Course Overview

This course will provide first-year students with an introduction to the study of law, including preliminary exposure to legal reasoning, the structure of the American legal system, and fundamental legal or theoretical concepts.

Organization of the Course

Required Materials. We will expect that you have read one book and one case for this course. The materials that will be the focus of class meetings are highlighted below.

(1) TRACEY E. GEORGE & SUZANNA SHERRY, WHAT EVERY LAW STUDENT REALLY NEEDS TO KNOW: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF LAW (Wolters Kluwer 2016 or Aspen Publishing 2020).

This book combines an introduction to law school methods with a great deal of substantive material. It is conversational in some places, and quite dense in others. Part of the material will be familiar, and part new. In this initial reading, you do not need to answer the questions or take the time to do the exercises. Do not worry about memorization. But please read actively, highlighting, and making marginal notes in the book with your questions and comments.


Course Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

Class 1, 10:15–11:45 a.m., Law College, 4th Floor (see above for section room assignments)

Focus your preparation on:
2. WHAT EVERY LAW STUDENT REALLY NEEDS TO KNOW, Chapters 1, 2, and 3
**Class 2, 12:45–2:00 p.m., Law College, 4th Floor (see above for section room assignments)**

Focus your preparation on:
2. WHAT EVERY LAW STUDENT REALLY NEEDS TO KNOW, Chapters 4 and 5

**Wednesday, August 16, 2023**

**Class 4, 2:35–4:35 p.m., Law College, 4th Floor (see above for section room assignments)**

Focus your preparation on:
2. WHAT EVERY LAW STUDENT REALLY NEEDS TO KNOW, Review Chapter 5, Chapter 6, Chapter 7