

Workshop: Legal Studies I

Class Syllabus

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Note: Before the first class: send me an email with: 1) your name, 2) your phone number

Class 1: Tuesday, August 18, 2009, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

- How we learn ó making the best use of your time by focusing on how you learn best
- Supplemental law material: BarBri, Bar Passers, Gilberts, Flemings, Lexis, Legalines, Finals, flashcards
- Resources: Lexis, WestLaw, Wikipedia, Law dictionary
- Managing your time ó Sample study schedule
- Law Summaries
- The fundamentals of exam writing: **COW: Checklist, Outline, and Write.**
- Legal writing: **IRAC:**
 - State the **issue**
 - Explain the **rule**
 - **Analysis: When** (fact)í , **it means** (element) í **because** (analysis)í
 - **Conclusion**
- Practice exam: practice session on a fact pattern with checklist, outline, and writing
- Homework:
 1. Know the law thoroughly for all of your classes
 2. For each subject (Contract, Torts, and Criminal Law), create a summary of topics along with the associated legal rules for each topic

Class 2: Tuesday, September 15, 2009, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

- Essay exam instructions
- Grading scale for law school exams
- The fundamentals of exam writing: **COW: Checklist, Outline, and Write.**
- IRAC review
- Contract law summary
- Practice exam 1: Do 15-minute practice session on a Contract fact pattern
- Peer review
- Practice exam 1: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Contract exam
- Tort law summary
- Practice exam 2: Do 15-minute practice session on a Tort fact pattern
- Practice exam 2: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Tort exam
- Criminal law summary
- Practice exam 3: Do 15-minute practice session on a Crim law fact pattern
- Practice exam 3: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Crim exam
- Homework due by Friday 6:30 p.m.:
 1. Know the law thoroughly for all of your classes, expand your course summaries
 2. Write for 15 minutes on each of the in-class practice exams ó Contract, Torts, and Criminal Law
 3. Review your answers and make them perfect

4. Email me both your 15-minute version and your perfect version in the same Word doc (.doc only) ó don't forget to include your name in the document

Class 3: Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

- Timings for the exam
- The fundamentals of exam writing: **COW: Checklist, Outline, and Write.**
- IRAC review
- Contract law summary
- Practice exam 1: Do 15-minute practice session on a Contract fact pattern
- Practice exam 1: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Contract exam
- Tort law summary
- Practice exam 2: Do 15-minute practice session on a Tort fact pattern
- Peer review
- Practice exam 2: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Tort exam
- Criminal law summary
- Practice exam 3: Do 15-minute practice session on a Crim law fact pattern
- Practice exam 3: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Crim exam
- Homework due by Friday 6:30 p.m.:
 1. Know the law thoroughly for all of your classes, expand your course summaries
 2. Write for 15 minutes on each of the in-class practice exams ó Contract, Torts, and Criminal Law
 3. Review your answers and make them perfect
 4. Email me both your 15-minute version and your perfect version in the same Word doc (.doc only) ó don't forget to include your name in the document

Class 4: Tuesday, November 3, 2009, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

- The fundamentals of exam writing: **COW: Checklist, Outline, and Write.**
- IRAC review
- Contract law summary
- Practice exam 1: Do 15-minute practice session on a Contract fact pattern
- Practice exam 1: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Contract exam
- Tort law summary
- Practice exam 2: Do 15-minute practice session on a Tort fact pattern
- Practice exam 2: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Tort exam
- Criminal law summary
- Practice exam 3: Do 15-minute practice session on a Crim law fact pattern
- Peer review
- Practice exam 3: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Crim exam
- Homework due by Friday 6:30 p.m.:
 1. Know the law thoroughly for all of your classes, expand your course summaries
 2. Write for 15 minutes on each of the in-class practice exams ó Contract, Torts, and Criminal Law
 3. Review your answers and make them perfect
 4. Email me both your 15-minute version and your perfect version in the same Word doc (.doc only) ó don't forget to include your name in the document

Class 5: Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

- Stress management ó how to deal with your stress under law school exam conditions
- The fundamentals of exam writing: **COW: Checklist, Outline, and Write.**
- IRAC review

- Contract law summary
- Practice exam 1: Do 15-minute practice session on a Contract fact pattern
- Peer review
- Practice exam 1: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Contract exam
- Tort law summary
- Practice exam 2: Do 15-minute practice session on a Tort fact pattern
- Practice exam 2: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Tort exam
- Criminal law summary
- Practice exam 3: Do 15-minute practice session on a Crim law fact pattern
- Practice exam 3: class exercise ó outline the answer of the Crim exam

General Class Notes:

- All practice exercises will be emailed to you prior to class. If you want a hardcopy, print it out and bring it to class. No handouts of the exercises will be given out at class.
- Attendance is mandatory. In the event of an emergency or serious illness, contact me before class for the assignment.
- This is a Pass/No Pass course. All assignments will be given either a Pass or No Pass designation. If you do not receive a Pass, you will need to redo the assignment within one week of receiving it back.
- Please do not hesitate to contact me between classes if you have questions. I am available to meet with students outside of class as needed.