

LAW 6372- Advanced Appellate Advocacy
(Mullins)

Required Reading:

The Course Description, Competition Rules, and Syllabus; The Intramural Competition (available on Canvas).

Problem and Record (available on Canvas).

Contemporary Appellate Advocacy, Ching and Gass (2023): pages 83-108

LAW 6783-Advanced Legal Analysis
(Ruiz)

The first assignment for the Advanced Legal Analysis class is:

Class of 8.19.26: Introduction

Topics Covered: (1) Course Introduction

Assignments for First Class: (1) Log into Canvas at <https://canvas.fiu.edu> . Complete all the assignments for the modules titled “Before the Semester Begins.”

(2) Watch Themis General MBE Approach Parts 1 and 2. You will receive an email with access to this program.

(3) Be ready to succeed on the bar exam!

LAW 6798- Advanced Legal Research (Asynchronous)
(Hoskisson)

Review Syllabus and AI Policies and Procedures

Complete Module 1 lectures, 15 min research lab and homework assignment by Monday, August 24th at 11:59 PM.

LAW 6798- Advanced Legal Research (Hybrid)
(Hoskisson)

Review Syllabus and Module 1 lectures to prepare for first class. Homework will be discussed in class and due by Monday, August 24th at 11:59 PM.

LAW 6052- Bankruptcy
(Norberg)

For the first class, please read page 1-11 in the casebook. In addition, view the three video lectures on state debt collection law (posted under Modules on Canvas) and the handout on state debt collection vocabulary (also posted under Modules on Canvas).

For the second class, please read pages 13-42 in the casebook.

LAW 6060-Business Organizations
(Markham)

FIRST ASSIGNMENT: Read pages 1-56 of the casebook. Thereafter, I will seek to cover fifty-five pages in the casebook for each module's lecture, which is equivalent to one hour (50 minutes) of live class time. This reading is discussed more fully in the first module.

Climate Change and Human Rights
(Hefti)

Welcome to *Climate Change and Human Rights*! Before our first class, please:

1. Please read the syllabus, including the course description, grading breakdown, and schedule of readings.
2. Review the participation policy, so you understand how it factors into your grade and what is expected of you. Please note that this is a discussion-based seminar. You are expected to do the readings carefully before each class. Your preparation shapes the quality of our discussions and has a direct impact on your grade.
3. Note key deadlines and add them to your calendar.

Questions to consider:

- What are the strengths and limitations of international environmental law's and human rights law's legal regimes? How do the two legal regimes intersect?
- What role does human rights law play in shaping state climate obligations?

Required readings:

- Daniel Bodansky, Jutta Brunnée & Lavanya Rajamani, *International Climate Change Law*, Chapter 9 (Intersections between International Climate Change Law and Other Areas of International Law) (Oxford University Press 2017) – **Canvas: “Modules” – “Class 1”**
- Yasmine Luhandjula, “In Between the Missed Opportunities and Future Possibilities: Human Rights in the ICJ's Advisory Opinion on Climate Change and the Prospects for Climate Litigation,” *Journal of Environmental Law* 1 (2026) **Canvas: “Modules” – “Class 1”**
- Isabella Kwai, “Heat Waves Are Killing Older Women. Are They Also Violating Their Rights?,” *New York Times* (Aug. 6, 2023), available

at: <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/06/world/europe/heat-wave-older-women-lawsuit.html> Canvas: “Modules” – “Class 1”

- Climate Law Accelerator, “KlimaSeniorinnen v. Switzerland, European Court of Human Rights Orders Switzerland to Take Action on Climate Change,” available at: <https://clxtoolkit.com/casebook/klimaseniorinnen-v-switzerland/>

LAW 6723-Community Lawyering Clinic (Dollar)

- Legal Service Corporation, "The Justice Gap Report: The Unmet Civil Legal Needs of Low-income Americans," available at: <https://justicegap.lsc.gov/>

LAW 5501-Constitutional Law (Baker)

For the first class meeting, Monday, August 17th:

- Access the course on Canvas and familiarize yourself with that platform and that content the week before classes.
- *Read and admire* the CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.
- *Read* the Preface in the GERSHMAN casebook. *Prepare* pages 1-40 in the casebook.
- *Read* the Foreword to CONSTITUTIONAL ANALYSIS IN A NUTSHELL.

During the Semester, we will cover Chapters 1-6 & 8, but we will skip some material in Chapters 1. The standing assignment is to stay 30-pages-plus-one-principal-case ahead of where we leave off each session. Sign-up sheets for presenting cases in class are available in the Chapter Modules on Canvas. We need students to sign up to present cases in Chapter 1 ASAP — before classes begin — for the first week. *A Memorandum on How to Present a Case* is available on Canvas. Additional sign-ups for later chapters will be posted later on Canvas. If you have any technical problems with Canvas, contact one of the Webmasters: Abigail Foster (afost054@fiu.edu) or Jose Mendez (jmend307@fiu.edu).

