

Spring 2021 Course List and Information

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First-Year Courses (J.D. Program)

CIVIL PROCEDURE II 577 (3 hours)

The rules of pleading, procedure, and practice in the federal courts.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW I 507 (3 hours)

The first 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.

CRIMINAL LAW 568 (3 hours)

The sources of criminal law, analysis of criminal intent, conditions of criminal responsibility and particular crimes and procedure in criminal actions.

LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING II 515 (2 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.

PROPERTY 504 (4 hours)

Ownership and transfer of interests in land, including present and future estates, tenancies, easements, and covenants; real estate law and practice, with emphasis on mortgages, deeds of trust, and secured interests in real property.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW 605 (3 hours)

Powers and procedures of administrative agencies and reviewing courts at the federal and state levels, including federal and state administrative procedures acts.

ADVANCED LEGAL RESEARCH 720 (2 hours)

Legal research strategies and resources (including electronic resources, CD-ROM, the Internet, and online services) for specialized topics, such as municipal law, legislative history, federal administrative law, and international law.

ADVANCED LEGAL TOPICS I 771 – Transformative Works and Copyright Fair Use (1 hour)

One of the most challenging areas of intellectual property law to practice involves copyright's fair use doctrine. This mini-seminar is designed to inspire spirited class debates on the existing fair use precedent and how it should be applied to the proliferation of transformative works encouraged by today's Internet society. This course will examine well-known parodies like SNL and Weird Al's songs; mashups like those done by the artist Girl Talk; music sampling; Internet memes; and fanworks including fanvids, fanart, and fanfiction. Students should be prepared to engage in enthusiastic discussion and to bring their own examples of transformative works to class with them. The class will meet 6 times for 2 hours each on weekday evenings over the course of the semester.

ADVANCED LEGAL TOPICS II 772 – Science Fiction and the Law II (1 hour)

Many of the great works of science fiction deal with law in its various guises, some directly, others indirectly. In particular, science fiction offers a unique perspective to address issues relating to contemporary problems in law and society. This mini-seminar will explore some of the major themes of science fiction as they relate to law, including armed conflict, bioengineering, and climate change. Course materials will include short stories, graphic novels, novels, episodes from science fiction TV shows and movies. The class will meet 6 times for 2 hours each over the course of the semester.

ADVANCED LEGAL TOPICS III 773 – The Great Chief Justice: John Marshall and American Law (1 hour)

ADVANCED LEGAL TOPICS IV 774 – Depositions (3 hours)

In this course, you will develop the basic skills necessary to taking and defending depositions in a variety of contexts and engaging in negotiations for purposes of the settlement of litigation and "deal-making" in the non-litigation context through a combination of lectures, in-class demonstrations and team exercises. Students will be introduced to and expected to demonstrate deposition questioning techniques and strategies, deposition planning and organization as well as the skills and strategies which form the basis of effective negotiations. (Z credit).

ADVANCED LEGAL TOPICS V 775 – Criminal Litigation (1 hour)

The course will provide students with hands on experience moving a criminal case through the judicial system. Students will learn how to make initial contact with an arrestee, interview a client, set bond, interview witnesses and law enforcement officials, conduct a preliminary hearing, determine possible defenses, draft and argue motions, and make a record for appeal.

ADVANCED LEGAL TOPICS II 777 – Mississippi Judicial Practice (2 hours)

The class is designed to introduce students to all facets of law practice in Mississippi Courts (state and federal). Current and former judges will lecture on subjects ranging from ethics in the courtroom, attorney civility, procedural and substantive practice in trial and appellate courts, etc.

ADVANCED LEGAL WRITING 712 (3 hours – Writing)

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

ADVANCED TORTS 754 (2 hours)

This course will cover some or all of the following topics: defamation, privacy, misuse of legal procedure, interferences with advantage relations, statutory torts, civil rights, products liability and other possible areas of Torts not covered in the required first-year course. It is a standard lecture course, with the possibility of some drafting of legal documents and other exercises to develop practice skills.

Note: exam or paper course, at the professor's discretion.

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).

BAR EXAM SKILLS 591 (2 hours)

This class will prepare students for the process of studying for the bar exam. It will help them develop successful study schedules and techniques and will help them learn successful strategies for mastering each component of the exam.

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: INNOCENCE PROJECT 692 (3 hours - Skills)

Civil Clinic is an in-house clinical program with a general classroom component and separate clinical units. Students may enroll only once unless they receive special permission from the clinical director.

For additional information see: [Mississippi Innocence Project](#)

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)

Students perform legal work in microclinics on family law, wills, expungement, education, housing, and other issues. To obtain credit, students must complete all requirements within the semester in which they are enrolled in the course. (Z credit).

