dress appropriately. This means dressing for the weather because you will be in and out of several buildings within a four-block radius downtown. This also means dressing for the setting. Courts are very formal places. Attire should be business casual at a minimum. No hats, shorts, tank tops, or flip flops.

- You will be going through a security screening at each building. Photo ID is required. Please keep jewelry, bags, and other items to a minimum. Bring only what is necessary. Weapons, pepper spray, and sharp metal objects are prohibited. Cameras and recording devices are prohibited.
- Personal mobile devices are allowed, however, they are not to be used during the visit. They should be set to silent and stowed away until you have been dismissed. Photos, including selfies, are not allowed.
- No food, beverages, gum, or candy while in the courthouses.

**CAMERAS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE COURTS!** YOU MAY NOT USE YOUR CELL PHONE OR TAKE PICTURES WITH IT INSIDE COURT BUILDINGS, unless you are given permission by a court official. In court buildings you will have to pass through security. The process is similar to going through airport security. You will need to provide a photo ID (preferable a drivers license). You will be required to remove from your person any base metal (metal other than pure metals like 14K gold). This includes costume jewelry, hair accessories, belts, shoes with metal on them or in them (you can't always tell if there is metal in your shoes, so plan on taking off your shoes), coins, keys, etc. These things must be placed in one of the provided baskets and run through the X-Ray machine. Purses/satchels along with coats, and jackets will have to be removed and also run through the X-Ray. You may not wear a hat in court. You may not bring in any weapons including pocket knives, no matter the size.

#### APPEARANCE AND ATTIRE:

With regard to attire, please remember you are representing yourself, Saint Louis University and the instructor. The legal profession, particularly the courts, is still quite conservative, therefore you must dress in conservative business attire for your court visit. Some judges even frown on women in the profession wearing a pants suit. Conservative business attire means the following: for men nice pants, shoes, a dress shirt and tie (sports jacket optional); for women a nice blouse or top (no low-cut neckline, no exposed midriff), dress pants, skirt or dress (skirts and dresses should be knee length or longer); for both men and women jewelry should be kept to a minimum (consider the metal detector) and footwear should be comfortable, but professional (no athletic shoes) and suitable for the weather conditions. You will be doing a lot of walking.

If you have any visible piercings (of any sort), other than a woman with pierced earlobes (and no more than 2 piercings per ear), you should either remove them or if possible discreetly disguise them. If you have any tattoos make sure they are covered.

#### RESPECTFUL CONDUCT

You will be visiting places of the judiciary. While there **USING YOUR CELL PHONE AND TAKING PICTURES WITH IT IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED**, unless you are given permission by a court official. It is imperative that you not disrupt what is going on and that you give your full attention to the activity you are engaged in and not use your personal electronics (e.g., laptops, iPads, iPods, cell phones) for any reason. Do not count on being able to take notes on your personal electronics; you may be able to during some activities and not others. Therefore you should bring any size spiral notebook or notepad and pencils and pens for note taking. Also think about how you will carry any brochures, business cards, handouts and other material you collect from the activities.

#### CONFIDENTIALITY

Some of what you observe may be confidential proceedings. It is imperative that you respect and honor the guidelines you are given concerning these proceedings. Do not speak to others about what you have seen, especially around the court house. You do not know who may overhear you and what impact it may have on the judicial process or someone's life. **USING YOUR CELL PHONE AND TAKING PICTURES WITH IT IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED**, unless you are given permission by a court official.

#### VISIT DETAILS

The shuttle will drop you off at Scott Hall which houses the Saint Louis University School of Law. From there you will walk to the Carnahan Courthouse at 1114 Market Street , St. Louis, MO 63101 which houses facilities for the 22nd Judicial Circuit Court of Missouri, and the City of St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office. You should be at the Carnahan Courthouse promptly at the time in the schedule. Tell the security guard you are meeting with Thom Gross. Mr. Gross will meet you and take you on a tour of the circuit court where you will be able to sit in on some trials and perhaps talk to the judges and attorneys.

After your tour at the Carnahan Courthouse, Mr. Gross will direct you to the St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office in the Carnahan Courthouse. From the Carnahan Courthouse you will walk to the Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse

located at 111 South 10th Street, St. Louis, MO 63102 where either Rachel Marshall or Susan Ryan will give you a tour and let you in on some court proceedings.

