

Law & Society
GVPT331
MW...9:00 AM – 9:50 AM
Jimenez 0220

Alan S. Nemeth
anemeth@gvpt.umd.edu
1140 D Tydings Hall P) 301-405-2817
Office Hours: MW...11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Teaching Assistants:

Mariam Memarsadeghi: 5141 Tydings Hall, Phone: 301-405-4557
Discussion sections: Friday, 10 AM, 11 AM, and 1 PM
Office Hours: M...10:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Sung-Wook Paik: 1135A Tydings Hall, Phone: 301-405-5021
Discussion sections: Thursday 2 PM, 3 PM, and Friday 9 AM
Office Hours: TH...4:30 PM – 5:30 PM and F...10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

As the course catalog says, this class will be a study of the basis of law and its relationship with various contemporary institutions such as the courts, the legal profession, and society at large. We will review a variety of cases and topics in the law. We will also bring current events and legal issues in the news into our review of law and society. Therefore, it would be good for you to watch the news in whatever medium you prefer – TV, radio, internet, etc. As we review the cases, the legal concepts, and current events, we will discuss the effects on society of that particular aspect of the law and how society views those issues.

The midterm will account for 30% of your grade, the final will account for the final 30% of your grade, a group project will account for 30% of your grade, and class participation will account for 10% of your grade. To earn an A for participation, you can miss no more than 3 discussion classes (which means that you attended 90% of them). For a B, you must have attended at least 22 discussion classes, and so on. Simply being there will not earn you full participation points – you should participate. Your grade will not necessarily rely on how much you talk, but rather the quality of what you bring to the discussion. Your TA's will give you a better idea of what they'll be looking for concerning class participation.

The plus/minus grading system will be used.

Book: Introduction to American Law
By: McAlinn, Rosen, Stern

September

3	Introduction Basic Principles of American Law	Read Chapter 1 <u>Church of the Lukumi Babalu Aye v. Hialeah</u> http://www.oyez.org/cases/1990-1999/1992/1992_91_948/
8	The Jury System	Read Chapter 2
10	The Legal Profession	Read Chapter 3
15	Constitutional Law: Individual Rights	Read Chapter 4

17	Constitutional Law: Individual Rights	Read Chapter 4
22	Constitutional Law: Individual Rights	Read Chapter 4
24	Civil Procedure and the Federal Courts	Read Chapter 5
29	Civil Procedure and the Federal Courts	Read Chapter 5
October		
1	Contracts	Read Chapter 6
6	Contracts	Read Chapter 6
8	Tort and Product Liability	Read Chapter 7
13	Tort and Product Liability	Read Chapter 7
15	Review Class	Email questions to me or TAs
20	Midterm	
22	Property/Wills & Trusts	Read Chapter 8
	Review: http://www.abanet.org/rpte/public/home.html	
27	Property/Wills & Trusts	Read Chapter 8
	Review: http://www.abanet.org/rpte/public/home.html	
29	Property/Wills & Trusts	Read Chapter 8
	Review: http://www.abanet.org/rpte/public/home.html	
November		
3	Election Law (electoral college, voting, campaign finance) http://www.cnn.com/2007/POLITICS/04/10/schneider.electoral/index.html http://www.fec.gov/ans/answers.shtml http://www.ncsl.org/programs/legismgt/elect/EC_bills_2007-2008.htm http://www.nationalpopularvote.com/pages/faq.php	
		Handout Group Project Assignment
5	Intellectual Property	Read Chapter 9
10	Intellectual Property	Read Chapter 9
12	Business Law	Read Chapter 11
17	Business Law	Read Chapter 11
19	Marriage and the Family	Read Chapter 12
24	Marriage and the Family	Read Chapter 12

26	Administrative Law	Read Chapter 13
December		
1	Administrative Law	Read Chapter 13
3	Criminal Law and Procedure	Read Chapter 10
8	Criminal Law and Procedure	Read Chapter 10
10	TBD	
18	Final	8:00 am - 10:00 am