SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY PLS 1000 INTRODUCTION TO LAW - SPRING 2020

January 13th - May 12th 3 Credit Hours

COURSE SYLLABUS VERSION 1 Last Modified

Please note that this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate instructional and/or student needs. This syllabus (and any revised version) is located in Blackboard. The instructor will not respond to requests for information that is contained in this syllabus.

Instructor: Zoë Lemcovitz, J.D.

Contact Information: zoe.lemcovitz@slu.edu Office: Verhaegen Hall, Room 105 or 117

Office Hours: TBA. Appointments during specified office hours are preferred. Requests for appointments should be made via e-mail no less than 48 hours before the requested appointment time.

Lab Section 101 Graduate Teaching Assistant: Lab Section 102 Graduate Teaching Assistant:

Patrick Monahan Maysa Daoud

Contact: patrick.monahan@slu.edu
Contact Information: maysa.daoud@slu.edu
Office: Verhaegen Hall, Room 105 or 117
Office: Verhaegen Hall, Room 105 or 117

Office Hours: TBA Office Hours: TBA

Class Time: Tuesdays 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Lab Class Time: Section 101 Thursdays 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.; Section 102 Thursdays 5:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

NOTE: No class 3/10 & 3/12 - Spring Break; No class 4/9 - Easter Break

Classroom Location: Xavier Hall Annex 203

Lab Classroom Location: Section 101 Xavier Hall Annex 203; Section 102 Xavier Hall Annex 203

Required Text(s): The Study of Law: A Critical Thinking Approach (4th Edition), Katherine A. Currier and Thomas

Extra Credit Opportunity #2 (goes toward Legislation Exercise grade)		5	Points
Extra Credit Opportunity #3 (goes toward total course grade)		5	Points
	Total	16	Points

GRADING:

In regard to absences, whether excused as an authorized activity or at the instructor's discretion, students are responsible for:

- All material covered in class and must work with each individual instructor to complete any required work and obtain any class notes or other course material missed due to these absences.
- Coordinating with instructors prior to any examination or presentation in order to explore the impact of the missed assignments and options.
- Providing written notification, as outlined below, of all other absences as soon as possible, for events not foreseen at the beginning of the semester. (See <u>Authorized Absence Activities</u> below and the <u>Bereavement Policy</u>

result in lost Attendance/Participation points and therefore a lower grade in the course, or a grade of "FQ" which is a "failure due to quit attending."

In the event you miss a class you are responsible for getting lecture notes, class assignments or other information about the missed class from a source other than the instructor.

- <u>Late Assignments</u>: With the exception of an unforeseen excused absence, late assignments (including quizzes, tests and exams) will not be accepted and the grade for the assignment will be a zero (0). In preparing assignments, plan ahead, save and back-up your work regularly.
- Communication: The most effective way to get in touch with the instructor is via e-mail at zoe.lemcovitz@slu.edu. All e-mail communication (to and from) must be through your Saint Louis University e-mail account only. Please sign your e-mails with your full name. The instructor will usually respond to e-mails in 24 to 48 hours excluding breaks and weekends. It is the student's responsibility to communicate any questions, concerns, and/or difficulties the student is having related to the course. Check your SLU e-mail regularly as this is how the instructor will communicate with you outside of class.
- <u>Technology In Class</u>: Personal electronic devices (e.g., laptops, iPads, cell phones) can be used to enhance learning and instruction in a variety of ways, but during class time they should be used only for class-related activities. Texting and the use of personal electronic devices for non-class-related activities should be reserved for class break times. Students must silence and stow all personal electronic devices not being used for class-related activities prior to the commencement of class. Give your full and undivided attention to what is going on in class. If you are observed by the instructor engaging in non-class-related activities you will be marked as absent for that class meeting. NOTE: this will be considered an absence under the course attendance policy.

- Academic Integrity Policy:

Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care, and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy was adopted in Spring 2015, and can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at: https://www.slu.edu/provost/policies/academic-and-course/policy_academic-integrity_6-26-2015.pdf.

Additionally, each SLU College, School, and Center has adopted its own academic integrity policies, available on their respective websites. Although students in U1010 Medical Scholar class come from different colleges, the Pre-Health Pre-Law Studies follow procedures of the College of Arts and Sciences accessed at: https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/student-resources/academic-honesty.php.

All SLU students are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions, and appeals. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your instructor.

NOTE: In order to maintain the integrity of any test or quiz given during class, students may not leave the room until they have completed the test or quiz.

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STUDENTS REQUIRING ASSISTANCE:

<u>Disabilities Services Academic Accommodations Statement</u>: Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course.

Please contact Disability Services, located within the Student Success Center, at <u>Disability_services@slu.edu</u> or 314.977.3484 to schedule an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services and viewed within Banner via the instructor's course roster.

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact to Disability Services.

