

FLORIDA BAR TOPICS

LAW 6930

2 CREDIT HOURS

SPRING, 2024

CLASS LOCATION: HOLLAND HALL 360

TUESDAY 6-8 P.M.

PROFESSORS: *Sabrina Lopez*

Email: lopez@law.ufl.edu

Office Phone: 352.273.0729

Office Location: Holland 349

Stacy Biggart

Email: stacybiggart@ufl.edu

Phone: 850.459.2226

Office Location: Holland 312-N

Brittan Mitchell

Email: brittanmitchell@ufl.edu; brimitchell@deloitte.com

Office Phone: 352.681.8287

Office Location: 323 Holland

Timothy McLendon

E-mail: mclendon@law.ufl.edu

Phone: 352-273-0846

Office Location: 320F Holland Hall

OFFICE HOURS:

Dean Lopez - Wednesdays 11-1, and by appointment.

Stacy Biggart – Tuesdays, 1-3, and by appointment.

Brittan Mitchell – Tuesdays, 5-6 pm (before class), Friday, 12-1 pm Zoom, and by appointment.

Tim McLendon - Mondays & Tuesdays from 11am-12pm

Please keep in touch with us! We try to respond to emails quickly. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding the course or a specific assignment.

COURSE WEBSITE: <http://elearning.ufl.edu/> You are responsible for reviewing the page for course updates. We will use the “Announcements” section of Canvas as our main source of communication with students. Check it frequently.

REQUIRED TEXT: No required text.

Supplemental Materials: This course will include supplemental materials and videos accessible through Canvas.

COURSE OBJECTIVE AND GOALS:

The primary objective and goal of this course is to engage in a substantive review of legal topics routinely tested on the Florida bar exam and practice techniques and strategies for successfully responding to essay questions and multiple-choice questions. Additionally, upon completion of the course you should be able to:

Comprehend the fundamentals of the Florida law tested on the Florida bar exam.

Use strategies and techniques to master multiple-choice questions.

Spot issues in legal fact patterns through critical and active reading.

Effectively plan, outline, and execute an essay response.

State accurate rule statements regarding Florida law.

Apply relevant Florida law to a fact pattern and provide a concise and thorough legal analysis.

It is anticipated that you will spend approximately 2 hours out of class reading and/or drafting an assignment for every 1 hour in class.

COURSE EVALUATIONS:

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals OR via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

COURSE POLICIES:

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance in class is required by both the ABA and the Law School. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting. You are permitted to miss one class period without penalty. **Missing more than one class period may result in a reduction of your final grade.** **Missing more than three classes will result in a failing grade in the course.**

Excessive tardiness will also result in a grade penalty.

The law school's policy on attendance and religious holidays can be found [here](#).

ASSIGNMENT POLICIES:

Class Participation

Participation grades are based on class attendance, preparation, and active participation in class activities.

Late Policy

Late assignments will result in your grade being lowered by one grade increment per day. An assignment will not be accepted if it is more than three days late.

Professionalism

I expect professionalism at all times.

Plagiarism and Collaboration

All work in this class must be your own. In this class, you may not review the work of a fellow student or allow another student to review your work, unless expressly authorized by me.

Plagiarism is a very serious offense. There are detailed policies regarding what constitutes plagiarism in your student handbook. Ignorance of the policies is not a defense to a charge of plagiarism.

RECORDING POLICY:

All classes will be recorded via Mediasite in case students must miss class for health reasons. The Office of Student Affairs will work with faculty to determine when students may have access to these recordings, and the recordings will be password protected. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Office of Student Affairs as soon as possible after an absence.

COMPUTER POLICY:

We will be using computers in class frequently, so do plan to have it available each class.

UF POLICIES:

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students

Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

NETIQUETTE: COMMUNICATION COURTESY: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats.

GETTING HELP:

To reach the law school's mental health counselor, Ritzy Ettinger, email rettinger@ufl.edu or call 352.273.0620.

Additional resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

GRADING/COURSE POLICIES:

10% Successful completion of class exercises, participation and attendance.

30% Quizzes and Essays

60% Final Exam

The final exam will replicate the bar exam and be closed book and in person. The law school policy on exam delays and accommodations can be found [here](#).

GRADING SCALE:

Grades are recorded permanently by the Office of the University Registrar. The grade point average (GPA) is determined by computing the ratio of grade points of semester hours of work attempted in courses in which letter grades are assigned. Students receive grade points according to the following scale:

Grade	Points
A	4.0
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.0
B-	2.67
C +	2.33
C	2.0
C-	1.67
D +	1.33
D	1.0
D-	0.67
E (Failure)	0.0

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Assignments and Course Schedule (subject to change)

January 16 Introduction to Course/Essay Writing/Multiple Choice

Watch: [Reading Materials available in Canvas](#)
Visit our class Canvas page prior to first class.

Read the syllabus.
Post Introductory Assignment

January 23 Florida Torts

Read: See Canvas

January 30 Florida Constitutional Law

Read: See Canvas

Essay

February 6 Florida Contracts

Read: See Canvas

February 13 Florida Property

Read: See Canvas

Quiz

February 20 Florida Civil Procedure

Read: See Canvas

Essay

February 27 Florida Evidence

Read: See Canvas

March 5 Florida Criminal Law

Read: See Canvas

Essay

****March 11-15 Spring Break**

March 19 Florida Criminal Procedure

Read: See Canvas

Quiz

March 26 Family Law

Read: See Canvas

April 2 Trusts/Wills

Read: See Canvas

Essay

April 9 Securities/Corporations

Read: See Canvas

April 16 Evaluations; Final Review

Disclaimer:

This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.