

SUPPLEMENTAL COURSE INFORMATION - Spring 2025

October 16, 2024 – Draft B

LAW 617 W

Advanced Legal Research

(2 credit hours)

Professor Jones

Advanced Legal Research (2 credits) seeks to equip students with the skills needed to locate legal information, effectively and efficiently. Through lectures, research exercises, and other activities, students will learn how to use various research techniques to identify and navigate a wide range of primary and secondary legal information resources. The class does not emphasize issue analysis or advocacy. Instead, the primary focus of the class is to foster an understanding of which legal research resources to use, how to use those resources, and when to use them.

Law 646

Military Justice

(2 Credit Hours)

Professor Carson

This course is an introduction to military law with special emphasis on current rules of jurisdiction, court martial procedure, military rules of evidence and appellate procedures under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Students will look at the military justice system and consider how well it fits within the Constitution. Students will grapple with contemporary issues stressing the military justice system such as the war on terror, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and extremism. Students will also explore concepts such as "good order and discipline" and "chain-of-command." We will also address the role of the military commander under the UCMJ; the scope of military jurisdiction over persons and crimes; the different types of crimes established by the UCMJ; military trial practice and procedure and juries; limits on freedom of speech, conscience, association, and identity; the evidentiary and procedural rules under the UCMJ/MCM; punishments; reviews and appeals of court martial convictions and sentences; and military justice during military operations. No prior military experience is necessary. All are welcome and a diversity of perspectives civilian and military is encouraged.

Sequence and Prerequisites: None

Evaluation: This course will be evaluated by final examination.

LAW 653

Health Care Transactions

Professor Bogard

This course is designed to provide students with a practical understanding of the legal principles and regulatory frameworks that govern the complex and evolving field of healthcare transactions. Course Objectives include:

- **Foundations of Healthcare Law:** Explore the fundamental legal principles underpinning healthcare transactions, including healthcare fraud and abuse laws (Anti-kickback Statute, Stark Law and False Claims Act), HIPAA, certificate of need, licensure, reimbursement and the role of government agencies.
- **Healthcare Transaction Structures:** Examine various transaction structures commonly used in healthcare, such as asset and equity purchase agreements, joint ventures and other business

arrangements, with a focus on legal considerations and challenges. The increasing role of private equity in healthcare transactions will also be explored.

- Contractual Aspects: As part of this course, students will draft and negotiate various legal documents, including non-disclosure agreements, letters of intent, due diligence requests, professional service agreements and purchase agreements. The goal of this course is to provide students “real world” exposure to healthcare mergers and acquisitions.

LAW 658

Health Care Delivery Systems

(3 Credit Hours)

Professor Gilbert

A principal aim of this course is to give students an appreciation of how society, culture, and politics have influenced American healthcare law, and how healthcare law, in turn, impacts society, culture, and politics. For example, one competing dynamic is whether we should view healthcare as a market good driven by concepts of deregulation and consumerism, or whether we should view healthcare as a social good that plays a fundamental role in achieving equity and justice.

Selected course topics focus on exploring the organization, financing, and delivery of healthcare. Specific topics include public and private health insurance, federalism and health insurance regulation, competitive and regulatory initiatives to control health care costs, tax-exempt status of non-profit health systems, and healthcare antitrust issues. Other course topics and themes include exploring our healthcare system’s impact on healthcare quality, access, and equity. Finally, we will explore the broad meaning of national health reform in all these contexts. The public policy focus in this course distinguishes it, and some of its selected topics, from other offered healthcare courses like Health Law and Health Care Transactions.

This course is particularly well-suited for students interested in government or other public policy work, healthcare law, or transactional work in a heavily regulated industry.

Law 679 1

Business Crimes

(2 credit hours)

Professor Davis

This course addresses practical aspects of the investigation, prosecution, and defense of federal business crime. Topics include mens rea, the grand jury, perjury and false statements, mail and wire fraud, obstruction, conspiracy, public corruption, the Fifth Amendment, sentencing guidelines and plea bargaining, cooperation, and parallel proceedings.

Law 701 E**Cumberland Parole Clinic****(3 Credit Hours)****Professor A. Woodham**

Redemption Earned is a non-profit formed by Retired Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb. The mission of the non-profit is to identify, assist, and represent worthy individuals who have spent decades behind bars, demonstrated they are transformed, and earned parole or work release.

