

Fall 2020 Course List and Information

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First-Year Courses (J.D. Program)

CIVIL PROCEDURE I 503 (3 hours)

The basic course on the structure and power of American courts, focusing on personal jurisdiction, subject matter jurisdiction, and venue.

CONTRACTS 501 (4 hours)

The law of enforceable promises, including contract formation, interpretation, conditions, breach, performance and remedies, as well as promissory estoppel and restitution.

LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING I 514 (4 hours)

Continued study and practice of refined and expanded legal research and writing skills, applying them to more complex legal problems, primarily using federal law materials and focusing on persuasive legal writing.

TORTS 502 (4 hours)

Civil liability for harm to persons, property, and other interests, including negligence, intentional torts, and strict liability actions and related doctrine of causation, damages, privileges, and defenses.

Second- and Third-Year Courses (J.D. Program)

ACADEMIC LEGAL WRITING 745 (3 hours - Writing)

Academic Legal Writing is a seminar course on academic legal research, writing, and argument designed to help students prepare scholarly articles for publication.

Enrollment in this class requires the instructor's approval.

ADVANCED LEGAL TOPIC II 772 – Creative Writing for Lawyers (1 hour)

The construction of a powerful narrative from the relevant facts of the case is one of the most vibrant tools a lawyer can use in advocating for a client. Even transactional lawyers dealing mainly with contracts must be skilled in playing the imaginative game of what-if in deciding on contract language for future possible scenarios. This mini-seminar will use creative writing exercises to sharpen these story-telling skills. Students should be prepared to share such exercises during class meeting times and also to engage in supportive critiques of the works of others in the class. For those students with a love for creative writing, the course will conclude with discussions of publishing contracts and the intellectual property implications of many of the ways (including blogging and tweeting) in which lawyers write these days. The class will meet 6 times for 2 hours each on weekday evenings over the course of the semester. Enrollment is capped at 9, first come first served. Specific times, dates, and locations for meetings to be arranged once students are enrolled. (Z credit).

ADVANCED LEGAL TOPIC III 773 – Election Law: Voting Rights and the Role of Race in the Trump Supreme Court (1 hour)

Topics to include in one-hour Election Law course: Racial and partisan gerrymandering, ballot access, voter fraud, voter ID laws, vote dilution, campaign finance and corruption (focusing on U.S. v. Senator Bob Menendez), election contests and recount procedures

Sets of the three-editions of America Votes! Challenges to Modern Election Law & Voting Rights (ABA 2008, 2012, 2016) will be given to the top three law students in this class. (Z credit).

ADVANCED LEGAL TOPIC IV 775 – The Constitution of Economic Liberty (1 hour)

This course will focus on the philosophical roots of economic liberty and explore how those roots should inform jurisprudence and political thought. It will delve into constitutional first principles and how the Supreme Court has applied them. It will challenge students to deepen their understanding of the relationship between economic liberty and legal rights, and to test personal beliefs against commitments to the rule of law. Students will write a response paper reacting to the readings for each session.

ADVANCED LEGAL TOPIC VI 776 – Pretrial Practice (3 hours – Skills)

Instruction and practice in the legal skills needed for pretrial practice in federal and state courts, including pretrial planning, investigation, pleading, discovery, motions, and settlement.

ADVANCED LEGAL WRITING 712 (3 hours - Writing)

A lecture/lab course to expand skills acquired in first-year legal research and writing courses.

ADVOCACY COMPETITION 761 (1 hour)

Participation in an external skills competition or similar program (including appellate advocacy, mock trial, negotiation, and other advocacy or skills activities). (Z credit).

