

## SYLLABUS

- Course Number:** L116NOV
- Course Name:** **Introduction to Law**
- Total Hours/Units:** 15 Hours - 1 Unit
- Professor:** PAUL LOZADA, (707) 495-8761 voicemail & text messages  
or email: [p\\_lozada@sbcglobal.net](mailto:p_lozada@sbcglobal.net)
- Prerequisites:** None
- Semester:** November, 2011
- Days & Time:** Tuesdays AND Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- Required Text:** *An Introduction to the Anglo-American Legal System*  
E. Bodenheimer et al. (Fourth Edition) West Publishing  
ISBN 0-314-15087-0
- Course Description:** An introduction to the structure and working of the U.S. legal system with an emphasis on understanding basic legal terminology, principles, and effective statutory and case law analysis.
- Class Attendance:** Regular and punctual attendance is essential for the successful completion of law school. Students should plan to attend every class. Students must attend a **minimum of 80% (12 hours, or 8 of 10 classes)** of the class sessions during each semester. Roll will be taken at each class. Class attendance is of particular importance in learning the language and concepts of the law.
- Class Preparation:** Please come to class prepared to present assigned cases and discuss the assigned material. A portion of the final grade is determined by class participation.
- Class policies:** Disruptive conduct such as; cell phone use, text messaging devices and other electronic communications, as well as discussions between students are strictly prohibited during class time.
- Grading:** This class is mandatory; if you fail it, you must repeat it to graduate from law school. Pass/Fail, based upon a 2-hour final examination (85%) and class participation (15%).

## CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

- 11/8/11**                    Assignment: Text pp. 1-4 and 230-252. Introduction & Case of the Speluncean Explorers. **NOTE: This assignment is due on the first day of class.**
- 11/10/11**                    Assignment: Text pp. 5-24. Law and the Process of Classification. Brief and be prepared to present the cases and consider - to the degree necessary to discuss - the Notes & Questions following each case. (NOTE: Unless otherwise directed, read and brief all cases in the assigned readings for Classes 2-9 and be prepared to discuss the Notes & Questions following each. It is not necessary to read those cases cited in the text cases nor to delve into the materials listed under "Further References.")
- 11/15/11**                    Assignment: Text pp. 26-78. Common Law, Equity, and the Development of the Anglo-American Court System. (pp. 26-51 are primarily history sufficient to establish a context of our contemporary legal system and process and may be read less closely; but still brief and be prepared to present the cases.)
- 11/17/11**                    Assignment: Statutes, Case Law, and Judicial Precedent. Text pp. 79-118
- 11/22/11**                    Assignment: The *Ratio Decidendi* of a Case. Text pp. 119-140
- 11/24/11**                    **No Class, Thanksgiving holiday.**
- 11/29/11**                    Assignment: Logic and Policy in Legal Reasoning. Text pp. 141-165
- 12/1/11**                    Assignment: Fundamentals of Statutory Interpretation. Text pp. 166-189 (Stop at sec. E)
- 12/6/11**                    Assignment: Contemporary Approaches to Statutory Construction; Legislative History and Other Extrinsic Aids; Contemporary Approaches to Statutory Interpretation in the United States, Substantive Canons of Statutory Construction: Criminal Law & Civil Law; and Reasoning from Statutes by Analogy; Text pp. 189-224
- 12/8/11**                    Review
- 12/15/2011**                    Final Examination **from 6:00-8:00pm.**