In the clinic, the students will be engaged in representing clients of Redemption Earned who are prisoners seeking parole and/or access to work release. Students will learn the process for parole and will (1) screen clients who seek parole; (2) review records of the Department of Corrections to determine whether a prisoner poses a risk to the public; (3) plan re-entry services for potential parolees; and (4) prepare for and argue parole cases before the Alabama Parole Board.

In addition, students will be assisting Redemption Earned with its WIN Project by removing detainers and holds that are keeping prisoners from entering the work-release program.

Law 702 1E**Cumberland Innocence Clinic****(4 credit hours)****Professor Davis and Professor Coyne**

This course focuses on the law and practice of challenging wrongful convictions cases in Alabama, but the Innocence Clinic is as much about working on actual cases as it is about the theory of wrongful convictions. Teams of students will be assigned a potential wrongful conviction case. These cases need review and investigation to determine whether the claim of innocence is factually and legally viable. To the extent possible, students may select case projects based upon your talents and interests. Some of our clinic work will be staggered, so please be flexible. We will be clear with deadlines, but we also expect students to make this work a priority whether we can plan ahead or whether we are taken by surprise. This course is limited to 8 students. Students may repeat this course for 2 credits.

Law 705 1E**Capital Defense Clinic****(4 credit hours)****Professor Shaw**

This clinical course is embedded at the Jefferson County Public Defender's Office, a state agency that represents indigent defendants in capital and non-capital cases at trial and on direct appeal. Students will assist public defenders on a variety of legal issues facing persons charged with capital murder or already convicted of capital murder. In the Capital Defense Clinic, students will assist the public defenders in a capital case with tasks including research, case management, client and witness interviewing, investigation, hearings, pleas, jury selection, trial, and sentencing. The course has a classroom component of law and procedure and legal writing and a fieldwork component. Students are requested to have no other daytime employment during this clinic. This court is limited to 8 students. Students with a 3L practice card may appear in court. Students may repeat this course for 2 credits.

Law 706 1E**Cumberland Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic (C-VETS)****(4 credit hours)****Professor Patton**

The C-VETS clinic will teach students to assist veterans and their families in a variety of civil and administrative, litigation and non-litigation matters, including credit and related financial matters, housing, family law including uncontested divorces, expunging criminal convictions, and wills. Students will attend class and under attorney supervision, handle weekly out-of-class casework. The clinic involves client interviews and significant client contact and problem-solving in a wide variety of legal areas. Students will do opening and closing memos, legal research on a wide variety of client problems and draft letters and pleadings.

Law 707 1E**Criminal Appeals Clinic****(4 credit hours)****Professor Simonetti**

This clinical course is embedded with the Jefferson County Public Defender's Office. The clinic combines advanced criminal defense appellate advocacy skills and practical experience with real clients. Students will assist public defenders in representing indigent persons in Alabama's appellate courts. The clinic will provide classroom instruction on criminal appellate practice, including the review of trial documents, exhibits, and transcripts; development of the facts of the case; evaluation of the issues and research of legal arguments; instruction in the "fact-centered" method of brief-writing; and the presentation of oral arguments. The coursework component requires students to attend a weekly seminar focusing on Alabama criminal appellate substantive and procedural law and practice. Students are requested to have no other daytime employment during this clinic. This course is limited to 8 students. Students with a 3L practice card may appear in court. Students may repeat this course for 2 credits.

LAW 709 R**Voting Rights****(2 credit hours)****Professor Ward**

This course will examine the fundamentals of election law, with a focus on the rights of U.S. citizens to participate in the political process. Students can expect to spend much of the course examining and discussing the Voting Rights Act of 1965, disenfranchisement, partisan gerrymandering, redistricting, campaign finance, and recent litigation surrounding the 2020 and 2024 elections.

