



WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES  
VIRTUAL CAMPUS

**Wayland Mission Statement:** Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Course Title, Number, and Section:** JUAD 3315 VC01 – Preparation for Law School

**Term:** Fall 1 - 2021

**Instructor:** Dr. Brenda Johnson

**WBU Email Address:** [brenda.johnson@wayland.wbu.edu](mailto:brenda.johnson@wayland.wbu.edu)

**Note: I will only e-mail you at your Wayland Baptist E-mail Address and all communications from the class will be directed to your Wayland Baptist E-mail Address.**

**Catalog Description:** Preparation for law school and the application process; introduction of typical law school instructional methods and learning strategies.

**There are no prerequisites for this course**

**Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Material(s):** McKinsey John A, and Burke, Debra D. 2015. Carper's Understanding the Law, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition. Cengage. ISBN-13: 9781285428420

*The textbook for this course is part of the **Wayland's Inclusive Access** program. You will have access to an e-book and interactive learning material on the first day of class through your Blackboard course site. The cost of this access will be billed directly to your student account when you register for the course. You will be notified via email with access instructions and additional information. If you do not wish to participate in the Inclusive Access program, you will have the first 12 days of class to opt-out of the program (additional details will be outlined in your email instructions). For more information on the Inclusive Access program, visit the Wayland Bookstore [Inclusive Access FAQ](#) page.*

**Course Outcome Competencies:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Examine the characteristics and skills needed to be a competitive candidate for Law School.
- Examine the criteria important in selecting a Law School
- Gain specific knowledge about law school admission requirements and application process.
- Develop strategies to be successful in the law school classroom.
- Learn how to effectively prepare for the LSAT.
- Write a Personal Statement and Resume
- Gain analytic and problem-solving skills, critical reading abilities, writing skills, oral communication and listening abilities, general research skills, task organization and management skills by briefing cases, analyzing case problems, and issue spotting.

- Review fundamental aspects of Core First Year Law School subjects in Contract Law, Criminal Law and Cyber Crime, Torts and Product Liability, Criminal and Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, and Property Law.
- Review fundamental aspects of core Second and Third Year Law School Subjects in Business Organizations, Secured Transactions, Creditor’s Rights and Bankruptcy, Employment Law, Agency and Partnership Wills and Trusts, Evidence, and Insurance Law.
- Participate in Mini Mock Trials

**Attendance Requirements:**

Virtual Campus

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 2 or more weeks of an 8-week term, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given term is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

**Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:** Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

**Disability Statement:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

## **Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:**

**A. Reading Assignments:** Reading assignments are to be completed on time (i.e., before they are scheduled for discussion). You are encouraged to take notes as you read and you should be prepared to participate in online discussions about the assigned reading.

**B. Discussion Boards:** There will be a discussion topic each week of class, with the exception of Week 8. Each week, a prompt will be posted by Monday by 1:30 PM CST. You will need to formulate your initial response to that prompt by Wednesday @ 11:59 PM CST of each week. By Sunday at 11:59 PM CST of each week, you will need to have read your classmates initial responses and reply to at least two of your classmates' posts, but you will need to clearly indicate which two responses you would like me to grade. Otherwise, I will grade the first two responses.

**Note:** Posting all your discussions answers on Bb is a major requirement of this course. Accordingly, late posts will receive an automatic 3-point deduction (meaning you will start out with a 90). If you consistently turn in late assignments, the deduction will increase. Also, please remember that Plagiarism will not be tolerated in any way (refer to Wayland Baptist University Policy on Dishonesty). You may view your peers work and postings to learn from one another, but you can't copy their work. Students who have circumstances which prevent them from participating or completing an assignment on time must communicate with me in order to find reasonable accommodations to complete the required course work.

- Your posts must be insightful, thorough, and interesting. These responses should demonstrate an understanding of the assigned readings and should be substantiated by two or more examples from the textbook and/or appropriate websites. Do not forget to cite your sources!
- Each response to your classmates should also be substantive. Participation is measured on the student's interaction and contribution with the course and other students as demonstrated through active involvement on the virtual classroom discussion board. A student's contribution must add value to the course. A discussion board posting is determined to be of substance by containing information that supplements, contradicts, questions, or furthers discussion on a subject area contained in the course. Additionally, it is expected that student participation reflects critical thinking and good grammar.