AGRICULTURAL LAW 674 (2 hours)

This course will provide an overview of the legal framework governing agricultural operations, with particular attention to environmental and land use regulations. The course will specifically examine how agriculture affects water quantity and quality, as well as the legal mechanisms in place to minimize such impacts. The course will also cover the intersection of agricultural and animal law with respect to livestock operations and aquaculture (fish farming). Current agricultural topics will be covered, such as sustainability issues, organic certification, and the production and sale of GMO products.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION 651 (3 hours - Skills)

Introduction to nonadjudicative dispute resolution processes that utilize problem-solving approaches to resolve disputes, including client interviewing and counseling, negotiation, mediation, arbitration, summary jury trials, special masters, mini-trials and mediation-arbitration. Practical experience gained through role-playing exercises.

BANKRUPTCY 558 (3 hours)

Exploration of the legal, practical, and theoretical aspects of financial insolvency of both individuals and business entities under the Bankruptcy Code. Emphasis on topics that apply both to liquidations and reorganizations under the Bankruptcy Code, including involuntary bankruptcy, claims resolution, scope of bankruptcy discharge, executory contracts, trustee's avoidance powers and distribution. In addition, the individual's right to a "fresh start" will be examined.

BAR EXAM SKILLS 591 (2 hours)

This class is for students who will be taking the July bar exam. Unlike a commercial bar review class, which focuses on reviewing the substantive material the exam will cover, this class will prepare students for the entire process of studying for and taking the bar exam. Students will develop a game plan for studying and mastering the material and will then learn techniques to master each part of the exam: multiple-choice questions, essay questions, and the performance test.

BUSINESS FELLOWS COURSES**REORGANIZING GM 701 (1 hour)****REORGANIZING DETROIT 705 (1 hour)****TAXATION CONSIDERATION FOR ENTREPRENEURS 706 (1 hour)**

Tax Considerations for Entrepreneurs explores how issues of taxation affect decisions for any business. The class will focus on maximizing tax benefits, and therefore minimizing costs in transactions such as: Are the costs of starting-up a business tax deductible in any form? How do tax considerations impact on my choice of business entity? What if the business deals in cross-border transactions? How do the tax laws affect decisions about capitalization and acquisition of business assets? What tax decisions play a role in the businesses day-to-day transactions? What are the important limitations on tax planning that every business should understand?

CHILDREN IN THE LEGAL SYSTEM 646 (3 hours)

Study of the law as it relates to minors in the public and private sectors.

CLINICS:

The University of Mississippi Clinical Programs teach essential practice skills and professional responsibility through a reflective clinical practice that provides high-quality representation to underserved clients. To accomplish the dual goals of educating students and increasing access to justice, the programs offer a wide range of clinical practice areas, each focused on an area of demonstrated legal need and each offering unique skills training experiences. The programs aim to graduate students with real-world experience, an understanding of ethical obligations, and a commitment to furthering broad access to the legal system.

For additional information see: [Clinics Program Information](#)

CLINICS: ADVANCED 765 (3-5 hours - Skills)

Students perform advanced work in a clinic during an additional semester.

CLINICS: CHILD ADVOCACY 690 (5 hours - Skills)

Students are appointed by the Court to investigate allegations of neglect and abuse and to make written recommendations to the Court regarding the best interests of the child. Students in the Child Advocacy Clinic conduct in-depth investigations by performing home visits, reviewing medical and school records, and interviewing fact witnesses. This section is offered for 5 hours of graded credit and is supervised by attorney David Calder.

For additional information see: [Child Advocacy Clinic](#)

CLINICS: EXTERNSHIP 654 (3-12 hours - Skills)

Work as legal assistants with prosecutors, defenders, judges, or attorneys in public service agencies with established internship programs. Prerequisites: Evidence 600. (Z credit).

For additional information see: [Externship](#)

CLINICS: HOUSING 691 (5 hours - Skills)

Students bring and defend cases, negotiate, and give advice in order to assist individuals and families facing conflicts with their landlord, eviction, foreclosure, or housing discrimination. Students take responsibility for the management of their own cases, meet with clients, interview witnesses, draft motions and pleadings, and appear in court. This section is offered for 5 hours of graded credit and is supervised by Clinic Director Desiree Hensley.