<u>Student Success Center</u>: In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. The Student Success Center assists students with academic-related services and is located in the Busch Student Center (Suite, 331). Students can visit https://www.slu.edu/life-at-slu/student-success-center/ to learn more about tutoring services, university writing services, disability services, and academic coaching.

<u>University Writing Services</u>: Students are encouraged to take advantage of University Writing Services in the Student Success Center; getting feedback benefits writers at all skill levels. Trained writing consultants can help with writing projects, multimedia projects, and oral presentations. University Writing Services offers one-on-one consultations that address everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit https://www.slu.edu/life-at-slu/student-success-center/ or call the Student Success Center at 314-977-3484.

<u>Library Resources</u>: The Pius XII Memorial Library is located on the Frost Campus. Services available through the Pius Library include Ask-A-Librarian and On-Call Librarian Services. Ask-A-Librarian Service is a 24 hour chat service available at https://libanswers.slu.edu/ (and through many of SLU's databases). Students can also meet with a librarian on a drop in basis anytime between 9 and 5 Monday-Friday. More information can be found at http://

314-977-9378) for support. Furthermore, please notify the instructor if you are comfortable in doing so, as this will enable the instructor to assist you with finding the resources you may need.

<u>Campus Notification System: RAVE Messenger</u>: All members of the Saint Louis University community, including students, staff, and faculty, are strongly encouraged to sign up for the campus notification system that is designed to enhance and improve communication in the event of an emergency. Information about RAVE Messenger and how to sign up can be found at

COURSE OUTLINE

<u>Please note that this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate instructional and/or student needs.</u>

All revised versions of this syllabus will be posted on Blackboard.

<u>NOTE</u>: Work described in "Homework" below is to be prepared in advance of class and unless otherwise indicated is due in class, at the beginning of class. The assignments referenced below are more particularly described in the "Assignments" section of this syllabus. Checkboxes (\square) are included below to help you track completion of homework and assignments.

ABBREVIATIONS:

"TSOL" refers to the textbook The Study of Law: A Critical Thinking Approach

WEEK 1

Class TUESDAY - 1/14 Homework: □ None

Classroom Work: Introduction to the course; syllabus review; discuss semester assignments: Legal Topic Event;

newspaper assignment; Legislation Exercise; lab section;, Extra Credit Opportunities.

Turn In Assignment(s): None. Returned Assignment(s): None.

Class THURSDAY - 1/16

Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant

Homework: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Classroom Work: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Turn In Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments. Returned Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

WEEK 2

REMINDER: Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Students sign up for paper topic during Weeks 2-4 for the Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment.

Class TUESDAY - 1/21

Homework: ☐ Read TSOL Chapter 1 Introduction to the Study of Law AND TSOL Chapter 2 Functions and Sources of Law

Classroom Work: Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

Turn In Assignment(s): None. Returned Assignment(s): None.

Class THURSDAY - 1/23

Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant

Homework: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Classroom Work: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Turn In Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Returned Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

WEEK 3

REMINDER: Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Students sign up for paper topic during Weeks 2-4 for the Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment.

REMINDER: Extra Credit Opportunity #1 due this week.

Class TUESDAY - 1/28

Homework: □ Read TSOL Chapter 3 Classification of the Law. Classroom Work: Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

Turn In Assignment(s): None. Returned Assignment(s): None.

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Class THURSDAY - 1/30

Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant

Homework: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Classroom Work: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Turn In Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Returned Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

WEEK 4

REMINDER: Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Students sign up for paper topic during Weeks 2-4 for the Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment.

Class TUESDAY - 2/4

Homework: ☐ Read TSOL Chapter 4 Court System and Role of Judges.

Classroom Work: Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

Turn In Assignment(s): None. Returned Assignment(s): None.

Class THURSDAY - 2/6

Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant

Homework: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Classroom Work: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Turn In Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments. Returned Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

FRIDAY - 2/7 Turn in Assignment(s): Legislation Exercise topic.

WEEK 5

REMINDER: Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Students meet individually with instructor sometime during Weeks 5-6 regarding Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment.

Class THURSDAY - 3/5

Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant

Homework: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Classroom Work: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Turn In Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Returned Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

WEEK 9

NOTE: No class 3/10 & 3/12 - Spring Break.

MONDAY-FRIDAY - □ Week 9 students prepare St. Louis Post-Dispatch Article Assignment.

TUESDAY - 3/17

Homework: □ Read TSOL Chapter 7 Torts.

Classroom Work: Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

Turn In Assignment(s): None. Returned Assignment(s): None.

Class THURSDAY - 3/19

Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant

Homework: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Classroom Work: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Turn In Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Returned Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

SUNDAY - 3/22 Turn in Assignment(s): Week 9 students submit St. Louis Post-Dispatch Article Assignment to Blackboard.

WEEK 10

REMINDER: Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Students paper outline due this week for Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment.

MONDAY-FRIDAY - □ Week 10 students prepare St. Louis Post-Dispatch Article Assignment.

TUESDAY - 3/24

Homework: □ Read TSOL Chapter 8 Contracts.