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

CLINICS: Tax 768 (3 hours- Skills)

Students assist low- and moderate-income taxpayers with completing tax returns ranging from simple to business and international.

For additional information see: [Tax 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](#)

COMPARATIVE NATIONAL SPACE LAW 677 (3 hours – Writing)

Survey the comparative national regulatory frameworks governing space activities, with a particular focus on the legal frameworks that govern private and governmental entities engaged in commercial space activities.

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.

CORPORATE FINANCE LAW 606 (3 hours)

The law governing corporate finance and acquisitions, including enterprise valuation, capital structure, dividend policy, mergers, takeovers, and takeover defenses.

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 PROCEDURE II: ADJUDICATION 714 (3 hours)

A study of issues surrounding state and federal criminal litigation beginning with the decision to commence formal judicial proceedings.

EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION 640 (3 hours)

Employment discrimination as regulated by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other federal statutes.

ENTERTAINMENT LAW 709 (3 hours)

This course examines legal issues relevant to the entertainment industry, including television/cable/radio, film, music, publishing, and theater.

ESSENTIAL BUSINESS CONCEPTS**MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS (707 – Selected Legal Topics VIII – 1 hour)**

Mergers & Acquisitions (“M&A”) covers: (1) structures used to accomplish corporate mergers and acquisitions, (2) tax effects of different structures, (3) federal securities law issues in mergers and acquisitions, and (4) key due diligence issues in mergers and acquisitions. The course is not open to students who have taken Business Associations.

Students will learn to identify options for structuring mergers and acquisitions and some of their key differences and to apply basic tax concepts to evaluate whether a deal will be tax free (no prior tax knowledge is needed). They will be able to determine where a target's liabilities will reside after a deal, identify the primary securities law issues that deals implicate, recognize the effect of standard anti-assignment clauses and loan agreements on deals, evaluate shareholder approval requirements triggered by various deal structures, and solve problems arising from the exercise of appraisal rights by minority shareholders.

ANALYTIC METHODS 671 (1 hour)

Analytical Methods covers: (1) how decision trees and expected values can be used in a variety of legal contexts, including contract terms, settlement negotiations, and regulatory compliance, and (2) how economics and game theory relate to legal practice. The objective is for students to understand and learn to apply non-legal analytical tools in the practice of law.

Students learn how to construct and apply a decision tree and to calculate the expected value of different courses of action. They also learn about how the laws of supply and demand, sunk costs, Coase theorem, prisoner's dilemma and other principles of economics and game theories can be used to understand property rules, criminal law and other legal subjects.

ACCOUNTING FOR LAWYERS (708 – Selected Legal Topics VII - 1 hour)

Accounting for Lawyers is a 1-credit class that covers the basics of financial accounting, including the structure and source of the balance sheet, income statement and statement of cash flows. The class addresses fundamental accounting concepts, including double-entry bookkeeping, matching principle, accrual basis accounting, and cash basis accounting. A working knowledge of accounting is a must for every business lawyer, which is why Accounting for Lawyers is so often cited by graduates as the most important class that they took or the class they most wish they had taken.

The learning objective is for students to understand the essential structure and use of financial statements and the nature of common accounting frauds. The class is one of the core requirements for the Business Law Certificate and is offered in tandem with two other one-credit classes, Capital Structure and Valuation, and Analytical Methods.

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.

FAMILY LAW 560 (3 hours)

The validity and requisites of marriage; the grounds for annulment and divorce; and the rights and duties arising out of the relation of husband and wife, parent and child, guardian and ward.

FEDERAL JURISDICTION 696 (3 hours)

Emphasis on litigation against the state and federal government. Includes general grants of jurisdiction and current utilization in damage suits against the state or federal treasury, provisions of the United States Code that waive sovereign immunity for specific types of litigation, code provisions that authorize discrete causes of action and make provisions for attorneys fees, and development of litigation that generates maximum economic impact.

FEDERAL TRIAL PRACTICE 678 (3 hours – Skills – Note: ABOTA)

Use of federal discovery procedures, pretrial proceedings, and motions. Trial of mock cases, civil and criminal, under federal rules. Prerequisite: Evidence 600. (Z credit).

GAMING LAW 661 (3 hours - Writing)

This course will focus on laws that regulate, prohibit, or permit gambling in various forms.

HEALTHCARE LAW II 741 (3 hours)

Focused study on particular issues in health care law and policy, as selected by the instructor.

INCOME TAXATION OF CORPORATIONS AND SHAREHOLDERS 633 (3 hours)

Tax considerations in corporate formations, distributions, redemptions, liquidations, and reorganizations. Prerequisite: Income Taxation of Individuals 613.