LAW 769 1**Advanced Legal Technology****(1 credit hour)****Professor Simms**

This course is designed to be a complementary offering to Technology for the Practice of Law (*not a prerequisite). Although Technology for the Practice of Law is targeted primarily for law students who plan to open a solo practice or to practice in a small firm, Advanced Legal Technology will be useful to students regardless of their practice environment. Advanced Legal Technology builds on the

introduction and overview of resources covered in Technology for the Practice of Law and shifts the focus to how those systems actually work in practice. The course will employ a hands-on approach to different practice management software and to several of the new or emerging software systems and technologies that are disrupting the traditional law firm model. Students will be introduced to and use a different vendor offering each week in order to gain an understanding of the range of opportunities within platforms.

Course Objectives:

Students will learn how to navigate through practice management software

Students will learn the advantages and disadvantages of different legal software and technologies

Students will have the resources necessary to make decisions on the purchase, implementation and use of legal software and technology

Students will have an array of tools designed to facilitate the development of a successful legal practice.

LAW 769 ADE

Advanced Domestic Relations

(2 credit hours)

Professor Fann

EXPERIENTIAL COURSE CREDIT (P/F): This course provides real-world litigation experience and is intended for students with a genuine interest in a career involving family law, as it provides both experience and networking in local domestic relations courts and law firms. Thus, students who are interested in taking Advanced Domestic Relations should have demonstrated interest in family law practice (via completion of the Domestic Relations course or other pre-approved experience) and should be aware that this course has a significant field placement component in addition to regularly scheduled (weekly) class meetings. Students will be placed with a local practicing domestic relations attorney and/or firm to participate in various aspects of domestic relations and family law cases under the supervision of the attorney and Professor Fann. A minimum of sixty total hours between class and field placement time is required for course credit in addition to timely progress reporting and submission of written assignments, and ideal scheduling would include availability for at least one 9:00 a.m. docket per week; potential for at least a few full or nearly full days during the semester for mediations, depositions, and trial observation; and sufficient business hours availability per week to allow for staying on pace to meet minimum hours requirements. Students currently working at family law firms will not be placed with said firms and cannot receive course credit for paid work.

Law 784 R Selected Topics – Environmental Law

(2 credit hours)

Professor Holt

This course provides students with an introduction to the environmental justice movement and the evolving legal theories underpinning this area of law. The class examines the roles of social movements and stratification, environmental planning and community development, and social organizations and institutions. Students will explore different approaches including judicial, legislative, executive, and private ways practitioners address environmental justice issues. The course covers major case law in environmental justice issues while examining specific case studies in the American South, Global North, and Global South.

**LAW 798 ALPP - American Law, Procedure, and Practice: A Course for Third Year Law Students
(3 Credit Hours)**

Professor Hogewood

This course provides third year law students the opportunity to review selected areas of substantive law and civil and criminal procedure that are tested heavily on bar exams. Members of the class will study actual bar review materials on those subjects in the same intensive way in which they will prepare for the actual bar exam. Then they will take practice bar exam exercises on the subjects they have studied. The practice exercises will follow the multiple-choice question format of the Multistate Bar Exam (MBE) and the essay question format of the Multistate Essay Exam (MEE). (Because of time constraints, students in the course will not generally do Model Professional Test (MPT) exercises). Throughout the semester students will self-assess their performance on these exercises, using analyses of and annotations to the exercise which are made available to them (and reporting to me on how they are doing).

There will be a final, graded exam.

But the weekly self-administered, self-assessed exercises will carry a substantial weight in the final grade, with full grades given for good faith submissions on a participatory basis.

Indeed, the skills and knowledge developed in the weekly self-administered, self-assessed participatory exercises should equip students to do well on the final graded test.

More importantly, those exercises, coupled with the review of substantive law preceding the exercises, should equip the student to do well on their state's bar exam.

This is particularly true of those who take the bar exam in a Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) state, such as Alabama, on "general law" as tested on the UBE (rather than state-specific law). Even for students who plan to take the bar exam in a non-UBE state such as Florida or Georgia that have state-specific essay components but do use the standard MBE multiple choice questions, the course develops subject matter knowledge and test taking skills.

Enrollment is restricted to third-year students. The course is especially urged for students who have received lower-level grades in law school – under a 3.0 1L cumulative GPA.

I would be glad to discuss the course with anyone interested.

My office is M10 (in the Mezzanine above the Great Room) and my email is ldhogewo@samford.edu.