For additional information see: [Housing Clinic](#)

CLINICS: MACARTHUR JUSTICE CLINIC 733 (4 hours - Skills)

Students serve on a legal team pursuing impact litigation addressing criminal justice and civil rights issues in Mississippi. Students also assist with policy and legislative initiatives.

For additional information see: [MacArthur Justice Clinic](#)

CLINICS: PRO BONO INITIATIVE 713 (1 hour)

Credit for 50 or more hours of pro bono work, such as working for approved pro bono organization or project. (Z credit).

For additional information see: [Pro Bono Initiative Clinic](#)

CLINICS: TRANSACTIONAL 725 (3 hours - Skills)

Students offer services to low-income entrepreneurs and non-profit organizations to foster economic development, increase access to capital, promote job growth, and enable sustainable home ownership, particularly in the Mississippi Delta. The types of work involved in the clinic may include: entity formation and choice of entity counseling, contract negotiation and preparation, corporate and commercial financing, shareholder agreements, business acquisitions and sales, commercial leasing, licensing, permitting, and zoning advice, trademark and copyright advice, registration and intellectual property licensing, corporate governance and compliance, tax exempt applications and various other kinds of business-related transactional legal work. The clinic is supervised by Marie Cope and Cameron Abel, an attorney at the Tollison Law Firm in Oxford, MS.

For additional information see: [Transactional Law Clinic](#)

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW II 508 (3 hours)

The second semester of a coordinated two-semester coverage of intergovernmental relations in the federal system, powers of Congress and the limitations imposed upon the powers of both federal and state governments for the protection of individual rights.

COPYRIGHT LAW 657 (3 hours)

Survey of copyright law, including copyrightable subject matter, the requirements for protection, the bundle of rights encompassed by copyright, infringement, defenses (such as fair use and the First Amendment), preemption issues, and some aspects of foreign protection. Resale royalties, moral rights, the right of publicity and other related doctrines also will be discussed.

CORPORATIONS 601 (3 hours)

A survey of the law of business associations, focusing on corporations and their formation, structure, finance and governance; close corporation problems; regulation of corporate disclosures and proxy solicitations under federal securities law; securities fraud and insider trading.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE I: INVESTIGATION 635 (3 hours)

A study of constitutional restrictions on criminal investigative practice, which typically precede institution of formal judicial proceedings, with special emphasis upon search and seizure, interrogation, right to counsel at the pretrial stage, and operation of the exclusionary rule.

CRIMINAL TRIAL EVIDENCE SKILLS 748 (2 hours - Skills)

Uses role-playing and demonstrations to teach the practical application of the Rules of Evidence: skills will include objections; foundations; responses to various objections; motions; and other common evidentiary situations at trial. Students will not present a complete trial. (Z credit)

Prerequisite: Evidence 600 and Criminal Procedure I 635.

CRIMINAL TRIAL PRACTICE 686 (3 hours - Skills)

State and federal practice and procedure in criminal cases involving written and oral exercises, including mock trial, the use of discovery procedures, pretrial proceedings, motions, and other aspects of criminal trial practice. (Z credit).

Prerequisites: Evidence 600 and Criminal Procedure I 635 or Criminal Procedure II 714.

CRITICAL RACE THEORY 743 (3 hours – Writing)

This course dissects the social construction of race's impact on our legal history and conducts a study of the American Jurisprudence's treatment of racial and social issues.

EVIDENCE 600 (3 hours)

The function of the court and jury; the competency, privilege and examination of witnesses; the exclusionary rules of evidence and exceptions.

FEDERAL TAXATION OF GRATUITOUS TRANSFERS 626 (3 hours)

Federal estate, gift and generation-skipping transfer taxes.

HEALTH CARE LAW 726 (3 hours)

A survey of legal issues related to the health care industry.