Your course grade will consist of an *Opinion Writing Assignment* (20%) available on Canvas and due November 16, 2025, and a final examination (80%) that will consist of multiple-choice questions on December 10, 2026. Case presentations, class participation, and 48-hour quizzes will inform my discretion to adjust your course grade one increment up or down (e.g., B+ up to A- or A down to A-). See *Academic Policies and Regulations* § 1004.

- Classes will begin on time: 2:00-3:50 p.m. & F 10:30 a.m-12:20 p.m. in RDB 2005.
- Do not enter the front door if you are late, i.e., if I have begun to teach; enter through the back door and take a seat there, so as not to disturb the class.

· Regular class attendance is expected. *See Academic Policies and Regulations* §§ 501-502. Missing an occasional class is understandable and unremarkable. But if you expect to miss more than the occasional class, send me an email with an explanation.

· Do not wear a hat during class.

LAW 5501-Constitutional Law (Foley)

PLEASE NOTE: LAPTOPS/TABLETS MAY NOT BE USED IN THIS CLASS. Please silence and put away your phones and tablets.

The first week readings are designed to “get your feet wet” on some fundamental constitutional questions you should be thinking about as you read these materials and we will discuss in class. These questions include:

What is the purpose of government?

What is the “political philosophy” that animates the Constitution? Is this political philosophy more akin to John Locke’s or Thomas Hobbes’? Why does it matter today, for purposes of constitutional interpretation/construction?

Is the Constitution based on “consent,” and if so, whose consent?

What is the relationship between the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence?

Why does the Constitution establish limited and enumerated powers for the federal government and what does this mean for States’ power and individual liberty? What is the relationship between government “powers” and individual “rights”?

Why does the Constitution separate powers and how does it do so?

Were there any “rights” enumerated in the original Constitution (i.e., before the Bill of Rights was ratified)? Where are they? Why didn’t the original Constitution contain a bill of rights?

What are the major methods of constitutional interpretation and construction? What are their pros and cons? Why do certain groups prefer one method over another?

The following page numbers correspond to the required casebook, Barnett & Blackman, *Constitutional Law: Cases in Context* (4th ed. 2021).

Class 1 (Monday, Aug. 17): INTRODUCTION TO THE CONSTITUTION & DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE:

We’ll go over the syllabus, which may be found on both the class TWEN (<https://lawschool.thomsonreuters.com/twen/>) and Canvas pages.

Peruse and admire the Constitution, pp. xxxiii-l of the Barnett casebook. Also read pp. 3-18 of the casebook (up to subsection d).

Also read James Burling, What is the difference between originalism vs. textualism vs. living constitutionalism?, Apr. 27, 2022, which is available as a .pdf file on the class TWEN site under the “Class Handouts” tab on the left side of the page. Please print it out and bring it to class.

Class 2 (Tuesday, Aug. 18): INTRODUCTION TO THE BILL OF RIGHTS:

Read pp. 44-60 of the casebook. Also read Barron v. Baltimore, pp. 142 (beginning in Section D --“Did the BOR Apply to the States?”) to 147.

I’m looking forward to meeting you.

LAW 5000-Contracts
(Ansah)

Texts:

1. Knapp, Crystal, Prince, Problems in Contract Law, 10th Edition. – required.
2. Knapp, Crystal, Prince, Rules of Contract Law, Statutory Supplement (Aspen) 2017-2018 (earlier version is okay) – **required**.
3. Brian Blum, Contracts: Examples and Explanations (7th Edition or other) (Aspen) – **optional/recommended**.

For the first hour of the class: please read Chapter 1. Attempt the questions, including Problem 1.1 (p.4), Problem 1.2 (p.18), and Review Questions (p.22).

For the second hour of the class: please read, and prepare to brief and discuss in class, the following cases in Chapter 2, Section A: Mutual Assent:

- Ray v. Eurice Bros.
- Lonergan v. Scolnick.
- Normile v. Miller.

Be sure to read all the notes before and after each case.

LAW 5000-Contracts
(Norberg)

For the first class, please read pages 1-41 in the casebook; and Restatement (Second) [R2] § 1; Uniform Commercial Code [UCC] §§ 2-102, 2-105(1), 1-103; and United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods [CISG] Articles 1(1), 2, 3(2), 6. The R2, UCC, and CISG provisions are in the statutory supplement, *Contract Law Selected Source Materials Annotated*. In addition, do CALI Exercise # 1: Overview and Sources of Contract Law, which you can access under Assignments on Canvas.

Finally, please carefully review the first five pages of the syllabus (also on Canvas) and bring any questions to class.

For the second class, please read pages 43-62 in the casebook.

LAW 5100- Criminal Law
(Miller)

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<i>WEEK 1</i> August 17	<u>Introduction</u> Criminal Law Criminal Punish	3-25; 25-50 (skim)	Panels open on August 18 th at 9:15 pm and close on August 23 rd by 9:15 pm.
August 18	Sources of Criminal Law	83-85; 89-109; 109-115; 116-118; 121-126	

LAW 6112- Criminal Procedure: Investigations
(Miller)

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<i>WEEK 1</i> August 17	<u>Fourth Amendment</u> Overview of the criminal process What is the Fourth Amendment?	9-11, 35-46; 69-92, 504-506	Panels open on August 18 th at 7:15 pm and close on August 23 rd by 7:15 pm.
August 18	What is a search? What is a seizure? <i>Katz</i> and expectations of privacy	93-101; 188-192	

LAW 6612- Criminal Procedure
(Schulze)

1. Access first week materials on Dropbox at this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/mbwc50zimks1etfc9eohn/AICMwmma51tjpiuhTWHHI-M?rlkey=nrb6vwozhfl50b7b03ohqhd8t&st=bnha3imz&dl=0>.

