



Bethesda University

730 North Euclid Street, Anaheim, California 92801 Tel: (714)517-1945, Fax: (714)683-1440

GS 172 (Online) INTRODUCTION TO US LAW AND GOVERNMENT Fall 2015

Professor R. Sachdev	
Class Hour: Online	Classroom: Online
Office: 307	Phone: 714-683-1401
Office Hours/ Consultation: Available by appointment	E-mail: rajeev.sachdev@buc.edu
TA: TBD	Credit Unit: 3

A. Bethesda University Mission Statement

Bethesda University is a Christ-centered community of higher education preparing Korean/English speaking men and women with professional competence, academic excellence, and spiritual integrity to be servant leaders in the Church, community, and global society.

B. Relationship of Course to Bethesda University's Mission

This course is designed to provide knowledge and understanding of the substantive criminal law along with the ethical and legal issues relating to criminal law confronting legal professionals in the modern world.

C. Course Description

The course provides an overview of various areas of US law, of the U.S. legal profession, and of the U.S. judicial process. It is a basic introduction to the common and statutory law of the U.S. federal and state systems and provides an understanding of how the law works. The course also provides an overview of the US Constitution and the system of US government including structure, institutions and functions.



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D. Course Objectives & Student Outcomes

By the end of the course, each student is expected to be able to demonstrate the following:

Expected Student Outcomes with Categorization (Spiritual, Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 1) Understand the basics of how US law, the legal system and US Government works (Vocational)

Outcome 2) Apply ethical rules in law and common legal subject scenarios; discuss Christian ethical concepts (Spiritual, Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 3) Examine and interpret applicable law in common legal subject areas (Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 4) Understand the role of law, including case law, as well the importance of secondary sources in common legal subject areas (Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 5) Analyze common legal scenarios and take a legal position (Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 6) Understand how to recognize and identify certain legal issues (Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 7) Prepare certain basic legal documents, forms, or paperwork (Vocational)

Assessments tied to above Objectives

<u>Assessment Method</u>	<u>Outcomes Covered</u>
Class Discussions	Outcomes 1)2)3)4)5)6)7)
Assignments	Outcomes: 1)2)3)4)5)6)7)8)
Project/Presentation	Outcomes 2)3)4)6)7)8)
Tests and Quizzes	Outcomes: 1)2)3)4)5)6)7)
Final Exam	Outcomes: 1)2)3)4)5)6)7)

E. Teaching/Learning Methods

A variety of learning methods will be adopted including lecture, discussions, projects, reports/essays, quizzes, exams and other methodology.



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H. Course Calendar/Schedule, include the following (subject to revision)

(Please be sure to read the chapter being discussed, ahead of the class in which it will be covered)

N	Date	Theme	Reading	Assignments (Tentative schedule only)
1	8/26/15	Introduction and Legal Ethics	Ch 1 and 2	Discussion Board 1a by (by 8/24)and 1b (by 8/26)
Last Day to Request Add/Drop is Friday of First Week				
2	9/2/15	Sources of US Law and Judicial System	Ch 3 and 4	Quiz 1 (5%) Due by 9/2 (11:30am) Discussion Board 2a (by 8/31)and 2b (by 9/2)
3	9/9/15	Civil Procedure and Relief Limitations	Ch 5 and 6	Assignment 1 Due by 9/9 (5%) Discussion Board 3a (by 9/7) and 3b (by 9/9)
4	9/16/15	Remedies	Ch 7	Discussion Board 4a (by 9/14) and 4b (by 9/16)
5	9/23/15	Criminal Law and Procedure	Ch 8	Discussion Board 5a (9/21) and 5b (by 9/23)
6	9/30/15	Family Law	Ch 9	Assignment 2 Due by 9/30 (10%) Discussion Board 6a (by 9/28) and 6b (by 9/30)
7	10/7/15	Contracts and Torts	Ch 10 and 11	Real Life Scenarios. One on one discussion with professor as scheduled
8	10/14/15	Project Work		Discussion Board 7a (by 10/12) and 7b (by 10/14)
Last Day to Request Grade Withdrawal "W" is Friday of 8 th Week				
9	10/21/15	Property and Administrative Law	Ch 12 and 13	Project 1 due by 10/21 (10%) Discussion Board 8a (by 12/19) and 8b (by 10/21)
10	10/28/15	ADR – Alternative Dispute Resolution	Ch 14	Discussion Board 9a (by 10/26) and 9b (by 10/28)
11	11/4/15	US Government		Test (15%) Due by 11/4 by 11:30am Discussion Board 10a (by 11/2) and 10b (by 11/4)
12	11/11/15	US Government		Research Discussion Board 11a (by 11/9) and 11b (by 11/11)
13	11/18/15	US Government		Project and Presentation (20%) Discussion Board 12a (by 11/16)