INCOME TAXATION OF INDIVIDUALS 613 (3 hours)

Introductory income tax concepts, including gross income; deductions; identification of taxpayers; problems incident to the sale, exchange and other disposition of property; recognition; and characterization concepts.

INDIVIDUAL STUDY I 615 (1-3 hours)

Research and writing on an assigned topic under supervision of a faculty member, or participation on moot court or mock trial teams at regional or national competitions under supervision of a faculty member. (Z credit).

For additional information see: [Individual Study Application and Policy](#)

INDIVIDUAL STUDY II 715 (1-3 hours)

Legal research and analysis on a particular topic assigned by the faculty, and the preparation of a written article. Prerequisite: permission of the supervising faculty member and the Curriculum Committee of the law faculty. Note: Student must apply 6 weeks prior to the semester start date.

For additional information see: [Individual Study Application and Policy](#)

INSURANCE 559 (2 Hours)

The nature, form, interpretation, and application of the various kinds of insurance contracts.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY 580 (3 hours)

A survey of the field of intellectual property law, including federal copyright, patent and trademark law, as well as state law doctrine relating to trade secrets, unfair competition, dilution, the right of publicity, and misappropriation.

INTERNATIONAL LAW 620 (3 hours)

The nature, scope, development, and jurisdiction of international law; treaties; state responsibility; dispute resolution; human rights.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY LAW AND POLICY 658 (3 hours - Writing)

Legal issues relating to war and armed conflict, separation of constitutional powers, emergency powers, the security role of the United Nations, and the strengthening of the enforcement of international humanitarian law; related political, military, and diplomatic ramifications.

INTERNATIONAL SPACE LAW 680 (3 hour)

This course provides an overview of current international space law in U.N. resolutions and treaties and customary law. It identifies legal theory and principles used in the advancement of civil, military, and commercial space activities.

INT'L AVIATION FINANCING AND LEASING LAW 753 (3 hours – Writing – §2)

This course covers the primary legal and practical aspects of international aviation finance and leasing Law, and focuses on special international and national private air law (*lex specialis*) that applies to cross-border financing and leasing of aircraft objects. This course also addresses the relevant international disputes that currently arise in the international aviation finance practice.

Note: Course prerequisite requires students to be enrolled in the LL.M. program. If you are interested in this course, please send request to Law Registrar, Eddie Upton to add you to this class

JOURNAL OF SPACE LAW 583 (1 hour)

The Journal of Space Law is an academic review of national and international scope, focusing on the many aspects of space, remote sensing, and aerospace law. Research, writing, and editing assignments, and other duties necessary to the operation of the Journal of Space Law. One hour credited for each term of participation to maximum of 4 hours. Limitation: maximum of one Z credit per semester and four Z credits total for co-curricular activities (including law journals, advocacy programs, and similar activities). (Z credit).

LABOR LAW 614 (3 hours - Writing)

The regulation of relations between employers and labor unions at common law and under federal legislation, with primary emphasis on employee rights to organize and bargain under the National Labor Relations Act.

LAW AND ECONOMICS 576 (2 hours)

The application of basic economic principles to a variety of legal issues, including property, environmental law, contracts, torts, crime and punishments, and corporate law. No prior economics training is required.

LEGAL PROFESSION 603 (3 hours)

Historical background of the legal profession, its proper functions in society, and ethical conduct in the practice of law.

LEGAL TOPICS I 698 – Cybersecurity Law (3 hours)

This course provides students with an understanding of the development of law and policy related to cybersecurity. It will address U.S. and international laws related to cybersecurity, ICT security, data security, information security, law enforcement surveillance, cybercriminal combat, privacy and other related issues. Special consideration will be given to the application of these rules in respect to aviation and space systems.

MISSISSIPPI CIVIL PRACTICE 579 (3 hours)

Civil practice and procedure in the courts of Mississippi.

