SYLLABUS

V2220 Law and Public Affairs

Fall Semester, 2011

Class Number 8672

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Bloomington, Indiana

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an understanding of the origins, processes and impact of law in the making and implementation of public policy. It entails a basic introduction to the United States legal system including the U.S. Constitution, a brief overview of the Indiana Constitution, general federal and state court structures and a survey of civil, domestic and criminal law and
procedure. We will study elementary and legal principles through a class discussion of the primary text. The course is designed to provide students with the substantive concepts necessary to understand the judicial system and law.

Students will be expected to read all the chapters, as assigned, in advance and be prepared to discuss their contents during class. Students are responsible for the material, whether or not it is discussed in class.

COURSE READINGS

An Introduction to Law (Second Edition) by John M. Scheb and John M. Scheb II

The U.S. Constitution and the Indiana Constitution are accessible over the Internet

COURSE ACTIVITIES

There will be several guest lecturers. Students WILL be assessed on knowledge of these lectures.

There will be a tour of the I.U. Law Library, also assessable

COURSE PARTICIPATION

Participation in class is mandatory and essential. You will not receive an A unless you have participated actively.

In addition to the traditional methods of class participation (Q and A, discussion) there will be several other methods to participate, including:

1.) Open Mike or Else—at the beginning of each class students may volunteer to give a statement, position or opinion on any matter of public interest (gun control, I.U. employee policies, oil spill liability). Expect to react to comments made on your statement. If no
volunteers, instructor will call on someone who is expected to have a statement available. Volunteer spokespersons for various points of view will be accepted.

2.) Simple Research Project (S.R.P.)—A student may volunteer, or be assigned, to research a relatively simple question (What is the method to select trial judges in Indiana?), then report back to class, with source references. The response to S.R.P. should be written, length not prescribed. The instructor must receive the material two days in advance of presentation.

3.) Comparative Government Analysis—Each student will be expected to submit, and discuss, a written analysis of the executive, legislative, and judicial institutions of another country. Details to be explained in class.

ATTENDANCE AND PREPARATION

Attendance is mandatory. The seat you take on August 31 will be your permanent seat assignment.

One excused absence is available, approved in writing in advance. Medical emergencies are an exception but must be substantive. All other absences are inexcusable.

An unexcused absence will affect the 25% class participation portion of the final grade.

Three unexcused absences—you flunk.

Do not leave during class, exception an emergency. No cell phone use of internet communication during class, please.

Please speak loudly and clearly when asking or answering a question. We will all work together.

Academic dishonesty and student misconduct are intolerable. See the SPEA and IUB Guide as to expectations and penalties.
YOUR GRADE WILL BE BASED UPON THE FOLLOWING:

1.) First Mid-term Examination (20%)
2.) Second Mid-term Examination (20%)
3.) Class participation in general discussions and engaging the instructor, and guest lecturers and your classmates during class (25%)
4.) The Final Examination (35%)

Examinations shall be objective comprised of True/False, Fill-in-the-blank and Multiple Choice questions on the content of all lectures and on the material contained in the assigned text, An Introduction to Law (Second Edition) by John M. Scheb

Pursuant to Indiana University policy, students are subject to the SPEA Academic Policies regarding Academic Dishonesty, Civility, Faculty/Student Communications, Attendance, Medical Excuses Absences, Withdrawals, Incompletes, Active Duty and Final Exam Schedule.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Mon., Aug. 29: Assignment. Discuss a First Amendment issue; introduction to class procedures and the attendance policy

Wed., Aug. 31: Chapter 1—Development of American Law

Wed., Sept. 7: Chapter 2—Structures of American Law

Mon., Sept. 12: Chapter 3—Introduced-Constitutional Law

Wed., Sept. 14: Law School Tour-Cindy Dabney

Mon., Sept. 19: Chapter 3—Concluded-Constitutional Law

Wed., Sept. 21: On line legal research—Cindy Dabney

Mon., Sept 28: Chapter 4—Criminal Law concluded
Mon., Oct. 3  Chapter 5—Torts introduced and first mid-term exam

Wed., Oct. 5  Chapter 5—Torts continued
Mon., Oct. 10  Chapter 5—Torts concluded
Wed., Oct. 12  Chapter 6—Property Law
Mon., Oct. 17  Chapter 7—Contracts and Business Law
Wed., Oct. 19  Chapter 8—Family Law-introduced
Mon., Oct. 24  Chapter 8—Family Law-concluded
Mon., Oct. 31  Chapter 9—Civil Procedure
Wed., Nov. 2  Chapter 10—Criminal Procedure-introduced and second mid-term exam
Mon., Nov. 7  Chapter 10—Criminal Procedure-concluded
Wed., Nov. 9  Guest lecturer- state constitutional law Jan Kreuscher
Mon. Nov. 14  Legislation-introduced
Wed. Nov. 16  Chapter 11—Legislation—continued
Mon. Nov. 21  Review session
Mon. Nov. 28  Chapter 11, Legislation concluded
Wed. Nov. 30  Chapter 12—Administrative Law and Procedure—introduced
Mon. Dec. 5  Chapter 12—Administrative Law and Procedure—concluded
Wed. Dec. 7  Last day of class. Review session or make up day—as needed
Fri., Dec. 16   Final exam