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				and 12b (by 11/18)
14	11/25/15	THANKSGIVING BREAK		
15	12/2/15	Review		Outcomes Discussion Discussion Board 13a (by 11/30) and 13b (by 12/2)
Last Day to Request Grade Incomplete "I" is Friday of 15 th Week				
16	12/7/15- 12/11/15 (tbd)		Final (25%)	

I. Assignments

There will be various written assignments that will be given out during the semester. You must reference all sources you use in all work submitted. Use any acceptable referencing method. Ask for assistance should you need resources and examples of referencing.

J. Evaluation/Assessment Rationale for Grade Determination

1. Grade Assessment

Assignments X 4	45%
Quizzes/Tests	20%
Class Participation	10%
Final	<u>25%</u>
Total Possible Points	100

2. Grade definition

A	Excellent
B	Good
C	Satisfactory
D	Poor
F	Failure

3. Grade scale

Letter Grade	Numeric Grade	Grade Points
A	95-100	4.0
A-	90-94	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	84-86	3.0
B-	80-83	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3



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C	74-76	2.0
C-	70-73	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	64-66	1.0
D-	60-63	0.7
F	59 or below	0

ASSESSMENT RATIONALE

In this course, learning is tied to learning outcomes. Students will be assessed based upon meeting course objectives. Students working hard to achieve higher grades will be expected to demonstrate a higher level of analysis and novel application within the assessment components of the course.

K. Course Policies

1. Attendance, Preparation, and Participation:

All students are expected to attend class, read their assignments and be prepared to participate in class discussions and group work.

Ten percent (10%) of your grade is based on participation. This grade is based on your Attendance, participation in class, contributing to discussions, answering questions, raising questions, and positive participation as an individual and in groups.

Missing class work, quizzes and tests will affect your overall grade.

2. Deadlines:

Assignments are due as instructed. Late assignments are not acceptable unless special circumstances exist. If accepted, one week late assignments will be reduced by one letter grade. Quizzes and Tests can be made up only if approved and valid reason and documentation is provided. The final exam must be taken as scheduled at the end of the semester, without exception, unless approval is granted.

3. Advance Assistance and Accommodations:

If you need any assistance or accommodations, please check with the professor as soon as possible. It is important not to wait until it is too late. It is your duty to advise the Professor and School of any accommodations you require along with how you think any requested accommodations may be fulfilled.

4. Assignment Options:

See Professor



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5. Make up work:
Only if pre-approved by professor.
6. Extra-credit work:
TBA, if applicable.
7. Emergency procedures:
Contact Professor, or School if professor is not available.
8. Other policies on Withdrawal and Grade Permanence, Academic Integrity, and Appeals and Grievance procedures refer to the Student Handbooks and Catalog.

L. Support Services; No Legal Advice

Please check with school and professor for support services. PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO LEGAL ADVICE PROVIDED BY PROFESSOR OR THE SCHOOL IN THIS COURSE OR AT ANYTIME. Please ask for career help, although Professor and School are not your future employer and you need to ensure that you yourself check all requirements for your anticipated career path early on. Do not rely on statements made by anyone, rather check for yourself or take outside professional help.

M. Bibliography

Schubert , Introduction to Law and the Legal System, Cengage, 2015 Print