Classroom Work: Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

Turn In Assignment(s): None. Returned Assignment(s): None.

Class THURSDAY - 3/26

Lab with Graduate Teaching Assistant

Homework: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Classroom Work: Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Turn In Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

Returned Assignment(s): Refer to the separate Lab Syllabus for the lab assignments.

FRIDAY - 3/27 Turn in Assignment(s): Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Students: outline for Pre-Law Scaobg (Y) 91.6 (-F) 0.2 (

WEEK 14

MONDAY-FRIDAY - □ Week 14 students prepare St. Louis Post-Dispatch Article Assignment.

TUESDAY - 4/21

Homework: □ Read TSOL Chapter 11 Family Law.

Classroom Work: Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

Turn In Assignment(s): None. Returned Assignment(s): None.

Class THURSDAY - 4/23

Homework: ☐ TBA Classroom Work: TBA

Turn In Assignment(s): None. Returned Assignment(s): None.

SUNDAY - 4/26 Turn in Assignment(s): Week 14 students submit St. Louis Post-Dispatch Article Assignment to Blackboard.

WEEK 15

REMINDER: Please complete an online evaluation for this course.

REMINDER: Extra Credit Opportunity #3 due this week.

Class TUESDAY - 4/28

Homework: ☐ Read TSOL Chapters 12 Criminal Law AND TSOL Chapter 13 Criminal Procedure

Classroom Work: Discuss assigned reading; in-class exercises.

Turn In Assignment(s): None. Returned Assignment(s): None.

Class THURSDAY - 4/30

Homework: □ Prepare for Final Exam (Chapters 7-13).

Classroom Work: Final Exam (unless rescheduled to Week 17)

Turn In Assignment(s): None.

Returned Assignment(s): None; Pink Sheets.

WEEK 16

Monday - 5/4 □ Last day to turn in SLU Legal Topic Event Attendance Assignment.

WEEK 17

NOTE: Final Exam will be held in in the last regular class meeting (Week 15) unless it becomes necessary to hold it during Final Exam week (Weeks 16/17). Advanced notice will be given if the Final Exam must be rescheduled.

If the Final Exam is rescheduled it will be held: 12:00-1:50 on Tuesday, 5/12.

Location: Regular classroom.

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□ Assignment: St. Louis Post-Dispatch Article Assignment	

□ Assignment: Lab Project #1 Weight: 100 Points Due: TBA Submission Format: TBA Description: Students will be required to do three projects in the lab component of the course. Each project is worth 10%, for a total of 30% of the total course grade. The graduate teaching assistance for the course will provide more detailed information about the required assignments. The assignments include a case brief, an oral presentation related to an issue of constitutional law, and a legal analysis problem. You are strongly encouraged to work closely with your graduate teaching assistant and take advantage of his/her office hours and feedback on your projects in the planning stages.
□ Assignment: Lab Project #2 Weight: 100 Points Due: TBA Submission Format: TBA Description: Students will be required to do three projects in the lab component of the course. Each project is worth 10%, for a total of 30% of the total course grade. The graduate teaching assistance for the course will provide more detailed information about the required assignments. The assignments include a case brief, an oral presentation related to an issue of constitutional law, and a legal analysis problem. You are strongly encouraged to work closely with your graduate teaching assistant and take advantage of his/her office hours and feedback on your projects in the planning stages.
□ Assignment: Lab Project #3 Weight: 100 Points Due: TBA Submission Format: TBA Description: Students will be required to do three projects in the lab component of the course. Each project is worth

Description: Students will be required to do three projects in the lab component of the course. Each project is worth 10%, for a total of 30% of the total course grade. The graduate teaching assistance for the course will provide more detailed information about the required assignments. The assignments include a case brief, an oral presentation related to an issue of constitutional law, and a legal analysis problem. You are strongly encouraged to work closely with your graduate teaching assistant and take advantage of his/her office hours and feedback on your projects in the planning stages.

☐ Pre-Law Scholars & Honors Student Assignment

Due: Paper Topic Sign Up - Week 2-4 sign up for paper topic;

<u>Instructor Meeting - Week 5-6</u> meet with the instructor by appointment to discuss paper idea and suggested approaches:

Paper Topic Proposal - Week 8 on Wednesday 3/4

Extra Credit Opportunities

□ Extra Credit Opportunity #1

Weight: 6 Points (5 points for Practice Test and 1 point for Practice Assignment) (toward total course grade)

Due: Week 3 at 11:59 p.m. on Friday 1/31

Submission Format: Online through Blackboard.

Description: Log on to Blackboard. (1) Complete the "Extra Credit Opportunity #1 Practice Test" under the "TESTS & QUIZZES" button on the left side of Blackboard; and (2) submit a practice assignment to the dropbox for "Practice Assignment for Extra Credit Opportunity #1" located under the "ASSIGNMENTS" button on the left side of

Blackboard. For the practice assignment use one of the following prompts and limit your response to five sentences or

less: (1) Why are you interested in studying law? (2)