General Education Review Committee
Agenda

January 9, 2009
ADM 204
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order
Roll

( ) Erik Hirschman Mat-Su/UAB Social Sciences
( ) Mari Ippolito CAS/UAB
( ) Patricia Fagan CAS Humanities
( ) Robert Capuozzo COE
( ) Jack Pauli CBPP
( ) Jeane Breining CAS Written Communication
( ) Len Smiley CAS Quantitative Skills
( ) Suzanne Forster CAS/UAB
( ) Robin Wahto CTC/UAB
( ) Walter Olivares CAS Fine Arts
( ) Bart Quimby OAA
( ) Catherine Sullivan CHSW/UAB
( ) Doug Parry CAS Oral Communication
( ) Jeff Miller SOE
( ) Karl Wing USUAA
( ) Hilary Davies UAB Chair

II. Approval of Agenda (pg. 1)

III. Approval of Summary (pg. 2)

IV. Report from Associate Vice Provost Bart Quimby

V. Chair’s Report

VI. Course Action Requests

Chg PARL A101 Introduction to Law (3 cr) (3+0) (pg. 3-11)

VII. Old Business
A. Review and approve draft memo to faculty piloting all three pieces of the capstone assessment plan (not in your packet because not yet drafted) and finalize plans for the pilot.

VIII. New Business

IX. Informational Items and Adjournment
General Education Review Committee
Summary

December 12, 2008
ADM 204
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order
Roll
(x) Erik Hirschman Mat-Su/UAB Social Sciences
(x) Mari Ippolito CAS/UAB
(x) Patricia Fagan CAS Humanities
(x) Robert Capuozzo COE
(x) Jack Pauli CBPP
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( ) Karl Wing USUAA
( ) Hilary Davies UAB Chair

II. Approval of Agenda (pg. 1)
Approved

III. Approval of Summary (pg. 2)
Approved

IV. Report from Associate Vice Provost Bart Quimby
No report

V. Chair’s Report

VI. Course Action Requests

  Chg GEO A460 Geomatics Design Project (3 cr) (2+2) (pg. 3-7)
  Approved

VII. Old Business
A. Update on GER Capstone Assessment Meeting

  B. Reviewed following documents:
     • letter to faculty teaching capstone course
     • surveys

VIII. New Business

IX. Informational Items and Adjournment

Meeting adjourned
## Course Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1a. School or College</th>
<th>1b. Division</th>
<th>1c. Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HW CHSW</td>
<td>AJUS Division of Justice</td>
<td>JUST</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2. Course Prefix</th>
<th>3. Course Number</th>
<th>4. Previous Course Prefix &amp; Number</th>
<th>5a. Credits/CEU</th>
<th>5b. Contact Hours (Lecture + Lab)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARL</td>
<td>A101</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(3+0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Abbreviated Course/Program Title

**Introduction to Law**

## Type of Course

- [ ] Academic
- [ ] Non-credit
- [ ] CEU
- [ ] Professional Development

## Type of Action

- [ ] Add
- [ ] Change (mark appropriate boxes)
- [ ] Delete

## Course Description

Survey course introduces legal processes in a democratic society. Emphasis on legal terminology, federal and state court systems and judicial decision making. Introduction to basic concepts of contracts, torts, criminal law, family law and administrative law. Includes introduction to basic skills for conducting basic legal analysis.

## Course Prerequisites

- [ ] None

## Test Score(s)

- [ ] None

## Co-requisite(s)

- [ ] None

## Other Restrictions

- [ ] None

## Registration Restrictions

- [ ] None

## Repeat Status

- [ ] No
- [ ] # of Repeats: 0
- [ ] Max Credits: 3

## Implementation Date

- From: Fall/2009
- To: 999/9999

## Cross Listed with

- [ ] None

## Stacked with

- [ ] None

## Coordinate with Affected Units

- General Education Requirements:
  - [ ] Oral Communication
  - [ ] Written Communication
  - [ ] Quantitative Skills
  - [ ] Humanities
  - [ ] Fine Arts
  - [ ] Social Sciences
  - [ ] Natural Sciences
  - [ ] Integrative Capstone