2. Read and complete the First Week Assignment.

3. Read the syllabus ... carefully.
4. Access my Criminal Procedure Canvas page when FIU makes it available.

LAW6106 - Death Penalty Clinic (Gorman)

Time required: 12-14 hours (i.e. first week's required hours if undertaking 4 credits)

Administrative – staff agreement form, orientation, systems, agreement (1-2hrs)

Reading (2-3hrs)

Training Videos: 43 mins (Teams/Sharepoint), 45 mins; 35 mins; 37 mins, 1hr 27 (Reviewing a case & documenting using our database system) & 57 mins (5.5hrs)

Docket Reviews (1-2 hrs)

Timesheet (0.5 mins)

Timeline: Complete by Week 1 (please aim to complete these tasks prior to class in order to hit the ground running and get off to the best start. If you are unable to do so, please prioritize tasks 1 – 5 followed by 7, 8, 6 and 9).

1. Complete and sign [Balanced Justice Staff Agreement](#) - you will not be granted access to any of our systems until this is completed and we have had time to approve your access i.e. you cannot proceed to 2 prior to this.

2. Read:

a. [Memo on surviving the first week of a death penalty clinic](#) (written by a fabulous survivor!)

b. Induction Memo (deliberately not linked – you will need to practice navigating our systems to access) which covers the basics of our different platforms and how we access them, as well as a summary of BJP's different projects. You can find this memo by navigating to the BJP One Drive -> Resources -> How Tos -> 2022_04_21_Resources – Memo Induction.

3. Check access/familiarize self with Balanced Justice Project [Microsoft Teams](#) Page (provided you have completed BJP staff agreement and received invite). Watch Teams/SharePoint Orientation Webinar (if you require some additional Teams support).

4. For video conferencing etiquette please review [article on zooming \(video conferencing\) etiquette](#).

5. Start your clinic timesheet and workflow document:

a. Open the template Timesheet & Workflow document which can be found via Teams BJP Page -> General -> Timesheets & Workflows Folder.

b. Immediately save a new copy of the document using our file naming convention (explained in induction memos above and syllabus) in your own name. Please do not change the name of the template document and do not write over the template document. Please double check you understand the file naming convention.

c. Complete the document in full having mind to the different worksheets: the Activity Log is for your activity and time spent completing each task. The Task List is for listing all the tasks you have been allocated or things you need to do. Use of both the Activity Log and the Task List is required so that professors and other BJP staff can quickly ascertain what tasks you have been allocated. You will need to keep this document up to date throughout the semester and will be expected to report your hours weekly via our meeting/teams chat.

6. Read/remind self of:

a. Gorman, H. L. & Ravenscroft, M. (2020). Hurricane Florida: The Hot and Cold Fronts of America's Most Active Death Row. Columbia Human Rights Law Review, 51.3, 937.

b. John H. Blume & Russell Stetler, Mitigation Matters, Tell the Client's Story: Mitigation in Criminal and Death Penalty Cases (Edward Monhan & James Clark editors; American Bar Association), 18-03 Cornell Legal Studies Research Paper 19 (2017), https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3091902

c. Florida Statute 921.141

7. Watch:

a. [Self-care webinar](#).

b. Videos on First Degree Murder Case Review/Death Penalty Basics:

- i. Briefing - Margot Ravenscroft – Introduction/Overview
- ii. Training FCCR 01
- iii. Training FCCR 02
- iv. Training FCCR 03
- v. Training FCCR 04 (Optional should you want additional practice).

All videos are accessible via SharePoint. You will receive an invitation to the clinic SharePoint via your FIU email to access (provided you have completed the BJP staff agreement form in 1 above). All videos are accessible, once you have permissions, via: [FIU LAW Clinic - Training Videos - All Documents \(sharepoint.com\)](#). If not accessible, links will be provided in first class.

Whilst you go through these videos, please review the following cases in preparation for our in-class discussion:

- Dwight Eaglin, Charlotte County
- Michael Schnitzerling, Broward County
- Peter Avsenew, Broward County
- Sonny Boy Oats, Marion County

Note: **Please ensure that you consult the court(s) docket ONLY** before cross referencing to the first-degree murder database entry for this individual. Please do not make any changes to the database directly for the purposes of our in-class discussion. If there are updates to be made, please note them. Please be prepared to answer the following questions (using the database coding where appropriate and in your own words) during class:

- i. Individual Name, Gender & Race
- ii. County & Circuit

iii. Legal Team (indigent or not, public – PD or JAC/private/pro bono, office/firm) – attorneys, mitigation specialist, investigator etc....

iv. Charge/Conviction

v. Death Penalty Status

vi. Case Posture

vii. Overview (brief – 1-2 sentences) of Case History/Proceedings

viii. Overview (brief – 1-2 sentences) of Case Facts

ix. Judge

x. State Attorney

xi. Deceased Name, Gender & Race.

xii. Updates to be made to databases/record collection system.

c. Processing Training Videos (7 in total – located on OneDrive in the Resources -> How Tos)

d. Review How Tos for further relevant training videos for incoming death penalty clinic students.

