

LSTD210

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Course : LSTD210 **Title :** Legal Ethics

Length of Course : 8

Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This undergraduate course introduces students to the ethics and professional responsibilities of the legal profession. Emphasis is given to the strict regulation of the practice of law and accompanying reasons, as well as the standard of care expected by those who work in the field. Important ethical issues, such as marketing, client relationships, fees, and communications are explored. Students will analyze the model rules and their practical applications.

Course Scope:

This course introduces students to the study of legal ethics. Students will be studying the concept of “ethics” and “being ethical.” They will research, read and study the rules of professional responsibility that pertain to paralegals and lawyers. Ethical issues are presented in real-world context. Each student will be required to learn the legal vocabulary used in ethics and use critical/analytical thinking skills.

Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify an ethical issue or potential ethical problem when it occurs.
 2. Classify that issue into one of the nine broad topic headings for resolution.
 3. Research an answer or potential courses of action for the issue.
 4. Demonstrate effective communication and critical thinking skills by utilizing appropriate legal analysis and vocabulary in the production of oral and written discussions pertaining to a variety of ethical issues.
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Outline

Week 1:

Reading

Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 of the text. Review the Weekly Lessons for week 1 located under course lessons tab in the classroom. Click on the reading and resources tab to access the readings.

Course Objectives

1. Identify an ethical issue or potential ethical problem when it occurs.
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Assignment

Post your autobiography in the Introduction forum.

Week one discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week one forum.

Week 2:

Reading

Orlik: Chapter 3. Review the Weekly Lessons for week 2 located under course lessons tab in the classroom. Click on the reading and resources tab to access the readings.

Course Objectives

1. Identify an ethical issue or potential ethical problem when it occurs.
2. Classify that issue into one of the nine broad topic headings for resolution.
3. Research an answer or potential courses of action for the issue.
4. Demonstrate effective communication and critical thinking skills by utilizing appropriate legal analysis and vocabulary in the production of oral and written discussions pertaining to a variety of ethical issues.

Assignment

Week two discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week two forum.

Week 3:

Reading

Orlik: Chapter 4. Review the Weekly Lessons for week 3 located under course lessons tab in the classroom. Click on the reading and resources tab to access the readings.

Course Objectives

1. Identify an ethical issue or potential ethical problem when it occurs.
2. Classify that issue into one of the nine broad topic headings for resolution.
3. Research an answer or potential courses of action for the issue.
4. Demonstrate effective communication and critical thinking skills by utilizing appropriate legal analysis and vocabulary in the production of oral and written discussions pertaining to a variety of ethical issues.

Assignment

Week three discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week three forum.

Week 4:

Reading

MIDTERM (Ch 1-4) Review the Weekly Lessons for week 4 located under course lessons tab in the classroom. Click on the reading and resources tab to access the readings.

Course Objectives

1. Identify an ethical issue or potential ethical problem when it occurs.
2. Classify that issue into one of the nine broad topic headings for resolution.
3. Research an answer or potential courses of action for the issue.
4. Demonstrate effective communication and critical thinking skills by utilizing appropriate legal analysis and vocabulary in the production of oral and written discussions pertaining to a variety of ethical issues.

Assignment

1. Take the midterm exam covering Weeks 1-4. This midterm exam will count towards 25% of your final grade. The exam is open book. The midterm exam may be found under the section titled Tests and Quizzes. You will have only one chance to take this exam.
2. Contact the professor only for “procedural” questions such as clarification of the question or other requirements regarding the midterm. Advice on correct responses to questions on the midterm exam cannot be provided during the exam. However, post exam inquires and clarification of responses may be made after the exams have been graded.

Week 5:

Reading

Orlik: Chapter 5 and Chapter 6. Review the Weekly Lessons for week 5 located under course lessons tab in the classroom. Click on the reading and resources tab to access the readings.

Course Objectives

1. Identify an ethical issue or potential ethical problem when it occurs.
2. Classify that issue into one of the nine broad topic headings for resolution.
3. Research an answer or potential courses of action for the issue.
4. Demonstrate effective communication and critical thinking skills by utilizing appropriate legal analysis and vocabulary in the production of oral and written discussions pertaining to a variety of ethical issues.

Assignment

Week five discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week five forum.

Week 6:

Reading

Orlik: Chapter 7. Review the Weekly Lessons for week 6 located under course lessons tab in the classroom. Click on the reading and resources tab to access the readings.

Course Objectives

1. Identify an ethical issue or potential ethical problem when it occurs.
2. Classify that issue into one of the nine broad topic headings for resolution.

3. Research an answer or potential courses of action for the issue.
4. Demonstrate effective communication and critical thinking skills by utilizing appropriate legal analysis and vocabulary in the production of oral and written discussions pertaining to a variety of ethical issues.

Assignment

Week six discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week six forum.

Week 7:

Reading

Orlik: Chapter 8 and Chapter 9. Review the Weekly Lessons for week 7 located under course lessons tab in the classroom. Click on the reading and resources tab to access the readings.

