

**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**:** LGLS 5300 VC01 - Introduction to the Law

Term:Fall 2019

Instructor:Dr. Justin Lawrence

Office Phone Number and WBU Email Address**:** Phone: 806-535-5907 E-mail: [lawrencej@wbu.edu](mailto:lawrencej@wbu.edu)

Office Hours, Building, and Location**:** Call or e-mail me at any time. Gates Hall 303

Class Meeting Time and Location**:** Virtual Campus

Catalog Description**:** Comprehensive overview of the legal system, legal concepts, terminology, case analysis, and ethics in traditional topics of criminal law, property law, torts, family law, and contracts. Emphasis will be on the introduction of the skills necessary to analyze cases and statutes for the development of a well-supported legal argument.

**There is no prerequisite for this course.**

Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Material(s) **:** Pyle, Ransford C. and Bast Carol M. *Foundations of Law: Cases, Commentary and Ethics.* 6th Edition.ISBN: 978-1305505001

Optional Materials**:**

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

* Gain a basic understanding and knowledge of the legal process and the structure of our dual legal system, and the fundamental terminology and concepts of criminal law, property law, torts, family law, contracts, and administrative law
* Have a sufficient understanding and knowledge of the fundamentals of legal research and legal reasoning and analysis to apply these skills in reading and briefing cases
* Understand and comprehend arguments and develop a persuasive argument, pro or con, regarding current legal questions
* Identify the ethical standards required of those interacting with the law and apply and propose ethical solutions to legal questions that arise in the workplace, to include developing an ethics program for a business, government and/or non-profit plan organization

Attendance Requirements**:**

WBUonline (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 3 or more weeks of an 11 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**:** <<Fill in specific requirements of the course including the criteria utilized to assess student performance and the weight of each. A variety of means to evaluate student performance should be used and grading criteria should conform to the grading system in the catalog.>>

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**:**

**Course Outline/Calendar**:

**Week 1 Meet and Greet Discussion Board: Due Tuesday @11:59 CST**

**Chapters 1 and 2**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 CST**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 1 Quiz- Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 2 Chapter 3 and 4**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 CST**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 2 Quiz- Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 3 Chapters 5 and 6**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 CST**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 3 Quiz- Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 4 Chapters 7 and 8**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 CST**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 4 Quiz- Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 5 Chapter 9**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 CST**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 5 Quiz- Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 6 Chapter 10**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 CST**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 6 Quiz- Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 7 Chapter 11**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 CST**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 7 Quiz- Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 8 Chapter 12**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 CST**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 8 Quiz- Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 9 Chapter 13**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 CST**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 9 Quiz- Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Research Paper Due Sunday @ 11:59p.m.**

**Week 10 Chapter 14**

**Discussion Board Response: Wednesday @ 11:59 CST**

**Classmate DB Response: Due: Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 10 Quiz- Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST**

**Week 11 *Final Exam***

Additional Information**:**

[**http://catalog.wbu.edu**](http://catalog.wbu.edu)