

LW310 – Introduction to the Legal Method
Class Schedule and Assignments
Fall Term AY 2008-2009

Text: William Burnham, *Introduction to the Law and Legal System of the United States*, 4th ed. (note: all readings will be from this text unless otherwise indicated)

Part I: The Legal System and Methodology

Lesson Number	Date	Subject	Assignment
1	22 Aug	Course Overview	Course Administrative Memo
2	26 Aug	Nature and Functions of Law	Handout
3	28 Aug	Sources of Law	38-49
4	2 Sep	Common and Statutory Law	49-61
5	4 Sep	Court System (Federal and State)	165-175
6	8 Sep	Jurisdiction	249-256
7	10 Sep	Justiciability	324-332
8	12 Sep	Trials	80-94; 247-249
9	16 Sep	Trials II	94-119
10	18 Sep	The Legal Profession – The Players	126-158
11	22 Sep	Legal Research Generally	73-79
12	24 Sep	LEXIS-NEXIS	None
13	26 Sep	LEXIS-NEXIS	None
14	30 Sep	The Legal Profession –Ethics	158-164; ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct Preface
15	2 Oct	WPR	None
16	6 Oct	Legal Writing	Handout
17	8 Oct	Reading Cases	Handout
18	10 Oct	Supreme Court Case	Briefs from assigned case

Part II: Introduction to Basic Principals of Law

Lesson Number	Date	Subject	Assignment
19	14 Oct	Oral Advocacy	Handout
20	16 Oct	Practical Exercise 1: Supreme Court Oral Argument	Prepare a brief argument
21	20 Oct	Civil Procedure	226-240
22	22 Oct	Civil Procedure	245-265
23	24 Oct	Criminal Law – Procedure	266-281
24	28 Oct	Criminal Law – Procedure II	281-318
25	30 Oct	Criminal Law – Crimes	535-547; 555-563
26	3 Nov	Criminal Law – Defenses	547-555
27	5 Nov	Torts – Intentional	424-430
28	7 Nov	Torts – Negligent	430-450
29	11 Nov	Damages	240-245; 450-459
30	13 Nov	Practical Exercise 2 – Tort Bar Question	None
31	17 Nov	Contracts – Generally	389-405
32	19 Nov	Contracts – UCC	405-423
33	21 Nov	Practical Exercise IV – Drafting a Contract	None
34	25 Nov	Property Law	460-469; 470-472
35	1 Dec	Administrative Law	195-206
36	3 Dec	International Law	664-675
37	5 Dec	Preparation for trip to NYC	Case Briefs
38	9 Dec	Trip to New York City	None
39	11 Dec	Review	None
40	13 Dec	WPR 2	None

ASSIGNMENTS*

Event	Description	Assigned	Due	Points
WPR 1	Cadets will execute an in-class WPR covering the first 14 lessons of the course.	2 OCT	2 OCT	150
Practical Exercise 1: Oral Argument Exercise	In class, cadets will provide a two minute oral summation of a case.	8 OCT	14 OCT	N/A
Homework Assignment 1: Legal Memorandum	Cadets will be presented with a question of law arising from a hypothetical case. Cadets will draft a legal memorandum not to exceed 1000 words on the issue.	3 NOV	11 NOV	100

Practical Exercise 2: Tort Exercise	Cadet teams will draft a very short answer for a hypothetical tort problem	13 NOV	13 NOV	N/A
Homework Assignment 2: Paper	Cadets will write a paper on an assigned topic not to exceed 2000 words.	17 NOV	1 DEC	150
WPR 2	Cadets will execute an in-class WPR covering the classes 21-39 lessons of the course.	13 DEC	13 DEC	150
TEE	Cadets will take a TEE covering all 40 lessons of the course.	TBD	TBD	250

* Does not include 200 points for class preparation.