Course Objectives

1. Identify an ethical issue or potential ethical problem when it occurs.
2. Classify that issue into one of the nine broad topic headings for resolution.
3. Research an answer or potential courses of action for the issue.
4. Demonstrate effective communication and critical thinking skills by utilizing appropriate legal analysis and vocabulary in the production of oral and written discussions pertaining to a variety of ethical issues.

Assignment

1. Research paper is due. Please see the assignment under the assignment tab for instructions and requirements.
2. Week seven discussion forum is due Sunday night by midnight. Please see the directions under the week seven forum.

Week 8:

Reading

FINAL EXAM

Final Comprehensive Examination- Open Book

Chapters

1 to 9

Review the Weekly Lessons for weeks 1-8 located under course lessons tab in the classroom. Click on the reading and resources tab to access the readings.

Course Objectives

1. Identify an ethical issue or potential ethical problem when it occurs.
2. Classify that issue into one of the nine broad topic headings for resolution.
3. Research an answer or potential courses of action for the issue.
4. Demonstrate effective communication and critical thinking skills by utilizing appropriate legal analysis and vocabulary in the production of oral and written discussions pertaining to a variety of ethical issues.

Assignment

FINAL EXAM

1. Take the final exam covering Weeks 1-8. This exam will count towards 25% of your final grade. The exam is open book and may be found under the section titled "Tests and Quizzes" You will have only one chance to take this exam.

2. Contact the professor only for "procedural" questions such as clarification of the question or other requirements regarding the midterm. Advice on correct responses to questions on the final exam cannot be provided during the exam. However, post exam inquires and clarification of responses may be made after the exams have been graded.

Evaluation

Reading Assignments: Reading assignments are provided in the Course Outline below, and are comprised of selected readings from the text, various assigned MS PowerPoint slides, and assigned legal cases.

Forums:

In addition to the required readings, the student is also required to participate in the discussion forums. Please see the Course Outline and the Forums sections of the classroom for further details on the specific discussion forums and topics. As described in the Forum section of the classroom, each student is required to post an initial posting to the forum topic by Wednesday at midnight EST and then the student is required to respond to at least two of their classmates on their submissions to the forum questions presented by Sunday at midnight EST. When applicable, students will conduct outside research on the issues and list references in Bluebook format. More information on Bluebook formatting can be found under the Resources tab.

Exams:

The mid-term and final exams can be found under the Tests & Quizzes section of the classroom. All exams are open book and untimed. These exams are all short essay questions.

Assignments:

The written assignment for this class is a research paper. The assignment instructions for this paper can be found under the Assignments section of the classroom. This paper is due at the end of week 7.

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Welcome Forum	1.00 %
Welcome Forum	1.00 %
Forums	24.00 %
Forum Week #1	4.00 %
Forum Week #2	4.00 %
Forum Week #3	4.00 %
Forum Week #5	4.00 %
Forum Week #6	4.00 %
Forum Week #7	4.00 %
Assignments	25.00 %
Research Paper (due end of Wk 7)	25.00 %
Exams	50.00 %
Midterm Exam -- Due at the End of Week 4	25.00 %
Final Exam -- Due at the End of Week 8.	25.00 %

Unassigned	0.00 %
Midterm Exam -- Due at the End of Week 4 Take 2	0.00 %

Materials

Book Title: Legal Ethics in a Nutshell, 4th ed. - e-book available in the APUS Online Library; link also available in the classroom Lessons section

Author:

Publication Info: West Academic

ISBN: 9780314282248

Please access the Bluebook at : <https://www-legalbluebook-com.ezproxy2.apus.edu/>

Websites

In addition to the required course text, the following public domain websites are useful. Please abide by the university's academic honesty policy when using Internet sources as well. Note web site addresses are subject to change.

Site Name	Website URL/Address
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Oyez – Supreme Court Media	https://www.oyez.org/
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ABA Criminal Law Section	https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_education.html
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Supreme Court Website	https://www.supremecourt.gov/
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Cornell Law Crim Law Site	http://topics.law.cornell.edu/wex/Criminal_law
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Course Guidelines

Writing Expectations

All written submissions should be submitted in a font and page set-up that is readable and neat. It is recommended that students try to adhere to a consistent format, which is described below.

Citation and Reference Style

The central function of legal citation is to allow the reader to efficiently locate the cited source. All courses in the Legal Studies program require that any narrative essay or composition format follow the legal citation guidelines set forth in *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation*. Do not purchase *The Bluebook*, as it is available at the APUS library. Use this link to access:

<http://ezproxy.apus.edu/login?url=https://www.legalbluebook.com>

Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Deductions

Late forum posts, assignments, and exams may be penalized five (5) points per day.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :), J

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a

limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.

- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. [Tutor.com](http://tutor.com) connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

Request a Library Guide for your course (<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOC1111), or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

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