8. Navigate to practice Memo titled 2022_10_18_MSmith – MTG.Cl.GE.HG on internal Teams page -> General -> Files -> In Tray. Review this memo with an eye toward fully processing it as a group during first meeting.

9. Additional reading if you would like (not mandatory but helpful and provides additional support if want an overview of the key death penalty law and procedure basics):

a. Tavassoli, K.Y. (2016) a. Secondary Trauma in Capital Trial Defense Practice for Indigent Clients, ASU, <https://keep.lib.asu.edu/items/154461>

b. Death Penalty Key Law:

Furman v. Georgia, 408 U.S. 238 (1972)

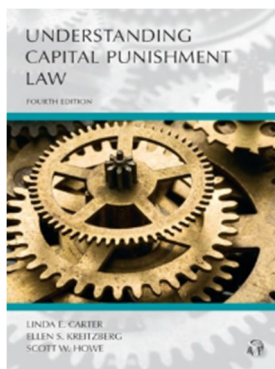
Greg v Georgia, 428 U.S.153 (1976)

Hurst v. Florida, 577 U.S. ____ (2016)

Hurst v. State, 136 S.Ct. 616 (2016)

Poole v. State, 2020 WL 3116597 (Jan 23,2020)

c. Chapter 7 – The Death Penalty Trial of LINDA E. CARTER, ET AL., UNDERSTANDING CAPITAL PUNISHMENT LAW (4TH ED. 2018). Carolina Academic Press: Durham, North Carolina, ISBN: 9781531008567



Available online: <https://fiu.libraryreserve.com/10/1334/en/ContentDetails.htm?id=F67097A%09C-714A-48C6-AD74-6177B507BFFD>

LAW 7930-Death Penalty & Mitigation in Criminal Proceeding (Gorman)

Course Introduction & Foundations of Capital Punishment

Landmark Case Law; Overview of the Role of Mitigation in Criminal and Death Penalty Proceedings

- Watch:
 - [Video: Attorney David Martin](#) 10:04
- Read:
 - [Furman v. Georgia, 408 U.S. 238 \(1972\)](#)
 - [Gregg v Georgia, 428 U.S.153 \(1976\)](#)
 - [Lockett v. Ohio, 438 US 586 \(1978\)](#)
 - [Eddings v. Oklahoma, 455 US 104 \(1982\)](#) [Williams v Taylor, 529 US 362 \(2000\)](#)
 - [John H. Blume & Russell Stetler, Mitigation Matters, Tell the Client's Story: Mitigation in Criminal and Death Penalty Cases \(Edward Monhan & James Clark editors; American Bar Association\), 18-03 Cornell Legal Studies Research Paper 19 \(2017\)](#)
 - Amnesty Int'l, [Death Sentences and Executions 2025](#) (2026).
- Assignment: Sign-Up for Oral Presentation – Nov 2, 9 or 16

LAW 7930- Emotional Intelligence (Ankus)

Please come to class fully prepared to discuss as follows: Week 1 Beyond Smart- Chapter 1, + Canvas Resources (8/17)

LAW 6471- Environmental Law (Ballan)

Course Schedule & Reading Assignments

Date	Class	Topics & Readings
Wed Aug 19	1	Introduction to Environmental Law <u>Readings:</u> - <i>Aagard, Owen & Pidot Casebook</i>, Ch. 1 pp.1-23 <u>Activities (before class):</u> - Reflection (bring to class, not turned in): 1. Before watching the videos and doing the readings, write a one-sentence <u>definition of environmental law</u>. 2. Watch the following videos: Elizabeth Fisher, <i>Environmental Law: A Very Short Introduction</i>, YOUTUBE (Oxford Academic), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nq3racsBxg0 <i>Understanding Environmental Law</i>, YOUTUBE (American Bar Association), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UQL-9wi5OdQ 3. In 1–2 short paragraphs or 4–6 bullet points, respond to the following: - Revise your one-sentence definition of environmental law (if it has changed). - Briefly explain how your view of environmental law has changed (if at all). - Identify one major challenge in environmental law. Have your notes handy for our discussion. You do not need to submit this in advance; it's to support our in-class conversation.
Thu Aug 20	2	History of Environmental Law & Environmental Issues <u>Readings:</u> • <i>Aagard, Owen & Pidot Casebook</i>, Ch.1 pp. 23-43. <u>Activities (before class):</u>

		- Take or find online one or two photos that show an environmental issue in your neighborhood (current or prior). The photos may show either a problem affecting the local environment or a positive solution designed to improve environmental conditions. Include a sentence or two explaining the photo(s). Email the photo(s) and your description(s) to bballan@fiu.edu. Deadline: No later than 10:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 19. This assignment will not be graded.
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Required Materials

- AAGAARD, OWEN, & PIDOT, PRACTICING ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (3rd ed., 2025).