After your tour at the Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse you will be directed to the Law School in Scott Hall located at 100 North Tucker Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63101 where your group will eat lunch. Students are responsible for paying for their own lunch. There is a wide range of entree choices and the cost ranges from \$4.00 to \$20.00. A law student, admissions representative, and/or professor will join you for lunch to talk about law school. After lunch you will get a tour of the Law School. Following the Law School tour the group may return to the Saint Louis University Busch Student Center via the Law School shuttle.

#### EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

Write a summary of your court visit experience. Your summary should include at least 2-3 things you learned and how they relate to material presented in class and the textbook. The summary should be 1-2 pages long, and meet the formatting requirements in the General Assignment Requirements section of this syllabus. The experience summary should be submitted through Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. on the Thursday of the week after court visit.

#### **Assignment: Legislation Exercise**

**Weight:** 30 Points (topic submission 3 points, exercise 27 points)

**Due:** Topic due in Week 4 by 11:59 p.m. on **Friday 9/21**; Report due in Week 6 by 11:59 p.m. on **Friday 10/5**.

**Submission Format:** Topic selection - via e-mail to the instructor; Written assignment - online through Blackboard.

**Description:** Review the bill tracker found at <https://legiscan.com/MO/legislation/2018>. Identify a bill that was pending in the Missouri state legislature in **2018** and is of interest to you based on its subject matter (healthcare, sports, agriculture, etc.). It is not important that the bill passed; merely that it was proposed and you are interested in the subject matter. You may certainly choose a bill that did pass.

Review the title and content of the bill. Using print sources available in the Pius XII Memorial Library or online databases available through the Pius XII Memorial Library webpage, or .gov domains or a combination thereof, search for at least two articles that support and two article that oppose the the bill you selected. If you are unable to find the required number of articles written about the bill, you may use articles supporting or opposing the subject matter of the bill to reach the required number of articles. Note: you should strive to have as many articles discussing the bill itself as possible.

Write a report containing:

1. the title and the number of the bill,
2. a brief summary of the bill,
3. a pro and con discussion derived from the articles you've reviewed, and
4. your stand regarding the bill (do you support or not support) and an explanation of why.

Use APA or MLA citation style (in accordance with your major). **Please note: citations to Wikipedia or similar openly editable and unreviewed online sources are not acceptable.** The report should be 2-4 pages long (not including the works cited page) and meet the formatting requirements in the General Assignment Requirements section of this syllabus.

Do not hesitate to seek assistance from the University Writing Services (UWS) or the Pius XII Memorial Library librarians or both. More information about both can be found in the Students Requiring Assistance section of this syllabus.

#### **Assignment: Lab Project #1**

**Weight:** 100 Points

**Due:** TBA

**Submission Format:** TBA

**Description:** Students will be required to do three projects in the lab component of the course. Each project is worth 10%, for a total of 30% of the total course grade. The graduate teaching assistance for the course will provide more detailed information about the required assignments. The assignments include a case brief, an oral presentation related to an issue of constitutional law, and a legal analysis problem. You are strongly encouraged to work closely with your graduate teaching assistant and take advantage of his/her office hours and feedback on your projects in the planning stages.

**Assignment: Lab Project #2**

**Weight:** 100 Points

**Due:** TBA

**Submission Format:** TBA

**Description:** Students will be required to do three projects in the lab component of the course. Each project is worth 10%, for a total of 30% of the total course grade. The graduate teaching assistance for the course will provide more detailed information about the required assignments. The assignments include a case brief, an oral presentation related to an issue of constitutional law, and a legal analysis problem. You are strongly encouraged to work closely with your graduate teaching assistant and take advantage of his/her office hours and feedback on your projects in the planning stages.

**Assignment: Lab Project #3**

**Weight:** 100 Points

**Due:** TBA

**Submission Format:** TBA

**Description:** Students will be required to do three projects in the lab component of the course. Each project is worth 10%, for a total of 30% of the total course grade. The graduate teaching assistance for the course will provide more detailed information about the required assignments. The assignments include a case brief, an oral presentation related to an issue of constitutional law, and a legal analysis problem. You are strongly encouraged to work closely with your graduate teaching assistant and take advantage of his/her office hours and feedback on your projects in the planning stages.

**Assignment: Speaker Summary #1**

**Weight:** 15 Points

**Due:** 11:59 p.m. one week after the guest speaker's presentation. Speaker presentation will occur sometime during weeks 9 through 15.

