

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:	Thursdays, 5:30-6:20pm, Rm # 103 Fall 2015/Spring 2016
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:	The in-class midterm and final exams begin promptly at the start of class. 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. Any student taking delayed examinations <u>must have the prior written approval of the Dean.</u> 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 CRITERIA:	Empire College uses the following grading system for this class:

	<p><u>Pass/Fail Classes:</u> 65 - 100 P Pass/Credit 64 and Below F Fail/No Credit</p> <p>Midterm exam – 25% Final exam – 75% Plus up to 10 extra points for class participation and completion of assignments.</p>
ATTENDANCE:	<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 roll 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>
ASSIGNMENTS: Fall 2015 Semester	Weekly Assignments
Week 1: Oct. 1, 2015	<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 for next week: Read pages 1-5 of textbook. Draft and memorize homicide definitions.</p>
Week 2: Oct. 8, 2015	<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 for next week: Draft and memorize definitions of intentional torts and definitions related to forming contracts.</p>
Week 3: Oct. 15, 2015	<p>In-class issue-spotting and practice structuring exams.</p> <p>Assignment for next week: Draft your homicide outline, which includes your homicide definitions. Use at least 3 sources (e.g., casebook, class notes, hornbooks) to create your own outline in your own words.</p>
Week 4: Oct. 22, 2015	<p>In-class practice criminal law exam.</p> <p>Assignment for next week: Draft your intentional torts outline, which includes your intentional torts definitions. Use at least 3 sources (e.g., casebook, class notes, hornbooks) to create your own outline in your own words.</p>
Week 5: Oct. 29, 2015	<p>Review of prior week’s in-class practice criminal law exam.</p> <p>Assignment for next week: Draft your contract offer & acceptance outline, which includes your definitions related to forming contracts. Use at least 3 sources (e.g., casebook, class notes, hornbooks) to create your own outline in your own words.</p>

Week 6: Nov. 5, 2015	In-class practice torts exam. Assignment for next week: Update your criminal law outline.
Week 7: Nov. 12, 2015	Review of prior week's in-class practice torts exam. Assignment for next week: Update your torts outline.
Week 8: Nov. 19, 2015	In-class practice contracts exam. Assignment for next week: Update your contracts outline.
Week 9: Nov. 26, 2015 – Thanksgiving holiday – no class today.	Make-up class to be scheduled: Review of prior week's in-class practice contracts exam. Assignment for next week: None.
Week 10: MIDTERM Dec. 3 rd , 2015	In-class MIDTERM from 5:30 to 6:30 pm in regular room, unless otherwise instructed.
Continuing into Spring 2016 Semester:	
Week 11: January 7, 2016	Discussion of midterms and identify areas that need work. Assignment for next week: Review and update your outlines based on what worked (and didn't work) for you during midterms.
Week 12: January 14, 2016	In-class practice exam or writing exercises. Assignment for next week: TBD
Week 13: January 21, 2016	Review of prior week's in-class practice exam. Assignment for next week: TBD.
Week 14: January 28, 2016	Class discussion regarding areas which continue to present challenges in exam taking. Assignment due next week: None.
Week 15: FINAL February 4, 2016	In class FINAL EXAM from 5:30 to 6:30 pm in regular room, unless otherwise instructed.

Syllabus subject to change.