
C o u r s e D e s c r i p t i o n s — R e q u i r e d C l a s s e s

C511A Advanced Legal Research (Computer-Based) 3 units
Introduces students to Lexis, Westlaw, and other on-line and CD ROM computer access libraries. Students will be taught to plan a search, perform searching, modify searching and Shepardizing using computer access libraries.

F310/S310 Business Organizations 6 units
Formation; pre-incorporation activities; de facto corporations; ultra vires acts; role, authority and meetings of officers, directors and shareholders; standard of care; proxy solicitations; close corporations; fiduciary relations; shareholder litigation; capitalization; dividend distributions; fundamental changes; partnerships and agency.

F230/S230 Civil Procedure 6 units
Jurisdiction – traditional and modern concepts. Federal and State subject matter jurisdiction; judgments; res judicata and collateral estoppel; forms of action, demurrer, answer, cross-actions, amendment of pleadings, joinder of actions and parties, venue of actions, process, motions, civil discovery, trial procedure, dismissals, non-suit, directed verdict.

F340 Community Property 3 units
Historical development of community property law; jurisdictional issues; classification of marital property, community or separate; valuation of community property including business and goodwill; management of marital property; liability for marital and individual debts; division of community property on dissolution or death; problems posed by unmarried, cohabiting couples.

F330/S330 Constitutional Law 6 units
The federal structure: Judicial review, congressional powers, commerce power, state powers and federalism, individual rights, due process, equal protection, state action, freedom of religion, and freedom of expression.

F130/S130 Contracts 6 units
Remedies for breach of contract: consideration; offer and acceptance; problems of performance; conditions; impossibility; third party beneficiaries; assignment; Parole Evidence Rule; Statute of Frauds.

F120/S120 Criminal Law 6 units
Nature and sources of criminal law; elements of crimes; analyses of specific crimes; legal defenses; California Penal Code and decisions; procedure.

F245 Criminal Procedure 2 units
Arrest through Appellate Proceeding, including bail, arraignment, preliminary motions, discovery, and trial procedure. Recent Supreme Court decisions on right to counsel, freedom from prejudicial publicity, fair trial, and other constitutional guarantees.

F221/S221 Evidence 6 units
Problems in relevancy; circumstantial evidence, including habit, custom, compromises, and character evidence; witnesses, including competency privilege, examination, impeachment and rehabilitation; opinion evidence; Constitutional considerations and exclusionary rules; hearsay evidence and the exceptions to its exclusion; authenticity of writings; the "best evidence" rule, burden and proof and presumptions.

- L116 Introduction to Law 1 unit
 Introduces the student to the basic concepts of the law, the historical roots of common law and equity, the precedent system in its practical operation, the modes of reasoning used by courts/attorneys and the fundamentals of statutory interpretation.
- F111/S111 Law Study and Exams 1 unit
 An orientation to the study of law school examinations consisting of exam writing and a self-evaluation with an assessment of law study techniques.
- L100 Legal Research and Writing 2 units
 An introduction to legal analytical thought, including practical exercises in writing and the fundamentals of legal research that provides a foundation for writing legal papers.
- C550A Moot Court 2 units
 Students research, write, and argue a brief before a mock appellate court. The course emphasizes effective research and writing techniques and introduces the student to making oral arguments in court.
- F320 Professional Responsibility 2 units
 Application of the California Rules of Professional Conduct, the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct and relevant case materials; examination of disciplinary system; relationship between disciplinary and legal malpractice liability; duties of attorneys with respect to clients, the courts, opposing parties and the public; problems arising from conflicts of interest.
- F210/S210 Real Property 6 units
 The law of real property; historical back-ground; common law estates and interests; statute of uses and modern conveyancing; concurrent ownership; landlord and tenant; deeds and delivery; boundaries; recording acts and title search; contract for sale of land; easements, servitudes and other land use restrictions; adverse possession; landowners; rights, including air, water, mineral and lateral and subjacent support.
- F410/S410 Remedies 5 units
 General scope of remedies; principles governing general use of equitable remedies; general scope of interpleader, declaratory relief (and related remedies), constructive trusts, and equitable liens; principles governing use of and defenses to specific performance and injunctions; equitable conversion; technical aspects of injunctions; damages.
- F140/S140 Torts 6 units
 Intentional wrongs to person and property; unintentional wrongs; negligence; duty of persons in control of property; tort liability arising from contractual relationships; liability for defective products; liability without fault; deceit; defamation; malicious prosecution; interference with contractual economic and other legally protectable relations, tort alternatives.
- F350/S350 Wills and Trusts 4 units
 Covers intestacy; execution; integration; republication; incorporation by reference, independent significance; revocation and revival; will contracts; testamentary capacity; lapse, ademption; satisfaction; will contests; will substitutes; nature and classification of trusts; elements of a trust, creation of inter vivos and testamentary trusts; revocable and irrevocable trusts; insurance trusts; nature of the beneficiary's interest, including restraints on alienation and principles regarding transferability; modification and termination of trusts; charitable trusts, fiduciary administration, including qualification, duties, standards and liabilities of fiduciary; management, investment and accounting by fiduciary; powers of appointment.

