

# Professor Marcilynn A. Burke

## GENERAL CLASS REQUIREMENTS

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- **Civility.**
- **Student Leaders.** Beginning in the second week of the class, two to four students (on a rotating basis) will be responsible for leading the class discussion. I will generally begin the class with a summary/outline of the reading and then the student leaders will conduct the rest of the class.

At least 48 hours before your dates, you must e-mail to me, mburke@central.uh.edu and my assistant, Abraham Roberts, ajrober2@central.uh.edu at least one *discussion question/issue* for the class to consider. The questions will be posted on the course webpage. Everyone should come to class prepared to discuss the questions/issues.

You may have a *substitute* for any day that you are responsible, but you must inform me ahead of time. Regardless of substitutions, each student must lead the discussion at least twice during the semester.

- **Presentations.** During the second half of the semester, students will present their papers to the class. On the Friday before your class presentation, you must provide a copy of your first draft by 5:00 p.m. via e-mail attachment to me, mburke@central.uh.edu, and my assistant, Abraham Roberts, ajrober2@central.uh.edu. Your first draft must be at least 12 pages, exclusive of footnotes (or in the case of LLMs, at least half your required final total number of pages).

Before class on Tuesday, all non-presenting students must prepare a one-page set of comments on the papers for that day. The non-presenting students must provide me and the respective writers a copy of the comments in class on Tuesday.

- **Participation.** Class participation, *i.e.*, being a student leader, critiquing your classmates' papers, presenting your topic, and contributing to general class discussion *everyday* will be counted towards your final grade in accordance with the Law Center's policy.
- **Webpage.** On my faculty page there is a link to the page for the seminar. There you will find a copy of the syllabus and other useful information.  
Also, there will be posted discussion questions/issues submitted by the student leaders.
- **Computers.** Students may use computers in class to take notes, unless otherwise directed by me. That is to say that Internet surfing, involvement in chat rooms, use of e-mail, uses that distract others, or uses not generally related to legal education are strictly prohibited. I will treat violation of this policy as a constructive absence on the day of the violation and will include that absence when determining whether the student has met the Law Center's attendance requirement.
- **Attendance.** Regular class attendance is essential to successful performance in this class. It is incumbent upon each student to be present for the **entire** class period. An attendance sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class meeting. It is your responsibility to

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sign the sheet. In accordance with the Law Center's policy, any student falling below the 80% attendance requirement will be dropped from the course.

- **Americans With Disabilities Act.** Whenever possible, and in accordance with 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the University of Houston will attempt to provide reasonable academic accommodations to students who request and require them. Please contact Associate Dean Sondra Tennessee at 713-743-2182 for more information.