LAW 6330- Evidence (Ruiz)

Below are the assignments for the first week of class for Evidence. The readings are all from “Learning Evidence: From the Federal Rules to The Courtroom,” by Deborah James Merritt and Ric Simmons.

Please come to class prepared to discuss the materials in each chapter.

I’m looking forward to seeing all of you!

Class of 8.19.26:

Read the following chapters:

- Chapter 1
- Chapter 2
- Chapter 3
- Chapter 4

Class of 8.20.26:

Read the following chapters:

- Chapter 5
- Chapter 6

LAW 6330- Evidence
(Wasserman)

Go to fiuevidence.blogspot.com

LAW 7930-Expert Witnesses in Civil Litigation
(Zalayet)

Read Chapter 1 of the course book.

The course book is:

A Litigator's Guide To Expert Witnesses

Second Edition

Cecil C. Kuhne III

Publisher : American Bar Association

eBook ISBN - 9781590317280

The Library has record of this eBook which is free for the students.

LAW 6710-Family Law
(Choudhury)

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Week 1:	Learning Objectives: Acquire an overview of the course, expectations, and class structure.	Read syllabus, Watch Lecture: Intro to family law CB:1-22; What is a family? Link posted to Canvas.
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LAW 6302- Federal Courts
(Wasserman)

Go to fiufedcourts.blogspot.com

LAW 6600- Federal Income Tax
(Martini)

Mandatory Reading

Fundamentals of Federal Income Taxation: Cases and Materials (21st ed. 2026): Chapter 1

U.S. Constitution: Article I, sec. 8 & 9; 16th Amendment

Assignments

1. Review the Course Syllabus closely.
2. Complete the Class Intro Survey.
3. Complete Academic Honesty Policy.

LAW 7930- Special Topics in Law: Federal Tax Practice and Procedure
(Martini)

Mandatory Reading

Bittker & Lokken: Federal Taxation of Income, Estates, and Gifts (available through Westlaw): Chapter 110.1, 110.5, and 110.6

Assignments

1. Review the Course Syllabus closely.
2. Complete the Class Intro Survey.
3. Complete Academic Honesty Policy.
- 4.

LAW 7930-Hospitality Law
(Moore)

Students should read the Carnival Cruise Lines, Inc. v. Shute, 499 U.S. 585 (1991) case: <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/499/585/>. We will discuss it together in class. I will also share additional information that will be provided to students regarding civil law, criminal law, and jurisdiction. Upon review, please let me know if you need anything else.

LAW 6750- Intellectual Property
(Travis)

Week 1 Notes:

1. Purchase the casebook, 2025 edition of Intellectual Property in the New Technological Age, in 2 volumes, for example by entering ISBNs 978-1945555282 and 978-1945555299 into the bookstore of your choice, or by using these links:
<https://www.amazon.com/dp/1945555289>
<https://www.amazon.com/dp/1945555297>
2. The most important volume to buy for the first few weeks is Volume II. If you have not received Volume I by the first week of class, you may use this free sample online:

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=5344140

There is no free sample of Volume II, however, and it will be the focus of the first 15 or more classes after the first class.

3. Consider your responses, personally, to Problem I-2, on page 38 of Volume I.

Class 1 Readings:

Volume I, pp. 1-40

Class 2 Readings:

Volume I, pp. 41-50, 59-84, 93-94, 101-104

LAW 6800- International Arbitration Competition
(Labgold)

First Week Assignment:

Read and be prepared to discuss:

- [U.N. Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods \(CISG\), Articles 1-6.](#)
- CISG Legal Design Jam Group, Visual CISG (2013), “*When is the CISG applicable? (chapter 1)*”
- o Accessible at http://legaldesignjam.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/visualCISG_booklet.pdf
- [Orchis Worldwide Ltd v. Darwin Natural Food plc](#) mock case prepared for the 33rd Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot
- o Accessible at https://www.vismoot.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/33rd-Vis-Moot_Problem_FINAL.pdf

LAW 5259- Introduction to International & Comparative Law
(Ansah)

Text:

Dunoff, Hakimi, Ratner, and Wippman, *International Law: Norms, Actors, Process. A problem-Oriented Approach*. 6th Edition (Wolters Kluwer).

For the first class, please read pp. 1-31.

For the second class, please read pp. 31-63.

LAW 6751-Law Firm Management
(Dollar)

- Pearce, Russell G., Revitalizing the Lawyer-Poet: What Lawyers Can Learn from Rock and Roll (May 11, 2010). Widener Law Journal, Symposium on The Lawyer as Poet Advocate: Bruce Springsteen and the American Lawyer, Vol. 14, p. 907, 2005, Fordham Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 908897, Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=908897>

LAW 6936- Law & Literature (Ansah)

First week assignment:

Text: Thomas Morawetz, *Literature and the Law* (Wolters Kluwer, 2007).

Please read the following before first class:

Chapter 1 “Introduction,” pp. xx-xxviii.

James Salter, “American Express,” pp. 2-21.