C o u r s e D e s c r i p t i o n s — E l e c t i v e s

C507 Administrative Law

3 units

The course looks at the scope and effect of agency decisions and the availability of judicial review. Agencies are the 4th branch of government. They legislate and adjudicate. They impact almost everything you do in your daily life. While the text deals with federal agencies, lectures and guest speakers discuss state and local agencies. Past speakers included administrative law judges, the County Planning Commissioner, a cable television lobbyist and an official from the County Air Pollution Control District.

C518 Advanced Criminal Procedure

3 units

This course will give students an understanding of the practice of criminal law in the California courts. Both prosecution and defense issues will be covered. The course is presented to give students the skills necessary to go into court and litigate criminal cases.

C543 Advanced Legal Writing

2 units

Students will learn how to write briefs and legal memoranda that get to the heart of the issues. They will learn to develop a clear, concise English prose style that they will apply to writing about legal subjects. Students will focus on substantive analysis of legal problems, grammar, and organization, with a goal of making themselves understood the first time.

C501 Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Survey

2 units

The purpose of this course is to give students an understanding of various dispute resolution processes which have come to be described under the umbrella term "alternative dispute resolution." Primary emphasis is on arbitration and mediation techniques in the context of those fields most familiar to practicing lawyers. Comparisons are made to standard civil litigation methods as a way to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of each process, much as a lawyer would want to do in advising a client. As time permits, consideration is also given to the general question of the role of the law in shaping and promoting these dispute resolution techniques.

C545 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

2 units

This course will cover Title I (employment), Title II (State and Local Government Services), Title III (Public Accommodations), Title IV (Telecommunications) and Title V (Miscellaneous) of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as well as its relationship with California's Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) and the Unruh Civil Rights Act.

C551 Appellate Practice

2 units

This course presents a basic outline of appellate practice, touching on the nature and function of appellate courts, the technical prerequisite for an appeal, and the process of perfecting an appeal. The overall aim is to distinguish between making a record in the trial court and the appellate court's limited power of review. At the end of the course, the student should have a clear idea of the kinds of issues that are susceptible to appeal and the care the trial attorney must take to preserve an appropriate record for an appeal.

S445 Bankruptcy/Debtor-Creditor Law

3 units

Rights and duties of consumer credit grantors and consumer debtors; fair credit reporting; fair debt collection practices and consumer remedies. Creation, scope and administrative function of federal debtor proceedings and arrangements; wage earner plans; insolvency proceedings.

