Advanced Topics in Law Courses and Seminars for Spring 2021

Advanced Topics in Law courses and seminars cover topics of current interest and other topics not covered by the College of Law’s standard curricular offerings. The subject matter of the Advanced Topics courses and seminars varies each semester.

The College is pleased to offer several interesting topics under the Advanced Topics name in Spring 2021. Descriptions are provided below. If you would like more information, please feel free to reach out to the professors teaching Advanced Topics.

**Advanced Topics in Law A: Product Liability**
Professor: LeRoy Pernell
MW 1:15 pm-2:40 pm
3 credits

This course will provide an overview of how the law determines whether manufacturers, sellers and other commercial transferors of products should be liable for damages arising from personal injury or property damage caused by their products. The focus will be on “strict” products liability under Restatement (Third) of Torts: Products Liability, but other claims—such as negligence, warranty, and misrepresentation, also will be addressed. This includes design defects, manufacturing defects, defects in warnings and instructions and post-sale negligence.

**Advanced Topics in Law B: Public Health Law**
Professor: Seema Mohapatra
M 1:00 pm-2:50 pm
2 credits

This course will examine the international, federal, state, and local laws and policies which govern activities relevant to the public’s health. The purpose of public health law is to provide law students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities they will need as practicing attorneys for analyzing the legal, policy and ethical issues raised when events occur which impact or threaten the public’s health or when a public or private entity seeks to improve the public’s health.

**Advanced Topics in Law C: Asylum Law**
Professor: Maritza Reyes
T 3:00 pm-4:50 pm
2 credits

The course explores U.S. asylum law and procedure. The course is designed to give students a general understanding of the rules governing asylum and provide them with practical skills in legal analysis, research, writing, and case presentation of asylum issues. Topics covered include the definition of refugee; sources of U.S. asylum law; affirmative asylum and defensive asylum; and legal standards for demonstrating eligibility for asylum, withholding of removal, and protection under the Convention Against Torture. The evolution of U.S. immigration law is intimately tied to the history of the United States. Refugees are at the center of that story of immigration. The course covers the statutory, case law, policy, and human aspects of asylum law and policy. It is a course meant for students who think they might want
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to specialize in asylum practice, provide pro bono asylum representation, or learn about how the United States handles the plight of refugees.

**Advanced Topics in Law Seminar A: Intersectionality**
Professor: Jennifer Smith
T 3:15 pm-5:05 pm
2 credits

This course examines the interconnected nature of racism, sexism, classism, colorism, capitalism, and spiritualism on women. The course maps the origins of intersectionality, particularly in Black feminist thought, opens the discourse to challenges and applications across disciplines and outside academia, and explores the leading edges of scholarship to consider new directions for inquiry, advocacy, and activism.

**Advanced Topics in Law Seminar B: Human Trafficking**
Professor: Cheryl “Shelly” Page
TH 3:00-4:50
2 credits

This Human Trafficking course is designed to help students gain a better understanding of contemporary human trafficking and modern day slavery. During this course, students will learn important terminology in this field, the different types of human trafficking that exist and an understanding of the scope of the problem, both domestically and globally. Students will also learn about the physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual trauma experienced by victims of Human Trafficking and the methods used to recruit and control them. The roles that entities such as government, the media, faith-based organizations, organized crime and culture play in this complex human rights and social (in)justice issue will also be explored. (There are no prerequisites for this course).

**Advanced Topics in Law Seminar C: Ethics & Professionalism Seminar**
Professor: Nicky Boothe
M 3:00-4:50
2 credits

The Ethics & Professionalism Seminar provides the opportunity to explore a wide variety of legal ethical issues through comparative review of various state rules of professional responsibility; and provides advanced instruction in the history, goals, structure, values, rules and responsibilities of the legal profession and its members.

The seminar will encompass a holistic review of the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct, and the Florida Rules of Professional Responsibility. Students will explore a wide variety of legal ethics, with a focus on recent advisory and court opinions concerning ethical dilemmas. We will also explore a spectrum of philosophical, theological, pragmatic and utilitarian theories in an attempt to uncover the foundation that might be claimed to underpin the rules. Consideration will be given to the application of the rules of professional responsibility to real ethical conflicts with critical examination of the possibilities of the moral values reflected in the law.