Law, Politics and Regulatory Policy Seminar POLS-4300; POLS5300

Dr. Warren Sprin2017

STATEMENT ABOUT THE COURSE

Law, Politics, and Regulatory Policy is rooted in administrative law. Administrative law is one of the fastest growing areas in the public administration discipline, as well as in the field of law. The chief reason for this is simple. More experts in administrative law are needed to help various public and private organizations cope successfully with the mounting problems caused by the rapid growth of governmental regulatory policies over the past few decades. Administrative law is not an easy subject, mostly because it is a relatively new, unstable legal area undergoing rapid change since FDR's New Deal, alth21ra(a)-2.50724(1)-273(t)

eadings*

Warren, *Administrative Law in the Political System*, 5th ed. (Westview Press, 2011) Hand-outs (e.g., cases, articles); cases from Lexis-Nexis legal

*Note on required textbook readings. Most textbook chapters are long and tedious. After all, this is a law book. I want you to approach the readings in the following way. Read the chapters for general knowledge about what the chapter title and major subject headings address. Do not put off the readings until just before you come to class. Try to read them incrementally throughout the week. Take notes on the readings. Come to class being able to answer basic questions about what the chapter title and major subject headings convey. For example, if the chapter title is rulemaking, be able to tell me what rulemaking is. If a major subject heading is "notice and comment rulemaking," be able to tell me what notice and comment rulemaking is. If you know the basics of the chapter, you will be able to participate in a meaningful discussion. This is essential to make seminars interesting and informative. This is not a lecture course, although I do plan on taking time t

Course/Learning Objectives

Students are expected to learn the subject matter of *Law, Politics, and Regulatory Policy* (administrative law). Students are also expected to understand case law, specifically how administrative law principles, doctrines, and legal tests are applied to legal arguments. Additionally, students are expected to understand administrative law/decision-making in the context of the political system, understanding that legal demands often conflict with political demands normally trump technical legal demands.

Modes of Assessment and Skills/Knowledge Being Assed

Student knowledge of the subject matter will be assessed on a weekly basis as students participate in seminar discussions. Students are expected to demonstrate knowledge of the material and be able to show a conceptual understanding of administrative law principles, doctrines, and case law. Because administrative law is a difficult subject and not commonly known until exposed to the materials, it is expected that students will struggle at first with the content, but will show progress in the understanding of the material over the course of the semester. Students will be assessed in their ability to apply administrative law doctrines, concepts, and legal tests/standards to cases that they will brief and discuss in the seminar. Students will also be assessed on their ability to show that they understand how administrative law is often compromised for the advancement of political objectives. Students will also be evaluated on their ability to apply what they have learned about administrative law in their lengthy term papers where they must apply principles, doctrines, and case law to the development of their administrative law topic. The quality of their papers will be judged on not mere description of their topic, but on the quality of their analysis of the subject matter.

Attendance Policy

Note: Attendance is very important in seminars because participation in discussions is crucial. Of course, participation is a key element in determining your grade. To get credit for the course, students cannot have any more than three unexcused absences. Remember, missing one seminar constitutes missing one complete week of classes and probably the entire subject matter of one chapter in the book, so please try to come to all classes. Thanks.

Course evaluation

During the last week of the semester, students will need to complete a course evaluation.

Academic Honesty Policy

Students are expected to be honest in their academic work. The University reserves the right to penalize any student whose academic conduct at any time is, in its judgment, detrimental to the University. Such conduct shall include cases of plagiarism, collusion, cheating, giving or receiving or offering or soliciting information in examinations, or the use of previously prepared

material in examinations or quizzes. Violations should be reported to me and will be investigated and adjudicated according to the Policy on Academic Honesty of the College of Arts & Sciences. If the charges are found to be true, the student may be liable for academic or disciplinary probation, suspension, o expulsion from the University. (See http://www.slu.edu.colleges/AS/academichonesty.html)

Students with Special Needs - Disability Servicescademic Accommodations

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Please contact Disability Services. located within the Student success Center, at Disability_services@slu.edu or 314-977-3438 to schedule an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about academic accommodations will be shared with course instructions via email from Disability Services and viewed within Banner via the instructor's course roster.