MISSISSIPPI LAW JOURNAL 610 (1 hour)

Research, writing, and editing assignments and other duties necessary to the operation of the *Mississippi Law Journal*. One hour credited for each term of participation to maximum of 4 hours, except editor-in-chief only may earn one additional (fifth) hour for service in summer term. Limitation: maximum of one Z credit per semester and four Z credits total for co-curricular activities (including law journals, advocacy programs, and similar activities). (Z credit).

MOOT COURT BOARD 666 (1 hour)

Administration and supervision of the moot court system. Limitation: maximum of one Z credit per semester and four Z credits total for co-curricular activities (including law journals, advocacy programs, and similar activities). (Z credit).

NEGOTIATION BOARD 763 (1 hour)

Participation in and administration of the Negotiation Board. Limitation: maximum of one Z credit per semester and four Z credits total for co-curricular activities (including law journals, advocacy programs, and similar activities). (Z credit).

PARTNERSHIP TAXATION 634 (3 hours)

Tax meaning of “partnership”; formation transactions between partner and partnership; determination and treatment of partnership income; sales or exchanges of partnership interests; distributions, retirement, death of a partner; drafting the partnership agreement. *Prerequisite: Income Taxation of Individuals 613.*

PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL AIR LAW 751 (3 hours – Writing/Take Home Exam Option)

Covers the unification of private international air law through the adoption of international conventions.

PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL AIR LAW 750 (3 hours - Writing)

Examines the relevant principles of public international law that apply to the use of air space by examining the sources of international air law and the law-making processes affecting the regime of air space and international air transport.

Note: Course prerequisite requires students to be enrolled in the LL.M. program. If you are interested in this course, please send request to Law Registrar, Eddie Upton to add you to this class.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT I 760 (1 – 4 Hours)

Research assistance for a faculty member. Requires completion of application form by student and supervising instructor. Please see Law Registrar for details. (Z credit). See Law Registrar for details.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT II 762 (1 – 4 Hours)

Research assistance for a faculty member. Requires completion of application form by student and supervising instructor. Application due significantly in advance of enrollment. See Law Registrar for details.

SELECTED LEGAL TOPICS I 701 §1 – Business Law Network Writing Class (1 hour – Writing)**SELECTED LEGAL TOPICS I 701 §2 – Reorganizing Detroit (1 hour)**

This course will study in depth the largest municipal bankruptcy case in US history – Detroit, Michigan. Municipal bankruptcy receives little attention in traditional bankruptcy courses, but has the potential to be crucial in the future as more municipalities and even states face insolvency. The course will cover the history, structure and operation of chapter 9 of the US Bankruptcy Code, as well as the unique issues presented by the reorganization case of a city the size of Detroit. There will be no textbook for the course. There will be a final examination. The introductory bankruptcy class is suggested, but not required.

SELECTED LEGAL TOPICS III 703 – Legal Topics Analysis (2 hour)

The class will focus on honing the analytical skills needed to earn the top grades: Preparing for class, attending class and taking good notes, reviewing class materials, and self testing.

SELECTED LEGAL TOPICS IV 704 – Global Anti-corruption and Bribery (3 hours - Writing)**SELECTED LEGAL TOPICS VI 705 §1 – Reorganizing the American Car Industry (1 hour)**

This course will study in depth the reorganization of the American car industry – specifically GM and Chrysler – and the developments in American corporate reorganizations that those cases have spawned. The size and political importance of these two American companies led lawyers and judges to use the US Bankruptcy Code in unique ways to ensure the companies would survive their insolvency. These cases in turn have revolutionized corporate reorganizations practice. We will study the cases of the US car companies and selected subsequent cases as well. There will be no textbook for the course. There will be a final examination. The introductory bankruptcy class is suggested, but not required.