Walter Just, “About Boston,” pp. 22-47.

Homework before class:

Write a brief synopsis of each story and how each one relates to (a) the study of law, and (b) the practice of law.

LAW 6350- Law & Procedure: U.S. & Florida Course Students (Ruiz)

The first assignment for the Law & Procedure: U.S. & Florida class is:

Week of 8.17.26: Introduction

Topics Covered: (1) Course Introduction

Assignments for First Class: (1) Log into Canvas at <https://canvas.fiu.edu> . Complete all the assignments for the modules titled “Before the Semester Begins.”

(2) Read the Syllabus.

(3) Be ready to succeed on the bar exam!

Law Review
(Davis)

"Issue 21.2 Round 2 Editing Assignment"

LAW 6226- Legal History
(Mirow)

"Please read and be ready to discuss pages xv-xxviii, 1-44 in Lawrence M. Friedman, A History of American Law, Fourth Edition, New York, Oxford University Press, 2019. Please note you should purchase the paperback edition and only the Fourth Edition for the class. I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday."

LAW 5792 - Legal Skills & Values I (all sections)
(Correoso, Glazer-Esh, Lozada, Mullins, Ortega, Rosenthal, Suarez)

Class 1:

1. In your textbook (**Christine Coughlin et al., A Lawyer Writes (4th ed. 2024)**), read the Introduction (pp. xxi-xxii) and Chapter 1 ("How Attorneys Communicate").

2. Read the following Florida Bar materials:

- Oath of Admission to The Florida Bar
- The Florida Bar Creed of Professionalism
- Rules Regulating The Florida Bar:
 - o Rule 4-1.1: Competence
 - o Rule 4-1.3: Diligence

*Note: To locate the assigned Florida Bar materials, go first to the [Florida Bar Website](#). At the top of the landing page, to the left of the search bar, **click on "Rules, Ethics & Professionalism"** and **then on "Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism"** on the page that appears. On the Henry Latimer Center landing page, click on **"Regulating Professionalism"** from the left-side menu. For the Oath of Admission and the Creed of Professionalism, click on the tiles that correspond to those titles.*

*For the assigned Rules Regulating the Florida Bar, click on the **"Rules of Professional Conduct"** tile and then on **"Rules of Professional Conduct"** beneath RRTFB Chapter 4. Click on each assigned rule in the left-side table of contents.*

3. Read [Supreme Court of Florida Opinion No. SC2026-0673](#).

4. Read *Byoplanet International v. Johansson*, [available here](#) and posted in the modules on your LSV professor's Canvas course page.

Class 2:

1. In your textbook (**Christine Coughlin et al., A Lawyer Writes (4th ed. 2024)**), read pp. 33-34 in Chapter 3 ("Reading for Comprehension"). Skim Chapter 3.2 ("Reading Judicial Opinions," pp. 45-64).
2. Carefully read the Comprehensive Course Syllabus and submit your Student Information form. During or shortly before Class 1, your individual LSV professor will provide you with information about accessing these documents.

Legal Skills and Values III

(Ankus, Brener, Burgos, DaPonte, De La Rosa, Delionado, Hardmon, and Segal)

WEEK ONE

COURSE

INTRODUCTION & INTERVIEWING THE CLIENT

Class 1

- **Read the Course Syllabus *before* the first class (available on your Canvas course page).**
- **Complete the assigned reading *before* completing your client interview plan and attending the first class:**
 - **Read:** Krieger, Neumann, Hutchins, *Essential Lawyering Skills* (7th ed. 2025), **Chapter 2, *Becoming a Professional***, pp. 7-31; **Chapter 7, *Observations, Memory, Facts, and Evidence***, pp. 107-126; **Chapter 8, *Interviewing the Client***, pp. 127-160.
 - **Read:** Florida Bar Rules of Professional Conduct, R. Regulating Fla. Bar 4-1.6 (Confidentiality of Information).
 - **Read:** Florida Bar Rules of Professional Conduct, R. Regulating Fla. Bar 4-1.8 (Conflict of Interest; Prohibited and Other Transactions).
- **Prepare a client interview plan and hand in a print copy¹ to your LSV III professor *before* the start of the first class**, in accordance with the information and instructions that follow. (Make sure to keep a copy of your client interview plan.)

¹ **Note to LSV III students:** Your client interview plan should be typed, in 12-point Times New Roman font, and stapled. It should be single-spaced, with paragraph breaks between sections or wherever applicable, and margins must be one inch on all sides. You should also include page numbers in the center of the bottom margin. Please print on only one side of each page. **You are not permitted to use any AI tool to help you generate the questions for the initial interview and are required to certify that you have complied with this requirement on the last page of your client interview plan. Accordingly, on the last page include the following:** *I, (state your name), did not use any Artificial Intelligence ("AI") to generate the questions for the client interview. By submitting this assignment, I certify that I have not used AI as instructed and understand that failure to follow this instruction constitutes academic misconduct and may result in a reduced grade and/or academic discipline.*

Simulation: Interviewing the Client

We are very pleased that you have accepted our offer and will be working for our firm. A prospective client, Sam Lorens, has recently contacted us to represent him in a personal injury case. The associate originally assigned to this new matter, Eva Jackson, had to start preparing for a trial earlier than expected. However, she was able to schedule the initial meeting with Sam during the week of August 17, and we do not want to reschedule this meeting. Because we need to interview Sam and gather information about the circumstances surrounding his case right away, I would like you to take the lead and start preparing for his interview.