INCOME TAX II 702 (3 hours)

Advanced topics in the federal income taxation of individuals, including tax treatment of significant property transactions; consideration of timing of income and deductions; time value of money concepts; characterization issues; and additional treatment of special deduction limitation provisions. Prerequisite: Income Taxation of Individuals 613.

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](#)

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE 543 (3 hours - Writing)

Introduction to the financial problems of foreign operations. Foreign exchange, transfer of funds, banking services, international financial institutions, and investment decisions, with major emphasis upon rational and financial problems of multinationals.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAW 752 (3 hours – Writing)

Issues of the transnational flow of information which include both technical and social concerns that States have when international communication is involved.

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. 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) except editor-in-chief only may earn one additional (fifth) hour for service in summer term. (Z credit).

LAND PLANNING 632 (2 hours)

People, government, and land use; policy goals and governmental methods; zoning, subdivision regulations, urban renewal, housing for low-income families and industrial development.

LAW AND RELIGION 688 (2 hours)

A seminar course covering the Free Exercise and Establishment Clauses of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

LAW OF ARMED CONFLICT 531 (3 hours – Writing option)

Examination of rules of international law applicable to armed conflicts, with emphasis on contemporary case studies; includes the law on resort to force (jus ad bellum) and the law on conduct of hostilities (jus in bello).

LAWYERING SKILLS WORKSHOP 551 (3 hours)

A simulation-based practice course, including exercises in interviewing and counseling, fact investigation, case assessment, negotiation, motion practice, trial practice, and ethics.

LEGAL PROBLEMS OF INDIGENCE 639 (2 hours - Writing)

Problems of indigence under federal and state welfare programs; employer-employee relationship, unemployment compensation; consumer buying and debt; housing; family relationships.

LEGAL PROFESSION 603 (3 hours)

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

LEGISLATION 510 (3 hours)

The legislative process, national and state; the principles of statutory construction; and techniques of bill drafting.

MISSISSIPPI LAW JOURNAL 610 (1-5 hours)

Research, writing, and editing assignments and other duties necessary to the operation of the *Mississippi Law Journal*. 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) except editor-in-chief only may earn one additional (fifth) hour for service in summer term. (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).

POLITICAL AND CIVIL RIGHTS (3 hours - Writing)

Studies in the field of personal liberties (freedom of speech, religion, association), political rights (apportionment) and civil rights (personal violence, education, voting, and employment).

REMOTE SENSING LAW 655 (3 hours – Writing)

Remote sensing is a valuable technology in science, foreign policy, national security, and commerce. This course provides an overview of international and domestic remote sensing law and identifies issues in the United States and the international community.

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.

United State and how well these systems allocate water among these competing uses. In light of water supply issues like the ones

SECURED TRANSACTIONS 571 (3 hours)

Theoretical and practical justifications for the creation of security interests in personal property. Emphasis is on Articles 1, 2A, and 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code and bankruptcy law.

SELECTED LEGAL TOPICS IV 704 – Real Estate (3 hours)

A course in real estate law and practice, including sales contract and mortgage basics, recording, conveyancing, preparation of instruments of title, title searches, heir property, determination of title and removing clouds on title, and partition actions.

SPORTS LAW II (Professional Sports) 755 (3 hours)

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the application of law to professional sports, focusing mostly on football, baseball, and basketball, the three largest revenue sports. The class covers a wide-range of legal topics including contracts, torts, antitrust, labor law, constitutional law, professional responsibility, and others.

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).

TRADEMARK LAW 683 (3 hours – Writing)

Trademarks have grown in value to corporations as a means to communicate quickly and clearly with consumers. This course provides a thorough grounding in the world of trademark law: understanding the reasons for trademarks' worth to their owners and evaluating the best way to establish them and to defend them.

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).

U.S. NATIONAL AVIATION LAW 723 (3 hours – Writing)

This course covers domestic aviation laws, regulations and policy and explores all major aspects of aviation law, including, but not limited to: government regulation, liability, aircraft financing, economic regulation of domestic air routes and rates; aviation security and environmental law.

US DOMESTIC SPACE LAW 679- (3 hours – Writing/Take Home Exam Option)

This course cover the most developed body of domestic space law in the world: that of the United States. It addresses the nation's civil and military programs and offers a wide variety of commercial activities: launches, remote sensing, and satellite communications, among others.

LL.M. Program Courses (*Available to J.D. students working on Remote Sensing, Air and Space Law Certificate*)

COMPARATIVE NATIONAL SPACE LAW 677 (3 hours – Writing)

Survey the comparative national regulatory frameworks governing space activities, with a particular focus on the legal frameworks that govern private and governmental entities engaged in commercial space activities.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION LAW 757 (3 hours – Writing)

Issues of the transnational flow of information which include both technical and social concerns that States have when international communication is involved.

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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