SELECTED LEGAL TOPICS VII 707 – Elder Law (3 hours)

The University of Mississippi School of Law Elder Law 707 is a survey of a wide variety of the unique areas of Elder Law. The course is an introduction to the field of Elder Law. Attorney Catherine V. "Ginny" Kilgore serves as the Professor. The focus will be on both national and Mississippi issues. The course is an introduction to subjects such as access to health care through Medicaid, Medicare, long term care (nursing home and home care), Affordable Care Act; public benefit issues including Social Security and Supplemental Security Income; SNAP, unemployment benefits, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families and grandparents raising grandchildren supports; end of life planning for the person with a basic estate, including: powers of attorney, advance health care directives, and wills; Medicaid long term care issues including spousal protections, estate recover and transfer of assets; protection against loss of autonomy, including state practices in the area of supported decision-making as alternatives to guardianship and conservatorship; guardianship and conservatorship laws; ethics in elder law; laws protecting against elder abuse, neglect and exploitation; safety and consumer protection issues; and instruction on building a practice and community that provide support and inclusion of elderly clients and individuals with disabilities. The students may also develop documents and conduct community legal education activities to inform the public about current elder law topics. Additionally, the students complete 12-15 hours of community service learning activities related to elder law and keep and submit a journal of their activities. The students visit institutions such as nursing homes, assisted living facilities, adult day care facilities, hospitals, Veteran's Homes and Area Agency on Aging sites.

SELECTED LEGAL TOPICS VIII 708 – Constitutional Issues in Criminal Justice Reform (3 hours - Writing)**SENTENCING 668 – (3 hours)**

A study of the sentencing process. Topics covered may include: sentencing guidelines, sentencing alternatives, the philosophy of sentencing, restitution, forfeiture, probation and parole.

SPACE SECURITY LAW 736 (3 hours - Writing)

Addresses a wide variety of legal issues dealing with both the security of the space environment and national security derived from reliance on space assets, such as telecommunications satellites, remote sensing satellites and launch technologies.

SPORTS LAW I (INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS) 647 (3 hours – Writing option)

This course examines legal issues impacting amateur and professional sports. Includes analysis of sports cases and materials that cover multiple disciplines, including contracts, torts, constitutional law, antitrust, labor and employment, intellectual property and criminal law.

SPORTS LAW REVIEW 611 (1 hour)

Research, writing, and editing assignments and other duties necessary to the operation of the Sports Law Review. Limitation: maximum of one Z credit per semester and four Z credits total (five for EIC) for co-curricular activities (including law journals, advocacy programs, and similar activities). (Z credit).

TRIAL ADVOCACY BOARD 664 (1 hour)

Participation in the administration of the Trial Advocacy Board. Limitation: maximum of one Z credit per semester and four Z credits total for co-curricular activities (including law journals, advocacy programs, and similar activities). (Z credit).

WILLS AND ESTATES 516 (3 hours)

The execution, revocation, construction, and probate of wills and the administration of trusts and estates.

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INTERNATIONAL SPACE LAW 680 (3 hours)

This course provides an overview of current international space law in U.N. resolutions and treaties and customary law. It identifies legal theory and principles used in the advancement of civil, military, and commercial space activities.

LEGAL TOPICS I 698 – Cybersecurity Law (3 hours)

This course provides students with an understanding of the development of law and policy related to cybersecurity. It will address U.S. and international laws related to cybersecurity, ICT security, data security, information security, law enforcement surveillance, cybercriminal combat, privacy and other related issues. Special consideration will be given to the application of these rules in respect to aviation and space systems.

MASTER'S THESIS I 797 (1 hour)

Preparation of thesis proposal.

MASTER'S THESIS II 798 (1 hour)

Literature review.

MASTER'S THESIS III 799 (6 hours)

Drafting and completion of Thesis.

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Covers the unification of private international air law through the adoption of international conventions.

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Addresses a wide variety of legal issues dealing with both the security of the space environment and national security derived from reliance on space assets, such as telecommunications satellites, remote sensing satellites and launch technologies.