For the meeting with Sam, you should prepare an interview plan. For this initial meeting, the interview plan should be approximately two to three pages long.² In your interview plan, you should identify the five parts of an interview and include the corresponding applicable information.³ For example, under the information-gathering part you should include the questions that should be asked during the prospective client's interview to learn about the facts surrounding the incident in question. Similarly, under the goal-identification part of the interview you should include the questions you should ask to learn what the client wishes to accomplish.

When Eva spoke on the phone with Sam about scheduling his initial meeting, she learned that he was injured while on a sightseeing cruise excursion near Miami Beach. He said he was still experiencing pain and was "very upset" about how the whole situation was handled. Sam mentioned that he was injured while taking a dance lesson on the boat. Apparently, while Sam was following the dance instructor, another guest, who was also part of the group participating in the class, fell on him after tripping over something on the dance floor. Sam seemed unsure whether to blame the other guest or the company operating the boat tour itself for creating an unsafe environment, or both, but he insisted that someone needed to be held accountable.

During the interview, you should obtain sufficient information to determine whether the prospective client has a cause of action for damages. You should review the applicable Florida law, as well as consider any potential intentional tort theory.⁴

If I learn any new information about the prospective client before the interview, I will let you know. I look forward to reviewing your client interview plan!

² **Note to LSV III students:** The suggested length for this assignment is a general recommendation and not a requirement.

³ **Note to LSV III students:** Your assigned reading includes discussions about the different parts of a client interview, as well as the information that should be included in a client interview plan. Your client interview plan, however, should be presented in the format that is useful to you. Therefore, while there may be various parts of an interview and corresponding information that should be included, how you present the information for each part is entirely up to you.

⁴ **Note to LSV III students:** As you will learn from your assigned reading, to write an effective client interview plan you will have to conduct research about potential causes of actions. Here, for example, you will need to research to identify a potentially applicable intentional tort and its elements and consider whether it is a potential viable cause of action for Sam Lorens. This process, in turn, will assist you in determining the best questions to ask during the interview. Similarly, you will have to determine any other Florida law or standard that may be applicable to your facts and include questions in your interview plan that reflect your understanding of such applicable law.

Class 2

TOPIC: Interviewing the Client cont'd

ASSIGNMENT:

- **Read: *Essential Lawyering Skills*, Chapter 4, *Lawyering as Problem Solving*, pp. 49-73; Chapter 5, *Communication Skills*, pp. 75-94.**
- Make sure to bring a copy of your client interview plan to class.
- **Submit on Canvas, through the assignment link, your final client interview plan & self-assessment *before* the start of class on Wednesday, August 26 (if your class meets on Mondays & Wednesdays) or Thursday, August 27 (if your class meets on Tuesdays & Thursdays), in accordance with the submission instructions provided in class. Hand in a print copy to your professor.**

LAW 6936- Patent Law (Zhao)

For our first class, please read pages 10-57 of the casebook for our course, Jonathan S. Masur & Lisa Larrimore Ouellette, *Patent Law: Cases, Problems, and Materials* (5th ed. 2026). You can find a free copy of it available for download at <https://www.patentcasebook.org>. Please also start thinking about the topic for your research paper.

LAW 6031-Payment Systems (Esquirol)

Textbooks:

1. **Commercial Law, 10th Edition**
Warren and Walt, Foundation Press (2019)
ISBN: 9781683289487
2. **Commercial Law: Selected Statutes, 2026-27 Edition**
Warren and Walt, Foundation Press (2026)
ISBN-13: 9798317704209

Please make sure you purchase the **10th Edition** of the Commercial Law textbook. You must also have access to an up-to-date version of the Uniform Commercial Code with Official Comments. Online versions usually do not provide the official comments. Make sure you have the above Documents Supplement or equivalent with Official Comments. You will need them. Students can receive a 15% discount on print or digital copies of these books if purchased at store.westacademic.com Use the code **WAFIU** at checkout to receive the discount (free shipping and temporary digital access if a print copy is ordered).

Additionally, the law school participates in Early eBook Access. This means that all students have free digital access to these books ***one week before classes start and two weeks after classes start.*** If you have any questions about how to obtain access, please contact asklawlib@fiu.edu. Therefore, no excuses for failure to comply with assignment deadlines because of textbook delivery delays.

First Week Assignment:

Please access Canvas Course Page as soon as it opens. Read the Course Outline carefully. There are two assignments due the first week. Below are the readings for the first week.

Week	Topics and Readings	Due Dates
Module 1 (Week 1)	Introduction: Negotiability pp. 651- 662	Tuesday, August 18 before 11:59:00 p.m.
	Requisites for Negotiable Instruments pp. 662- 675	Thursday, August 20 before 11:59:00 p.m.