## Course Justification

The course description as revised reflects increased attentional to judicial process in law. The course content guide is revised to clarify the course’s characteristics that meet the requirements of a social sciences GER in light of the new GER social science template.
Course Content Guide

I. Initiation Date: Fall 2008

II. Course Information

A. School/College: College of Health and Social Welfare
B. Course Number: PARL A101
C. Credit Hours: 3
D. Contact Hours: 3 + 0
E. Course/Program Title: Introduction to Law
F. Grading Basis: A – F
G. Implementation Date: Fall / 2009
H. Course Description: Survey course introduces legal processes in a democratic society. Emphasis on legal terminology, federal and state court systems and judicial decision making. Introduction to basic concepts of contracts, torts, criminal law, family law and administrative law. Includes skills for conducting basic legal analysis.

I. Prerequisites: None
J. Test Scores: None
K. Registration Restrictions: None
L. Course Fees: None

III. Instructional Goals:

The instructor will:

A. Promote students’ understanding of law as a means of regulating conduct and defining social norms in a democratic society.
B. Develop students’ awareness of structure of the federal and state court systems, the role courts play in resolving disputes and maintaining social order.
C. Assist students in differentiating between civil and criminal laws and remedies.
D. Provide students with fundamental concepts pertaining to contract, tort, administrative, family and criminal law.
E. Enhance students’ ability to critically evaluate legal issues presented in current events, mainstream and alternative media.
IV. Student Outcomes and Assessment:

Note: All student outcomes are related to GER Outcome 5: “Investigate the complexity of human institutions and behavior to better understand interpersonal, group, political, economic, and/or cultural dynamics.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students will:</th>
<th>Relates to GER Social Science Outcome(s)</th>
<th>As measured by:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Identify methods by which civil and criminal law regulate conduct, reflect and define social norms in the United States.</td>
<td>Satisfies Tier 2 Social Science GER Outcome 1: “[B]e able to reflect on the workings of the society of which they are a part and should possess a broad perspective on the diversity of human behavior.”</td>
<td>Examinations Written Assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Recognize hierarchy of courts of original and appellate jurisdiction in federal and state court systems, the extent of jurisdictional limitations, and the distinction between fact and law (as well as how each is measured and tested).</td>
<td>Satisfies Tier 2 Social Science GER Outcome 3: “[Students] should . . . be aware of the limits of human objectivity and understand the rudiments of how ideas about social phenomena may be tested and verified or rejected.” Also satisfies Tier 2 Social Science GER Outcome 2: “[Students] should be able to . . . distinguish between empirical and non-empirical truth claims.”</td>
<td>Examinations Written Assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will:</td>
<td>Relates to GER Social Science Outcome(s)</td>
<td>As measured by:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Differentiate between civil and criminal law matters, and the specific legal terminology and remedies pertinent in both.</td>
<td>Satisfies Tier 2 Social Science GER Outcome 1: “[B]e able to reflect on the workings of the society of which they are a part and should possess a broad perspective on the diversity of human behavior.”</td>
<td>Examinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Understand fundamental concepts of contracts, tort, administrative, family and criminal law.</td>
<td>Satisfies Tier 2 Social Science GER Outcome 1: “[B]e able to reflect on the workings of the society of which they are a part and should possess a broad perspective on the diversity of human behavior.”</td>
<td>Examinations Written Assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Discuss, explain and evaluate legal issues presented in contemporary issues and daily experiences.</td>
<td>Satisfies general GER Outcome 1: Students will “[c]ommunicate effectively in a variety of contexts and formats.</td>
<td>Classroom Discussions Blackboard Discussions (optional) Written Assignments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

V. Guidelines for Evaluation

A. Examinations: A minimum of three examinations is required in the course. One is focused on legal terminology, sources of law and judicial systems. Another is focused on legal terminology and judicial process, including limitations on seeking judicial relief, legal and equitable remedies, civil procedure and the doctrine of precedent. The final examination emphasizes substantive law areas: contracts, torts, administrative, family and criminal law.

B. Writing Assignments: A minimum of four written assignments is required in the course. The first directs students to describe whether they perceive differences between law and justice and to explain what those are. The second requires students to observe a
state court proceeding and identify case characteristics (e.g., civil or criminal, original jurisdiction or appellate, motions hearing or trial). The third and fourth assignments require students to read appellate court decisions and identify salient facts, procedural history, issues presented, holdings and the court’s rationale in arriving at the decision.