**Submission Format:** Written assignment - online through Blackboard.

**Description:** Summarize the guest speaker's presentation and identify at least five important points raised in the presentation. Discuss how the presentation related to material in the textbook with at least two specific references to the text. Identify issues that interest you regarding the topic, and 2-3 additional resources you can consult to find out more about the legal topic. The summary should be 1-2 pages long and meet the formatting requirements in the General Assignment Requirements section of this syllabus.

**Assignment: Speaker Summary #2**

**Weight:** 15 Points

**Due:** 11:59 p.m. one week after the guest speaker's presentation. Speaker presentation will occur sometime during weeks 9 through 15.

**Submission Format:** Written assignment - online through Blackboard.

**Description:** Summarize the guest speaker's presentation and identify at least five important points raised in the presentation. Discuss how the presentation related to material in the textbook with at least two specific references to the text. Identify issues that interest you regarding the topic, and 2-3 additional resources you can consult to find out more about the legal topic. The summary should be 1-2 pages long and meet the formatting requirements in the General Assignment Requirements section of this syllabus.

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□ **Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment**

**Due:** Paper Topic Sign Up - Week 2-4 sign up for paper topic;

Instructor Meeting - Week 5-6 meet with the instructor by appointment to discuss paper idea and suggested approaches;

Paper Topic Proposal - Week 8 on **Wednesday 10/17** a one page paper detailing paper idea, research strategy, some relevant credible sources, and possible thesis;

Paper Outline - Week 10 on **Friday 11/2** outline detailing research sources and literature cites;

Final Paper - Week 11 on **Friday 11/9** final paper.

**Submission Format:** Paper Topic Sign-Up - online through Blackboard

Instructor Meeting - in person in instructor's office or another mutually agreed upon location.

Paper Topic Proposal - online through Blackboard.

Paper Outline - online through Blackboard.

Final Paper - online through Blackboard.

**Description:** Pre-Law Scholars and Honors Students are required to write a paper addressing a piece of literature and analyzing it in connection with a theory of jurisprudence. The paper must include footnotes and a bibliography and be 7-9 pages long and meet the formatting requirements in the General Assignment Requirements section of this syllabus. A minimum of 5-7 reference sources must be used. A description of various paper topics will be available in Blackboard. Up to two students per topic. Students may propose a topic of their own subject to instructor approval. Do not hesitate to seek assistance from the University Writing Services (UWS) or the Pius XII Memorial Library or both. More information about both can be found in the Students Requiring Assistance section of this syllabus.

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**Extra Credit Opportunities**

□ **Extra Credit Opportunity #1**

**Weight:** 6 Points (5 points for Practice Test and 1 point for Practice Assignment) (toward total course grade)

**Due:** Week 3 at 11:59 p.m. on **Friday 9/14**

**Submission Format:** Online through Blackboard.

**Description:** Log on to Blackboard. (1) Complete the "Extra Credit Opportunity #1 Practice Test" under the "TESTS & QUIZZES" button on the left side of Blackboard; and (2) submit a practice assignment to the dropbox for "Practice Assignment for Extra Credit Opportunity #1" located under the "ASSIGNMENTS" button on the left side of Blackboard. For the practice assignment use one of the following prompts and limit your response to five sentences or less: (1) *Why are you interested in studying law?* (2) *If you had a superpower what would it be and why?* (3) *Who is someone you admire greatly?*

□ **Extra Credit Opportunity #2**

**Weight:** 5 Points

**Due:** Week 6 11:59 p.m. on **Wednesday 10/3**

**Submission Format:** Written assignment - online through Blackboard.

**Description:** Use the services of University Writing Services (UWS) before turning in the Legislation Exercise for additional points toward the Legislation Exercise. Your use of the UWS's services will be verified by the instructor.

□ **Extra Credit Opportunity #3**

**Weight:** 5 Points (toward total course grade)

**Due:** Week 16 11:59 p.m. on **Friday 12/14**

**Submission Format:** Written assignment - online through Blackboard.

**Description:** Provide the questions/prompts below and responses to them:

1. What is the most important thing you feel you learned in this class? (this could be anything no matter how small you think it is in the big picture)
2. What would you tell future students about how to succeed in this class?
3. What did you like best about the class and what did you like the least?
4. What did you think of the textbook(s) (if applicable)?
5. Any other comments you would like to share with the instructor.

The instructor appreciates your hard work and feedback in the course.

**END OF SYLLABUS**