

Course POL 200 A
Course Title Law and Society
Professor Whitney Manzo
Term Fall 2019
Meetings TR 9:30-10:50 AM



Professor's Contact Information

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Office Hours	MW 1-2 PM, TR 11-12PM or by appointment

General Course Information

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, & other restrictions	None
Course Description	An introduction to the nature and function of law, to the structure and operation of the court systems of the United States and to the legal professions. Also considers current legal controversies. *This Course meets the US Perspectives requirements for General Education.
Learning Outcomes	<p>The course learning outcomes are for you to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know the basic theoretical frameworks which have been developed to understand the law and apply them to the behavior of individuals, organizations and institutions. (Social Science learning outcome #1) 2. Understand the structure of the American criminal justice system. (US Perspectives learning outcome #1) 3. Examine how diverse ideologies and cultures shape controversies in American law and criminal justice. (Social Science learning outcome #3 and US Perspectives learning outcome #2) 4. Express your knowledge of important U.S. law and society issues through discussion and oral presentation.
Required Texts & Materials	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Law, Justice, and Society: A Sociolegal Introduction</i> (4th ed) by Anthony Walsh and Craig Hemmens. Oxford University Press, 2016. ISBN-13: 9780190272753 2. <i>Invitation to Law and Society: An Introduction to the Study of Real Law</i> (2nd ed) by Kitty Calavita. University of Chicago Press, 2016. ISBN-13: 9780226296586 3. 3 blue books for exams <p>You will also need access to the internet, a word processing program, and Meredith gmail (you should check this every morning).</p>

Assignment Weight and Descriptions

<p>Grade Breakdown</p>	<p>100 points Attendance 120 points Class Participation 300 points Written Exams (3 exams, 100 points each) 300 points Debates (2 debates, 150 points each) <u>180 points</u> Debate Reaction Papers (6 papers, 30 points each) 1000 points Total</p>
<p>Attendance</p>	<p>Attendance is expected at all class meetings, and I will be taking attendance each class period. However, I also understand that life happens and I really do not want you coming to class unable to focus or sick. You have one free absence, no questions asked. After that, each additional absence will deduct 10 points from your attendance grade. You can have the 10 points restored if you provide evidence you took notes from a classmate's notes and/or took written notes over the assigned reading from the day you missed. (School-sponsored activities are exempt from this policy.)</p>
<p>Class Participation</p>	<p>This grade includes but is not limited to contribution to class discussion and debates, active participation in group work/group assignments, and short papers. Part of this grade will include an evaluation by your classmates of your participation in group work throughout the semester.</p>
<p>Written Exams</p>	<p>There will be three short answer/essay exams throughout the semester. It is your responsibility to provide the blue books for these exams, and you must write them in pen. Prior to each exam you will be given a review sheet to aid you in preparation.</p>
<p>Debates</p>	<p>Several times during the semester we will have Debate Days. On two of these days, which will be assigned early in the semester, you will assume the role of a stakeholder on a current issue in the intersection of law and society. Prior to the debate, you will research the issue as well as your stakeholder's views on the issue. On the day of your debate, you will turn in to Brightspace a minimum 3 full pages research paper on the background of the issue, the different sides of the issue, and your specific stakeholder's views on the issue. This research paper must reference at least 5 reputable sources. Then, during the debate, you will represent your stakeholder by speaking for 2-3 minutes. Therefore, your debate grade will have two parts: the research paper will be worth 75 points, and your debate performance will be worth 75 points (which includes using proper presentation techniques). Students not participating in the debate will ask questions of the debaters following the debate. After this, the class will vote on which side of the debate won. The students who presented the winning side will receive 5 extra points for their debate grade.</p>
<p>Debate Reaction Papers</p>	<p>For the debates in which you are not a stakeholder and therefore not presenting, you will turn in a one-full-page reaction to the debate topic. This may include your initial thoughts on the topic, your already determined opinion on the topic, or questions you have about specific ideas related to the topic. You will demonstrate that you have thought carefully about the topic by referring to at least 2 reputable sources in your paper. These reaction papers should be turned in to Brightspace by class time on the day the debate is held.</p>