After you have read the assigned pages, view the video lectures in Canvas, and then proceed to the Assignment. Keep close track of the assignments deadline and submit within the due dates.

The Assignments are your answers to the “Problems” appearing in the textbook in the assigned pages for each section. The questions are prominently labelled "Problem" or "Problems" in the textbook. The number of problems for each assignment varies, depending on the topic. It is only these questions that you are required to answer (not other hypotheticals titled "Cases" or other questions raised in the textbook). Answers for each assignment should be submitted separately by its due date (do not include answers for other days in the same submission). Please do not retype or restate the Problem in your answers. Be concise.

If you have any difficulties with Canvas, please contact them by email, chat <https://canvas.fiu.edu/chat/> or phone 305-348-3630 directly.

LAW 6750-Professional Responsibility (online)
(Dollar)

- Module 1 will open on the first day of class. All readings and assignments will be available on Canvas.

LAW 6051-Secured Transactions
(Esquirol)

Textbooks:

1. **Commercial Law, 10th Edition**
Warren and Walt, Foundation Press (2019)
ISBN: 9781683289487
2. **Commercial Law: Selected Statutes, 2025-26 Edition**
Warren and Walt, Foundation Press (2026)
ISBN-13: 9798317704209

Please make sure to purchase the **10th Edition** of the Commercial Law textbook. You must also have access to an up-to-date version of the Uniform Commercial Code with Official Comments. Online versions usually do not provide the official comments. Make sure you have the above Documents Supplement or equivalent with Official Comments. You will need them.

Students can receive a 15% discount on print or digital copies of these books if purchased at store.westacademic.com. Use the code **WAFIU** at checkout to receive the discount (free shipping and temporary digital access if a print copy is ordered).

Additionally, the law school participates in Early eBook Access. This means that all students have free digital access to these books *one week before classes start and two weeks after classes start*. If you have any questions about how to obtain access, please contact asklawlib@fiu.edu

Therefore, no excuses for failure to comply with assignment deadlines because of textbook delivery delays.

First Week:

Please access Canvas Course Page as soon as it opens. Read the Course Outline carefully. There are two written assignments due the first week. Below are the readings for the first week.

Week	Topic and Reading	Due Date
Module 1 (Week 1)	Introduction 3-15	Monday, Aug 17 before 11:59:00 p.m.
	Attachment 15-24	Wednesday, Aug 19 before 11:59:00 p.m.

After you have read the assigned pages, view the video lectures in Canvas, and then proceed to the Assignment. Keep close track of the assignments deadline and submit within the due dates.

The Assignments are your answers to the "Problems" appearing in the textbook in the assigned pages for each section. The questions are prominently labelled "Problem" or "Problems" in the textbook. The number of problems for each assignment varies, depending on the topic. It is only these questions that you are required to answer (not other hypotheticals titled "Cases" or other questions raised in the

textbook). Answers for each assignment should be submitted separately by its due date (do not include answers for other days in the same submission). Please do not retype or restate the Problem in your answers. Be concise.

If you have any difficulties with Canvas, please contact them by email, chat <https://canvas.fiu.edu/chat/> or phone 305-348-3630 directly.

Canvas Support Chat - FIU Canvas Help

Canvas Support Chatchat FIU Live chat hours are from 8am - 11:59pm ET.
canvas.fiu.edu

Special Topics
(Ruiz)

The first assignment for the Special Topics online class is:

Week of 8.17.26: Introduction

(1) Log into Canvas at <https://canvas.fiu.edu> . Complete all the assignments for the modules titled “Before the Semester Begins.”

(2) Read the Syllabus.

(3) Be ready to succeed on the bar exam

LAW 5700- Torts
(Hefti)

Welcome to *Torts*! Before our class, please read the syllabus and introduce yourself on the discussion board.

Week 1

Class 1: Introduction

Dobbs, Hayden, Bublick, *Torts and Compensation*, Concise 9th ed. (2022) [hereinafter DHB], pp. 3–27; Restatement, pp. 1–8 (*Van Camp v. McAfoss*)

Class 2: Battery

DHB pp. 31–49; Restatement, pp. 10–23 (*McElhaney v. Thomas*, *Cohen v. Smith*, *Garratt v Dailey*, *White v. Muniz*, *Wagner v. State*)

LAW 6363- Trial Advocacy
(Gonzalez)

Fundamental Trial Advocacy, Chapter 1 (“The Best Way to Learn Advocacy”), and Chapter 2 (“Lawyers, Judges, & Juries”)

LAW 7930- Women in Legal History
(Choudhury)

Read "The Scarlet Letter" by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

LAW 6742-Veterans Law
(Sears)

- 38 U.S.C. §§ 101–110
- Henderson v. Shinseki (2011)
- American Veterans Now Receive Absurdly Generous Benefits - *The Economist*

LAW 6390- Wills and Trusts
(Mirow)

“Please read and be ready to discuss pages 3-30 in Elena Maria Marty-Nelson, et al., Florida Wills, Trusts, and Estates, Cases and Materials, Fifth Edition, Durham, Carolina Academic Press, 2024. Please note you should purchase the paper edition and only the Fifth Edition for the class. I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday.”