

SYLLABUS

COURSE NAME:	LAW STUDY AND EXAMS
SEMESTER & TIME:	Fall 2011/Spring 2012, Thursday 5:30-6:20 p.m.
TOTAL HOURS/UNITS:	15 hours/1 unit
PROFESSOR:	Connie Burtnett (707) 495-9936
REQUIRED TEXTS:	Fleming's <i>Essay Examination Writing Workbook, Vol. 1.</i> ISBN #1932440011
COURSE DESCRIPTION:	Lectures, discussions, assignments and practice exams designed to help first year law students succeed in law school.
CLASS ATTENDANCE:	Students must attend a minimum of 80% of the class sessions (12 of 15 classes). Roll will be taken at each class. Regular attendance is strongly encouraged. Please note that although there are five class sessions in the second semester, this class is only worth one unit and students may only miss a TOTAL of three classes.
GRADING POLICY:	Pass/Fail.
GRADE DETERMINATION:	To achieve a passing grade, students must complete all assignments in a reasonably proficient manner and use their best efforts on practice exams, midterm and final.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Sept. 29	Introduction to law school studies. Helpful study aids. Now is the time to outline. The importance of study groups and how to make them work for you. Time management strategies. Assignment due next week: Hand in Homicide definitions. Memorize them.
Oct. 6	Introduction to essay exam. IRAC and other exam writing tools. Rules are your friends—get to know them now. In-class issue-spotting and practice structuring exams. Assignment due next week: Hand in definitions of Intentional Torts. Memorize them.
Oct. 13	The MBE as study aid and as opportunity to display your vast knowledge of the law on midterms and final exams. More discussion of outlining. Assignment due next week: Hand in your Homicide outline. Use at least 3 sources to create your own outline in your own words, including casebook as one of your 3 sources.
Oct. 20	The structure of criminal law exams. Review of essay questions and MBEs. Assignment due next week: Hand in your Intentional Torts outline. Use at least 3

sources to create your own outline in your own words, including casebook as one of your 3 sources.

- Oct. 27** The structure of torts exams. Review of essay questions and MBEs.
Assignment due next week: Hand in your Contract Offer & Acceptance outline. Use at least 3 sources to create your own outline in your own words, including casebook as one of your 3 sources.
- Nov. 3** The structure of contracts exams. Review of essay questions and MBEs.
Assignment due next week: Take-home criminal law practice exam.
- Nov. 10** More on criminal law exams. Review of essay questions.
Assignment due next week: Take-home torts practice exam.
- Nov. 17** More on torts exams. Review of essay questions.
Assignment due next week: Take-home contracts practice exam.
- TBD** More on contracts exams. Review of essay questions.
Assignment due next week: Hand in your Property Crimes outline. Use at least 3 sources to create your own outline in your own words, including casebook as one of your 3 sources. **NOTE: This is Thanksgiving Week, so we will choose an alternate class date that works for the majority of people in the class.**
- Dec. 1** In-class midterm.

[Dec. 5 - 31 – Other midterms and vacation.]
- Spring 2012 Semester (cont.)**
- Jan. 5** Special issues: crimes.
Assignment due next week: Take-home criminal law practice exam.
- Jan. 12** Special issues: torts.
Assignment due next week: Take-home torts practice exam.
- Jan. 19** Special issues: contracts.
Assignment due next week: Take-home contracts practice exam.
- Jan. 26** Discussion of midterms. Focusing on areas that need work.
Assignment due next week: Hand in your Torts Negligence outline. Use at least 3 sources to create your own outline in your own words, including casebook as one of your 3 sources.
- Feb. 2** Final exam.