

ACADEMIC COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE:	LAW STUDY AND EXAMS
COURSE NUMBER:	LAW 503
PROFESSOR NAME:	Fiona Hall, Esq.
PROFESSOR CONTACT INFO:	Email: fionahall60@hotmail.com
SCHEDULE:	Fall 2014, Thursdays, 5:30-6:20pm, Rm # 212
UNIT:	1 unit
COURSE TYPE:	Required
PREREQUISITES:	None
COREQUISITES:	None
TEXTS AND MATERIALS: (Identification of any texts, materials and references used throughout the course.)	<u>Required:</u> <i>Flemings Essay Examination Writing Workbook, Vol. 1.</i> ISBN # 9781932440584
COURSE DESCRIPTION:	An orientation to the study of law school examinations consisting of exam writing and techniques for the effective study of law.
COURSE OBJECTIVES / ANTICIPATED LEARNING OUTCOMES: (What students will be expected to know and be able to do at the end of the course. What skills or knowledge will be gained by the end of the course.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will learn and practice strategies for law school exam writing. 2. Student will explore techniques for effective learning in law school.
FORMAT OVERVIEW / METHOD OF INSTRUCTION (Description of how the course will be taught, including breakdown of lecture, practicum, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course material will be presented in a lecture-discussion and Socratic method format. • Students should be prepared to evaluate old exams in class to spot issues and discuss how to analyze exam issues. • Students will practice writing exams.
EXAMS:	Exams begin promptly as indicated in each Law School semester's Exam Schedule. Take-home exams and papers must be submitted to the Law School office by 6 p.m. on the due date, unless otherwise noted. All students must take examinations as scheduled. It is recognized that in special circumstances and due to emergencies, it may be necessary to schedule delayed examinations. An emergency is defined as a serious illness or injury to the student or a member of his or her immediate family. Special Circumstances are defined as other situations that, in the opinion of the Dean, are sufficient to warrant delay in taking examinations. <i>Any student taking delayed examinations <u>must have the prior written approval of the Dean.</u></i> No examination may be taken <u>prior</u> to the day of the regularly scheduled examination. If delayed examinations are approved by the Dean, <u>a fee of \$75 will be charged for each such exam taken.</u> Failure to complete an exam is not sufficient reason for a late or retake exam.
GRADING / ASSESSMENT	Empire College uses the following grading system for this class:

<p>CRITERIA:</p>	<p><u>Pass/Fail Classes:</u> 65 - 100 P Pass/Credit 64 and Below F Fail/No Credit</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>ATTENDANCE:</p>	<p>This class meets for 10 weeks in one semester and then overlaps and resumes the final 5 weeks in the next semester. The attendance policy pertains to the entire 15 weeks of the course.</p> <p>Under the standards of the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California, “regular and punctual attendance” at classes is necessary to satisfy residency requirements. Students should plan to attend all classes. A minimum of 80 percent attendance is required in each course. The instructor will take role at each class session. A student must attend the entire class session in order to be counted as present for that class session. Students who arrive excessively late, as determined by the instructor, or who leave class before it is dismissed by the instructor, will not be counted as present for that class session.</p>
<p>ASSIGNMENTS: Fall 2014 Semester</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Weekly Assignments</p>
<p>Week 1:</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Assignment due next week: Read pp. 1-5 of Fleming’s workbook. Draft and memorize homicide definitions.</p>
<p>Week 2:</p>	<p>Introduction to essay exams and MBEs. IRAC and other exam taking tools. Rules are your friends—get to know them now.</p> <p>Assignment due next week: Draft and memorize definitions of intentional torts and definitions related to forming contracts.</p>
<p>Week 3:</p>	<p>In-class issue-spotting and practice structuring exams.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Week 4:</p>	<p>In-class practice criminal law exam.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Week 5:</p>	<p>Review of prior week’s in-class practice criminal law exam. More discussion of MBEs.</p> <p>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.</p>

Week 6:	In-class practice torts exam. Assignment due next week: Update your criminal law outline.
Week 7:	Review of prior week's in-class practice torts exam. Assignment due next week: Update your torts outline.
Week 8:	In-class practice contracts exam. Assignment due next week: Update your contracts outline.
Week 9:	Review of prior week's in-class practice contracts exam. Assignment due next week: None.
Week 10 (December 4, 2014):	In-class midterm.
Continuing into Spring 2015 Semester	
Week 11 (January 8, 2015):	Discussion of midterms and identify areas that need work. Assignment due next week: Review and update your outlines based on what worked (and didn't work) for you during midterms.
Week 12:	In-class practice exam. Assignment due next week: To be handed in anonymously, write down one main challenge you are still facing when taking exams or drafting outlines.
Week 13:	Review of prior week's in-class practice exam. Assignment due next week: Take-home practice exam.
Week 14:	Class discussion and input regarding areas that continue to present challenges in exam taking and construction of outlines. Assignment due next week: None.
Week 15: Exam TBA	Final Exam Date will be published by Law School Office –be sure to check Exam Schedule when published.

Syllabus subject to change.