**C. Course Exams and Quizzes:** You will not have a midterm. You will have 7 Weekly Quizzes and a Final Exam. The weekly quizzes will be comprised of 25 questions for each chapter assigned. Thus, for weeks 1-4 there will be 25 questions with each question being worth 1 point. For week 5-7 the quizzes will consist of 50 questions, with each question being worth 1 point. The Quizzes will be timed, and they will cover the Weekly Readings. The Final Exam will be Comprehensive. All Quizzes and Exams are open book and open note, however time constraints will be imposed. Accordingly, you should be familiar with the material as you will not have time to "hunt" for answers.

**D. Law School Selection Assignment:** You will be required to research and choose your top three law schools. You will also be required to provide specific information about each school. More information regarding this assignment will be available on the first date of class.

**E. Resume Submission:** You will be required to create a resume. You MUST take your resume to the writing center prior to submitting your assignment. Failure to visit the writing center and have a meaningful conversation regarding your resume will result in a substantial grade deduction.

**F. Personal Statement & Letters of Recommendation Assignment:** You will be required to create a personal statement. You will also be required to list 5 people that you believe would be good people to write letters of recommendation on your behalf. More information on this assignment will be available on the first date of class.

**G. Participation:** I will utilize the weekly quiz and the discussion board deadlines to measure your attendance. Accordingly, missing a deadline will result in an "absence". There are 100 points possible for attendance/participation. The more in-depth your discussion boards are, the more participation points you will earn.

**METHOD FOR DETERMINING THE COURSE GRADE:**

1. Email Assignment	25 Points Possible
2. Law School Selection Assignment	100 Points Possible
3. Resume Submission	100 Points Possible
4. Personal Statement & Letters of Recommendation Assignment	100 Points Possible
5. Discussion Boards (7 discussion boards worth 25 points each)	175 Points Possible
6. Quizzes (7 quizzes)	250 Points Possible
7. Final Exam	150 Points Possible
8. Participation	100 Points Possible
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TOTAL =	1,000 Points Possible

The University has a standard grade scale:

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control. A grade of “incomplete” is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long (10 to 15 weeks) term, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion. If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

Student Grade Appeals:

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

## Tentative Schedule:

### Week 1 (August 9 – August 15)

- Assigned Reading: Chapter 1
- Examine Characteristics and skills that are needed to be considered a competitive candidate for Law School.
- Gain specific knowledge about law school admission requirements and application process.
- Email Assignment: Due Wednesday by 11:59 PM CST (This will be used for census reporting purposes)
- Law School Selection Assignment: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST
- Discussion Board Response: Wednesday at 11:59 PM CST
- Classmate DB Response: Sunday @ 11:59 PM CST
- Week 1 Quiz: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST

### Week 2 (August 16 – August 22)

- Assigned Reading: Chapter 2
- Law School Admissions, Applications, and Acceptance (LSAC Registration) and LSAT Preparation
- Discussion Board Response: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 PM CST
- Classmate DB Response: Due Sunday @ 11:59 PM CST
- Week 2 Quiz: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST

### Week 3 (August 23 – August 29)

- Assigned Reading: Chapter 3
- Resume: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST
- Discussion Board Response: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 PM CST
- Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday @ 11:59 PM CST
- Week 3 Quiz: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST

### Week 4 (August 30 – September 5)

- Assigned Reading: Chapter 8
- Personal Statement and Letters of Recommendation Due: Sunday @ 11:59 PM CST
- Discussion Board Response: Due Wednesday by 11:59 PM CST
- Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST
- Week 4 Quiz: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST

### Week 5 (September 6 –September 12)

- Assigned Reading: Chapter 6 and 7
- Discussion Board Response: Due Wednesday by 11:59 PM CST
- Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST
- Week 5 Quiz: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST

### Week 6 (September 13 – September 19)

- Assigned Reading: Chapter 14 & 11
- Discussion Board Response: Due Wednesday by 11:59 PM CST
- Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST
- Week 6 Quiz: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST

**Week 7 (September 20 - September 26)**

- Assigned Reading: Chapter 4 & Chapter 15
- Discussion Board Response: Due Wednesday by 11:59 PM CST
- Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST
- Week 6 Quiz: Due Sunday by 11:59 PM CST

**Week 8 (September 27 – October 2)**

- ***Final Exam***: Due Wednesday by 11:59 PM CST

**Additional Information:** <http://catalog.wbu.edu>