- C530 Civil Rights Legislation 2 units
 This course is designed to introduce students to basic constitutional principles as they are applied in discrimination litigation. The course explores how specific constitutional imperatives—such as those set forth in the 14th Amendment—are litigated in State and Federal Court, through use of legislation passed by Congress to enforce the Constitution.
- C556 Courtroom Mediation 2 units
 Working under direct supervision of Professor Nancy Case, students will learn mediation skills in actual mediations of cases on the court’s Collection Calendar in Department 21. Class meets on dates and times of Collection Calendar; usually on the second and fourth Monday of each month; limited to six students.
- C554 Disability Law Clinic 3 units
 Six law students are invited to work in the Disability Law Clinic, the area’s primary resource for information and representation on the law as it pertains to people with disabilities, under the supervision of an attorney. Each student will be assigned several cases on which they will participate in all areas of case development from client interviews to court appearances. The cases assigned will all be in the area of Administrative Law. In addition to their work in the Law Clinic, students will attend a class in Administrative Law as it relates to Disability Practice. Class discussion will incorporate issues raised in the text, student experience with the Law Clinic, and current developments in Administrative Law.
- C535 Discovery Workshop 3 units
 Most litigators spend the majority of their time engaging in discovery. This semester-long workshop not only discusses strategic considerations and discovery tactics, but involves a great deal of hands-on experience. Students will be conducting discovery in a mock lawsuit, which will include taking depositions in the presence of court reporters. The sessions will also be video taped.
- C515 Elder Law 2 units
 This course takes an in-depth look at what may well be one of the most hotly debated issues facing our country today – the providing of opportunities, benefits, and care for an ever-increasing aging population. The course will examine such diverse programs as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and The Age Discrimination in Employment Act. Senior housing, long-term care, elder abuse and neglect, conservatorships, powers of attorney, right to die laws, and estate planning for elderly clients will also be studied as part of the course.
- C552 Elder Law Clinic 2 units
 This class provides students with real life client counseling opportunities with elderly persons. The clinic allows students to interact with clients, provide advice, follow-up, and direct clients to legal and non-legal resources. Students will draft legal documents and correspondence under the supervision of a practicing attorney. The clinic will provide the public with free legal advice.
- C516 Employment Law 3 units
 This course surveys employment law from its inception in English common law through the most recent developments in “at-will” employment and discrimination. State case law and portions of the Labor Code will also be addressed.
- C503 Environmental Law 3 units
 A survey of legal principles and policies relating to protection and enhancement of the physical environment. Particular attention will be given to common law doctrines and public rights and remedies; federal and state control programs for the field of air pollution, water pollution, noise,

solid waste management, fish and wildlife resources; planning for federal, state and local administrative agencies.

P601/602 Environmental Negotiations Competition 2 units

Each year students have an opportunity to compete in a statewide competition analyzing and negotiating an environmental problem. Students work in teams of two and must research and prepare arguments to resolve a lawsuit pertaining to environmental issues designed by the Environmental Section of the State Bar of California. The competition is structured and scored by practicing attorneys, professional mediators, and judges who are experts in the area of environmental law.

S325 Family Law 2 units

Practical and theoretical problems affecting the family: marriage, divorce, adoption, legitimacy, child custody, and parental obligations and rights.

C548 Federal Indian Law 3 units

The course is designed to introduce students to the principal doctrines and rules governing the legal and political relationships between American Indian tribes and the United States Government.

C524 Health Care Law 2 units

The health care industry consumes a considerable portion of our gross national product. This course examines the various fields of law that combine to form the overall legal framework for health care decision making and focuses on the relationship between law, medicine, and health care providers.

C539 History of Law 3 units

An introductory survey of legal history and comparative systems of law, including discussion of principal legal traditions, with the aid of understanding foreign legal cultures, and the sources and historical elements in our own system of law.

C541 Immigration Law 3 units

Discussion of federal power, constitutional rights and issues, plenary power, the foundation cases, due process, and ethics. Consideration of visas, work permits, affidavits of support, court proceedings, asylum, refugees, and more.

C508 Insurance Law 3 units

A survey of the basic legal aspects of insurance law, including principles of insurable interests, problems of contract formation and interpretation and application for standard policy provisions in various types of coverage. Attention is also given to principles of indemnity, subrogation, and determination and control of the risk transferred from insured to carrier.

C513 Intellectual Property Law 3 units

Course includes an overview of the intellectual property field including patents, trademarks, copyrights, unfair competition, trade secrets, employer-employee relationships, the transfer of intellectual property rights, and the general application of anti-trust and misuse doctrines to such rights.

C514 Jurisprudence 2 units

A discussion of different approaches to understanding the law, legal practice, and governing institutions; review of law in early civilizations and natural law philosophy and medieval development of natural law; and articulation of subsequent theories in the West, covenant and social contract ethical rationalism, historicism, positivism, the utilitarians, law as seen by academic disciplines (political economy, anthropology, sociology, etc.), comparative law

(conventional and trans-cultural), and pragmatism. Emphasis is on recent and contemporary positions in American jurisprudence--the realist movement, law and economics, critical legal studies (cultural left), feminism, literary criticism (deconstruction of legal texts and the power of narrative), critical race theory, and post- modernism, and discussion of the "classic tradition" in legal practice. All schools of legal thought will be the subject of critique in the context of the popular ideologies and/or perennial philosophies that sustain them.

