

Professional Responsibility  
Spring 2013

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Office hours:

Tuesdays – 9:00 – 10:00 AM  
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And by appointment

**Objectives:**

1. Students will develop an understanding of the substantive law governing lawyers.
2. From this knowledge, students will be able to develop an analytical framework for thinking about the ethical and practical problems that arise in the practice of law as public interest lawyers, solo practitioners, and small firms.
3. Students will use the learned material to develop their own practical ethical judgment in practical situations.

**Books:**

Martyn, Fox, & Wendel, THE LAW GOVERNING LAWYERS (2012-2013 edition)

Readings posted to TWEN or distributed in class.

**Assignments:**

All assignments are subject to change. Assignments on the syllabus are from THE LAW GOVERNING LAWYERS and the readings posted to TWEN or distributed in class.

**Class Participation:**

All students are expected to be on time. Persistent problems with attendance and/or tardiness will result in a reduced participation grade OR being dropped from the class rolls. If you arrive more than 15 minutes late to class you will be counted absent for that day. Students are not allowed to miss more than five classes.

The three classes that will be cancelled will be made up by adding fifteen minutes to approximately half of the class sessions.

## **Grading:**

You final grade is based on:

**40 Points** – Class Participation – This will be based on your individual participation in class discussions, group participation, and the use of clickers.

**60 Points** – Group Presentation – Each group will decide on an ethical issue that they want to present to the class. The group will present how they will solve this ethical dilemma and explain how individual backgrounds, values, and viewpoints influenced the way the problem was solved. There does not have to be agreement on how the issue would be solved. If there is more than one solution each should be presented. It can be presented through a class discussion, PowerPoint, video, song, or combinations. The presentations should not take more than thirty minutes and will have a written explanation that will accompany the presentation. The written explanation should be written by the group and should not be more than three (3) pages double spaced.

**90 Points** – Final Exam – It will consist of essay and/or short answer question(s). The book with the Rules may be brought into the exam. You may make notes in the book and tab the book, but nothing else will be permitted in the exam.

## **Students with Disabilities:**

The faculty, staff, and administration of the Law Center want to provide every reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities, including learning disabilities. For detailed information, please obtain a copy of the disabilities handbook available through Student Services. Please make sure to anticipate any problems before the exam period and make the appropriate arrangements with Student Services.

## **Assignments:**

### **January 15**

Introductions, structure of class, discussion of professionalism  
Read Preamble, Scope, and Rule 1.0

### **January 17**

Continued discussion of Professionalism.  
Read David C. Vladeck, *Hard Choices: Thoughts for New Lawyers*, 10 KAN. J. L. & PUB. POL'Y. 351 (Spring 2001).

**January 22**

Lawyer Client Relationship

Read Model Rules and Comments 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.14, 1.16, 1.18, and 2.1. In addition read the cross-referenced related provisions from the ABA Model Code that can be found at pages 102 -103 in your rule book.

Read Lucie E. White, *Subordination, Rhetorical Survival Skills, and Sunday Shoes: Notes on the Hearing of Mrs. G.*, 38 BUFF. L. REV. 1 (1990).

**January 24**

No Class, however, although there will be particular Rules and Codes that we will be concentrating on at various times, it would be helpful if you use this additional time to get familiar with all of the Rules as there are often many incidents that will touch on a variety of the Rules.

**January 29**

Additional readings will be posted to TWEN

**January 31**

Model Rules and Comments 1.6, 4.1, 8.4 and corresponding Codes.

Additional readings will be posted to TWEN

**February 5**

Additional readings will be posted to TWEN.

**February 7**

Guest Speaker

**February 12**

Model Rules and Comments 1.7 -1.10 and corresponding Codes.

**February 14**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.

**February 19**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.

**February 21**

Guest Speaker Professor Dow

**February 26**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.

**February 28**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.

**March 5**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.

**March 7**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.  
Student presentation.

**March 12**

Spring break.

**March 14**

Spring break.

**March 19**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.  
Student presentation.

**March 21**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.  
Student presentation.

**March 26**

No class.

**March 28**

No class.

**April 2**

Rules 8.1, 8.3, and 8.4 and the corresponding Model Codes.  
Guest Speaker

**April 4**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.  
Student presentation.

**April 9**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.  
Student presentation.

**April 11**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.  
Student presentation.

**April 16**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.  
Student presentation.

**April 18**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.  
Student presentation.

**April 23**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.  
Student presentation.

**April 25**

Additional Rules and readings will be posted.  
Student presentation.