

SUMMER SESSION
2010 COURSE
DESCRIPTIONS

March 3, 2010

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE -
LA.627

This course examines the procedural aspects of the criminal justice system with emphasis on the impact of the fourth, fifth, and sixth amendments to the United States Constitution on state and federal prosecutions. Topics include the law of arrest, search and seizure, police interrogation and the privilege against self-incrimination.

FAMILY & DIVORCE
MEDIATION – LA.705

This upper level legal skills development course is intended to provide the student with an understanding of the contexts in which family conflict arises, the various legal and practical issues in play when families disintegrate, and with in-depth training in the skills that a mediator might employ to help the divorcing parties resolve their differences. The course exposes the student to relevant factors and normative approaches used by courts in dividing property, determining child support, custody, visitation, and spousal support among other issues, while recognizing that parties in mediation are empowered to reach their own agreements with the aid of the mediator. Role playing exercises are used to integrate theory with practice.

FAMILY LAW - LA 722

This course examines the underlying social and economic principles of family life, its regulation by government, and constitutional limitations on regulation. Direct laws covering marriage, divorce, and child custody will be examined but also the course will cover those areas of

law--property, income maintenance, medical care, schooling and crime--that also have direct impact on families in this society

JUVENILE JUSTICE LAW &
POLICY – LA858.A1

This course examines the juvenile justice system and where it may be heading in the future. In class, we will examine the journey that an accused child takes from his initial contact with the police through the final disposition of his or her case, including the range of possible dispositions and the collateral consequences. Course materials will include case studies, statutes and judicial opinions, and readings that explore the philosophies that drives juvenile justice decisions.

LAW & LITERATURE –
LA.852

This course will provide an opportunity to think about the law in a new way. The study of literature allows students to wrestle with the big questions posed by the law: What does it mean for a law to be just? What is the power and limit of words and rules? What is the place of revenge? When is authority bankrupt? What kind of society do we want, and how do we get there?

This course will examine the law from a humanistic and philosophical perspective, focusing on issues such as rhetoric and candor, social norms, the power of narrative, and justice and morality. The readings will include novels and short stories by Melville, Kafka, Garcia Marquez, Jackson, LeGuin, Kleist, and Capote. Students will be required to write one paper, which can be used to fulfill your writing requirement.

LEGAL DRAFTING:
CONTRACTS - LA.756

This course will teach students the fundamentals of drafting contracts. Students will learn how to understand a client's business deal, and how to translate the deal into contract concepts, the building

blocks of contracts. Through drafting exercises and projects, students will learn the process for drafting the contract concepts in clear and unambiguous provisions in a well-organized complete contract that reflects the parties' deal accurately. Students will learn how to add value to a client's deal by drafting and recognizing nuances in language that change the deal and shift risk between the parties. Students will learn how to analyze and comment on a contract that another lawyer has drafted. Students will learn the best drafting style and usage techniques necessary to enhance clarity and avoid ambiguity.

This court introduces student to forms of practical legal writing not covered in legal Methods I and II. The Fundamentals of legal drafting are addressed, with an emphasis on the principles of good writing and editing. Assignments reflect the types of legal writing an attorney encounters in daily office practice--documents for litigation, as well as those designed to avoid litigation. Typical projects include correspondence, simple contracts, pleadings, discovery documents, motion papers, jury instructions, orders, and settlement papers. Students may be asked to write from the perspective of a judge or legislator, as well as a practitioner.

LEGAL DRAFTING &
ADVOCACY:
COMMERCIAL MARITIME
& TRANSPORTATION –
LA.757

This course will explore the basic principles of US maritime and inland transportation law as it applies to the movement of goods by ocean and inland means. The course will outline not only on the core legal principles, but also cover the practicalities of practice and procedure in

the field, through exercises in drafting, mock depositions and oral argument

of law; attitudes toward bench and bar; professional liability; and canons of ethics and codes of professional responsibility.

3/3/2010

OCEAN MANAGEMENT & POLICY – LA.888

This course explores the basis for contemplated and ongoing changes to ocean governance and the status of current governance reform efforts in the United States. As ocean resource conditions have deteriorated and trends in ocean use changed, it has become clear that the existing legal and policy regime is inadequate to respond to current and future management challenges. Reports by the Pew Oceans Commission and U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy in 2003 and 2004, respectively, called for significant changes to management of coastal and ocean resources. Since then, reform has been contemplated via various state and federal initiatives, involving legal, policy and political considerations, including cutting-edge efforts in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. This course will examine the historical and political background for ocean management reform, the findings of federal and state bodies regarding needed changes to ocean governance, and the status of legal, management and policy reform efforts, using ongoing efforts in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and other states as real time examples.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY- LA.655

This course analyzes the responsibility of lawyers and judges from the perspectives of the rules and case law, the profession and the client/consumer. Topics include the historical, political, and sociological bases of legal ethics; conflicts of interest; attorney-client privilege; admission to the bar; disciplinary matters and procedures; unauthorized practice