C540 Juvenile Law 3 units

This course will provide an overview of the juvenile justice system in our society with a focus on the distinguishing features of the roles played by the court, probation, prosecution, and defense. The parallel constitutional procedures and substantive rights guaranteed to minor defendants, as well as the contrast between those not afforded juveniles, will be explored, including the policy decisions therefore. The course covers the legislative rationale for the different treatment afforded minors and how that attitude has undergone recent changes culminating in legal modifications. Students will be prepared for eventual law practice by being able to identify factors which will lead to an appropriate resolution and methods to develop alternatives to disposition.

C522 Law Office Management 2 units

This class discusses the financial and administrative aspects of owning and operating a law practice. Students learn to use computer programs for calendaring, docketing, client billing, litigation support, and document preparation.

P201/202 Law Review 2 units

Second-, third- and fourth-year students may apply to become a member of the Empire College School of Law *Law Review*. Successful applicants will have an opportunity to research and potentially publish an article analyzing and commenting on current legal issues of significant importance. Student authors will work under the guidance of an editorial board and faculty advisor.

C527 Legal Skills 2 units

This class is designed to improve students' analytical abilities and writing skills. In addition to class lectures, students will take six performance exams in class, under the three hour exam conditions. In the seven other classes, students will enhance writing and analytical skills, and develop practical lawyering skills.

C521 Mediation of Family and Civil Disputes 3 units

This course is conducted as an introductory training seminar. The goal is to develop the skill and knowledge to effectively mediate family and general civil disputes involving complex legal and personal issues. The process is broken down into five identifiable stages: contracting, developing the issues, resolving conflict, reaching agreement, and concluding.

P503 Moot Court Competition 3 units

This program provides a team of three law students to represent Empire College School of Law in the annual Roger Traynor Moot Court Competition. Under the guidance of faculty coaches, the team will research and write an appellate brief analyzing an actual case before the California Appellate Courts. After submitting their written brief, the team will participate in oral arguments before appellate judges and attorneys. Empire Law School has a tradition of excellence and success in this statewide competition.

C555 Notable Cases of the 20th Century 2 units

We will analyze and discuss notable trials. Throughout the ages, trials have reflected the culture and values of the society in which they took place. Analysis of the facts, legal issues, societal interest and rules help us understand the considerations giving rise to what are often

controversial and influential results. Twenty cases will be discussed including Sacco and Vanzetti, Scopes, The Scottsboro Boys, The Nuremberg Trial, Martin Luther King, Jack Ruby, Daniel Ellsberg, and Larry Flynt. We will conclude with a comparison of the impeachment trials of Andrew Johnson and William Clinton. Each student will be asked to write a paper on one case.

C557 Self-Help Access Center (SHAC) 2 units

This clinic provides students working with self-represented litigants. Most cases are in the areas of family law and landlord tenant law. SHAC offers free legal services to persons who have a related case in Sonoma County. Students will meet individually with parties and assist them with all aspects of their family law needs: divorce, paternity, custody, support. Students will learn Legal Solutions, Disso Master, drafting of pleadings and local court practices. A supervising attorney will oversee the work.

C502 Trial Practice 3 units

The course considers litigation problems – practical, legal and ethical – that confront a trial lawyer. Emphasis is given to techniques of client interviewing and investigation, both informal and by use of statutory discovery procedures and pleading. The student gains classroom experience in trial procedures from voir dire examination, opening statements, direct and cross examination through final argument.

C546 U.S. Supreme Court 3 units

Judicial Activists vs. Status Quo, 1939-1980: The student learns and gains understanding as to why the Court changed its course during these years based upon economic, social, political, and environmental realities; the nature of historic changes that occurred during these years; the legal process and the constitution and the federal system.

C549 Wine Law 2 units

Designed to develop a general understanding of “agribusiness” with an emphasis on the wine industry.

Clinical Education Program

The Clinical Education Program is an elective class that enables academically qualified third and fourth-year students the opportunity to gain clinical “hands-on” experience and units of credit working in the legal field. This type of program is also referred to as an externship. Students participating in the Program provide various services to clients under the supervision of a practicing lawyer. Work performed may include but is not limited to: discovery, adult adoptions, consumer letters, health care directives, legal research, motions, petitions, wills, public speaking, record expungements, client interviews, and administrative appearances.

Through this program, the research and writing skills of the student are evaluated and developed. Students are given guidance so that they may learn the quality of work demanded of a competent practitioner working in the area of law involved.

Participating students have the option to register with the California State Bar through the Practical Training of Law Students Program, in order to make court appearances on a client’s behalf.