VI. Course Level Justification

The course provides students with foundational knowledge regarding state and federal legal systems. It emphasizes legal terminology, legal process, and core concepts in a broad array of substantive law areas. The course introduces students to critical thinking skills necessary to conduct basic legal analysis and to write clearly about legal issues. The course material is appropriate for students who have had no prior instruction in legal theory.

VII. Topical Course Outline

I. Primary Sources of Law
   A. Constitutions
      i. Federal
      ii. State
   B. Statutes
      i. Constitutional Basis
      ii. Legislative Process
         a. Federal
         b. State
      iii. Separation of Powers / Checks and Balances
      iv. Methods of Challenge
      v. Statutory Interpretation
   C. Regulations
      i. Constitutional Basis
      ii. Administrative Agencies
      iii. Methods of Adoption
      iv. Methods of Challenge
   D. Judicial Decisions
      i. Judicial Review
      ii. Applying Law to Facts
      iii. Role of Judiciary
      iv. Due Process
   E. Federalism
      i. 10th Amendment
      ii. Pre-emption Doctrine
II. Judicial Systems
   A. Federal Courts
      i. Structure of Federal Court System
      ii. The Independent Judiciary
         a. Article III Limitations
         b. Politics and Federal Courts
   B. State Courts
      i. Structure of the Alaska Court System
         a. Original, General and Limited Jurisdiction
         b. Appellate Jurisdiction
            i. Appeals of Right
            ii. Discretionary Appeals
      ii. Judicial Selection and Retention
         a. Alaska Judicial Council
         b. Retention by Ballot

III. Development of Law through Judicial Decisions
   A. Case Briefing and Analysis
   B. Precedents
      i. Stare Decisis
      ii. Reported vs. Unreported Decisions
      iii. Binding and Persuasive Authorities
   C. The Role of Constitutional Theory in Decisions
      i. Originalism
      ii. Living Law Interpretations
      iii. Critical Theory Approaches
   D. Limitations on Judicial Relief
      i. Standing
      ii. Mootness
      iii. Advisory Opinions
      iv. Political Questions

IV. Civil Procedure
   A. Procedural Due Process
   B. Pleadings
   C. Discovery
   D. Motions Practice
      i. Issues of Fact
      ii. Issues of Law
   E. Trial
      i. Order of Proceedings
      ii. Evidence
         a. The Role of Experts
         b. Testimonial Evidence
         c. Documentary Evidence
         d. Demonstrable Evidence
      iii. Fact Finder
      iv. Remedies
a. Legal Remedies
b. Equitable Remedies
v. Post-Judgment Motions
vi. Appeal Rights

V. Substantive Law Topics

A. Contracts
   i. Formation
   ii. Differentiating Forms of Contracts
      a. Unilateral and Bilateral
      b. Executory and Non-executory
      c. Illusory Contracts
   iii. Breach
      a. Performance Excused
      b. Justified Non-performance
   iv. Remedies
      a. Damages: Measuring Expectancy
      b. Specific Performance

B. Torts
   i. Intentional Torts
   ii. Negligence
      a. Foreseeability
      b. Proximate Cause
      c. Duties
   iii. Strict Liability

C. Family Law
   i. Marriage
      a. Eligibility
      b. Requirements
   ii. Child Custody
      a. “Best Interests of the Child”
      b. Presumptions
      c. Factors
   iii. Child Support
   iv. Divorce and Dissolution
      a. Equitable Distribution
      b. Differentiation

D. Administrative Law
   i. Administrative Procedures Acts
   ii. Delegation of Authority
   iii. Ultra Vires
   iv. Administrative Rule Making
   v. Administrative Adjudications
   vi. Judicial Review

E. Criminal Law and Procedure
   i. Arrest
   ii. Grand Jury
iii. Custodial Interrogations  
iv. Constitutional Rights  
v. Search and Seizure  
vi. Exclusionary Rule  
vii. Criminal Trials  

VIII. Suggested Texts and Resources  
Registration required but no cost associated with the access. The online version of the newspaper supplements classroom discussions of the relevancy of legal topics in daily experience.  

IX. Bibliography  


