

Professional Responsibility
Spring 2014

Professor Marrus
emarrus@uh.edu
713.743.0894
Office – TUII – 230
Office hours:
Mondays – 10:30 AM - Noon
Wednesdays – 10:30 AM - Noon
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 in 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 (2013-2014 edition)

Additional readings posted electronically or distributed in class.

Assignments:

All assignments are subject to change. Assignments on the syllabus are from THE LAW GOVERNING LAWYERS and the additional readings will be posted electronically 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.

Grading:

You final grade will be based on:

60 Points – Class Participation – This will be based on your individual participation in class discussions, your group participation, and the consistent use of your clicker in class.

60 Points – Group Presentation – Each group will be assigned a topic area from the rules that will be presented to the class. The group will present how they will solve the ethical dilemma(s) and explain how individual backgrounds, values, and viewpoints influenced the way the problem(s) could be 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, role plays, or combinations. The presentations should not take more than forty-five minutes and will have a written explanation or outline that will accompany the presentation. The written explanation is to be written by the group and should not be more than five (5) pages double-spaced. The group may assign material to be read prior to the presentation.

60 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.