LAW 798 W

**Business of Law
(3 credit hours)**

Professor McInerney

This course will explore the changing nature of the legal industry and how those changes impact legal operations in a variety of settings. Students will examine the structure and business of a law firm; a corporate law department; the emergence of law companies; legal technology; access to justice; employment and diversity in the legal profession; lawyer well-being; and legal education reform. Interviews with industry experts add real world context for the instructional materials and interactive exercises and assessments.

Course Objectives or Student Learning Outcomes (SLO's):

- SLO 1: *Identify* key concepts and principles of the business of the legal profession, from the perspective of both the practicing law firm attorney and in-house corporate counsel;
- SLO 2: *Discuss* the evolving nature of the legal profession and how the burgeoning legal/artificial technology industry supports the business of law;
- SLO 3: *Evaluate* proposed changes to the business of law and how those changes will impact the various aspects of the legal profession;
- SLO 4: *Recognize* the ethical challenges of contemporary trends in the legal profession; and
- SLO 5: *Demonstrate* mastery of principles of legal business operations by creating a final project incorporating key concepts, terms, and technologies addressed in the course.

LAW 798 02

Cybersecurity

(2 Credit Hours)

Professor Carson

This course exposes students to the key legal and policy issues related to cybersecurity, including the legal authorities and obligations of the government and private sector with respect to protecting computer systems and networks. This course emphasizes the national security aspects of the cyber domain. Students will survey federal laws, executive orders, regulations, international laws, and cases related to surveillance, cyber intrusions by private actors and nation-states, armed conflict, and privacy and civil liberties matters. Students will also explore cutting-edge issues at the intersection of law, technology, and policy. The objective of the course is to contextualize cybersecurity threats in the private and public sectors.

Topics include:

- Cybersecurity threats
- Law of Armed Conflict / Geneva Convention
- Domestic and international Internet governance
- U.S. privacy law and personal data protection / Fourth Amendment / FISA
- Emerging technologies
- Emerging compliance frameworks for cybersecurity

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Identify key sources of law applicable to the cyber domain
- Assess risks to cybersecurity from nation-states, mismanagement, software insecurities, etc.
- Evaluate proposed changes in the law related to cybersecurity and assess their implications for the industry and civil society
- Critically analyze the national security policy decisions, directives, and actions for developing and implementing cybersecurity policy in relation to federal laws, executive orders, and international laws

Final grades will be based on class participation and completion of a fifteen-page, double-spaced paper written about cybersecurity.

LAW 798**Taxation of Business Entities****(3 Credit Hours)****Professor Roberts**

This course focuses on the federal income tax consequences of the formation, operation, and termination of United States business enterprises, including partnerships and corporations. Specifically, this course is designed for students to (1) develop a working knowledge of the fundamental federal income tax issues for each type of entity, (2) analyze how federal income tax considerations impact choice-of-entity and other business planning questions, (3) solve basic tax problems in both the partnership and corporate contexts, and (4) discuss the basic policy considerations relevant to the taxation of businesses. Students should consider themselves new associates in a boutique tax law firm specializing in representing small business clients. The class is taught using the problem method.

LAW 798 2**Racial Issues – U.S. Constitution****(3 credit hours)****Professor Maddox**

The focus of the course is to analyze and discuss the U.S. Supreme Court cases which involve racial issues and events throughout the course of American constitutional history.

LAW 798 R**Right to Counsel****(3 credit hours)****Professor Dike-Minor**

This seminar will explore the Sixth Amendment Right to Counsel's origins, evolution, application in different contexts (e.g., felony, misdemeanor, and juvenile proceedings), its boundaries, and its failings. The course is primarily focused on the Sixth Amendment but we will also touch on due process and equal protection right to counsel case law. The course will provide students with an opportunity to work on their research and writing skills. Each student will be required to write a significant research paper relating to the right to counsel. Completion of the course and paper will satisfy the Upper-Level Writing Requirement. As part of the paper completion requirement, students will present their papers to the class. The seminar will primarily be discussion-focused and requires active engagement and communication. Students should not take this class simultaneously with Criminal Procedure II.