Academic Calendar

August 22	Introduction to the class
August 27	Introduction to Law and Society Calavita Ch. 1
August 29	Defining Law Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 1
September 3	Law and Society Calavita Ch. 2
September 5	Law in the Everyday Calavita Ch. 3
September 10	Defining Justice Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 2
September 12	Debate Day #1
September 17	Making the Law Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 3
September 19	Books vs. Real-Life Calavita Ch. 6
September 24	Discussion of RBG
September 26	Written Exam #1
October 1	Federal and State Courts Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 4
October 3	Criminal Law Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 5
October 8	Criminal Procedure Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 6
October 10	No class, Fall Break
October 15	Debate Day #2
October 17	Civil and Administrative Law Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 7
October 22	No class, professor out
October 24	Juvenile Justice Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 8
October 29	Written Exam #2
October 31	The Law and Social Control Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 9
November 5	Limits of Social Control Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 10
November 7	Debate Day #3
November 12	Law and Social Change Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 11
November 14	Law and Social Justice Calavita Ch. 7
November 19	Law and Race Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 13
November 21	The Color of Law

	Calavita Ch. 4
November 26	Law and Women Walsh and Hemmens Ch. 12
November 28	No class, Thanksgiving Break
December 3	Debate Day #4
December 11 from 9 am - noon	Written Exam #3

Course Policies

Letter Grade Requirements	<p>A: 900-1000 points B: 800-899 points C: 700-799 points D: 600-699 points F: 599 or fewer points</p> <p>I moved to a point system in order to offer clarity at all times in the course as to what you need to do to achieve the grade you want. This also means there will be NO rounding; the points you get = the letter grade listed here, period.</p>
Paper Requirements	<p>All writing for this class should be in 12-point Times New Roman font, normal (1 inch) margins, and double-spaced. Do not try to take up more space by having a lengthy heading and title; for example, when I say to turn in one full page, I mean one full page of your writing. Therefore, any length that the heading or title adds to the paper should be in addition to your writing. Additionally, all research papers must have a bibliography that begins on a separate page. My preferred citation style is Chicago, but the most important thing is that you cite all sources you use and that the citation style is consistent.</p> <p>When uploading papers to Brightspace, use .pdf, .doc, or .docx formats. As I do not have a Mac, I cannot open .pages, and I would need permission to access your Google docs, so neither of these formats may be used. If you turn in a paper in either of these formats and I have to ask you to re-submit, 10% of the value of the assignment will be deducted.</p>
Extra Credit	Any extra credit will be offered at my discretion.
Late Work	Debate research papers and debate reaction papers will lose 10% each day they are late. In-class debate arguments and other in-class activities cannot be made up.
Inclement Weather	You can expect for us to hold class unless the school closes due to unsafe conditions. You can check your Meredith email and/or the Meredith website or Facebook page for school closure messages. However, I do not want you to risk your life to get to class- final judgment on this matter rests in your hands.
Food, Drink, Laptops, Cell Phones	Food and drink will be allowed so long as they do not become distracting. Laptops will be allowed in class during lectures. During group work or debates, laptops are not to be used. Similarly, cell phone usage is banned during class time except for extreme emergencies.
Classroom Citizenship	We will have lots of discussion in this course, and politics is by nature highly contentious. However, it is essential that every student be polite and

	<p>courteous to other students, even if they are expressing views that offend or anger you. I will encourage scholarly debate of justifiable opinions, but not disparaging remarks or personal attacks. If I feel you have crossed the line, you will be asked to leave class and your participation points will be marked down.</p>
<p>Course Drop Dates</p>	<p>If you decide you cannot complete this course for whatever reason, you may withdraw. You must initiate this process with the Registrar's Office, I cannot do it for you. If you fail to meet the last drop date, you will receive a grade for this course, usually an "F".</p> <p>Last day to drop without a "W": Tuesday, August 27, 2019 Last day to drop with a "W": Monday, October 28, 2019</p>
<p>Meredith Honor Code</p>	<p>We, the Meredith Community, are committed to developing and affirming in each student a sense of personal honor and responsibility. Uncompromising honesty and forthrightness are essential elements of this commitment. The Honor System is a method by which individual honors are protected and maintained. Any dishonorable action will be regarded as a violation of this commitment, and corrective action will be taken.</p> <p>If I am in violation of the Honor Code, to prevent jeopardizing the Honor System or weakening our system of self-government, I have an obligation to report myself to the proper authorities. If I am aware of a violation of the Honor System by another student, I shall call this matter to the attention of that student as a violation of responsibility to the community.</p> <p>In choosing Meredith College, I am accepting the Honor System as a way of life. As a Meredith student, I am responsible for insuring that the Honor System is at all times carried out.</p>
<p>Disability Statement</p>	<p>Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with documented disabilities. In order to receive accommodations, students must go through the Counseling Center/Disability Services office. Disability Services is located in Carroll Hall and can be reached at (919)760-8427 or disabilityservices@meredith.edu. For additional information see the Disability Services website.</p>

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.