LAW 799 E**Bankruptcy and Consumer Finance****(2 credit hours)****Professor Hawkins**

This is a simulation course under the American Bar Association's standards for experiential learning. It is designed to provide an immersive hypothetical experience as in-house bankruptcy counsel for a large financial institution. The primary legal framework for the course will be the United States Bankruptcy Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, the Truth in Lending Act, the Real Estate Settlement

Procedures Act, the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Fair Credit Reporting Act and related regulations promulgated by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

The course is project-based, and some of the projects include: evaluating litigation exposure; responding to regulator inquiries; developing policies and procedures; implementing quality control processes; creating training materials; and editing correspondence to customers to ensure compliance with applicable regulations. Given that the projects will be completed each week over the course of the semester, there will be no final examination.

The course will be self-contained. In other words, aspects of substantive bankruptcy and consumer protection laws needed for the course will be taught as part of the course. However, previous experience in courses such as Bankruptcy Law and Consumer Protection Law, while not essential, may be helpful.

LAW 799 01 E

Cooney Contracts and Risk Management Clinic

(2 Credit Hours)

Professor Getty

The Cooney Clinic provides the opportunity for Cumberland 2L and 3L students to learn first-hand the legal implications of construction, insurance, and surety contracts. At the outset, the Cooney Clinic will service clients of McGriff Insurance Services, LLC (“McGriff”), part of Truist Insurance Holdings, Inc., and one of the top 10 largest insurance brokers in the world.

In the Cooney Clinic, students will (1) review and analyze insurance, construction and surety contracts; (2) assist in providing risk management and insurance solutions for McGriff’s clients; and (3) analyze legal issues and draft research papers focused on the issues facing the insurance and construction industry.

The Cooney Contracts and Risk Management Clinic is named for Gary Cooney, former Vice Chairman of McGriff, Seibels & Williams, Inc, the predecessor to McGriff. The Clinic is currently directed by Eric Getty, McGriff’s Senior Vice President.

LAW 799/799 R

Elder Law

(2/3 credit hours)

Professor DiRusso

Elder Law is a client-oriented practice area that covers a wide array of topics to meet the needs of older clients. Topics include age-related employment discrimination, surrogate decision-making, guardianship, social security, Medicare, Medicaid, elder abuse and neglect, death and dying, and nursing home regulation. The class emphasizes communication skills in the context of client counseling.

For Spring 2025: In the 2-credit non-R course, students will take a final exam. In the 3-credit R course, students will instead complete a research paper that meets the upper-level writing requirement of at least 7,000 words with submission of an outline, draft, and final paper. Otherwise, the content of both sections of the course is the same and Elder Law runs as one integrated class.

LAW 799 01**Selected Topics I – Race, Gender, Vulnerable Populations, and the Rules of Evidence****(2 Credit Hours)****Professor Albin**

This seminar examines the intersection of constructions of race, gender, vulnerable populations, and the rules of evidence and it interrogates whether this interplay impacts achieving the purpose of the rules—to ascertain the truth and secure just verdicts. The topics addressed include impeachment by prior convictions (Rule 609), impeachment by evidence of the victim's prior sexual behavior or sexual predisposition (Rule 412), competency (Rule 601) and historical witness competency rules, prior sexual crimes evidence in sexual assault and child molestation cases (Rules 413-415), eyewitness testimony evidence, and character evidence. Students will critically analyze these evidence rules, constructs, and applicable case law in a collegial and respectful environment. The seminar will provide students with an opportunity to work on their research and writing skills. Each student will be required to write a significant research paper. Completion of the course and paper will satisfy the Upper-Level Writing Requirement. This seminar will also provide students with the opportunity to work on their oral communication skills. The seminar will primarily be discussion focused and requires active engagement and communication.

LAW 799 MLE**Cumberland Medical-Legal Partnership Clinic****(3 credit hours)****Professor Barineau**

The Cumberland Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP) beds students and a supervising attorney at UAB Hospital to provide free legal services to Hospital patients with the mission of improving health outcomes. Initially, the MLP will provide wills, powers of attorney and advanced healthcare directives. The MLP will later take on additional legal issues of the patients of UAB Hospital and its affiliates. The MLP is a partnership with UAB Hospital, Volunteer Lawyers Birmingham, and the University of Alabama School of Law. Any student interested in healthcare law and/or estate planning should apply.