**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**Plainview, TX**

**School of Behavioral and Social Sciences**

***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.***

**JUAD 3319- American Legal System**

**Term: Spring 2014**

**Instructor**: Wally Hatch, J.D.

**Contact Information**: 806-291-1000 Email: wally.hatch@wayland.wbu.edu

**Office Hours**: Online

**Class Time and Location**: Online

**Catalog Description**: A study of the American legal system including its history and development, the courts, participants, processes, the adversarial system, and criminal and civil law.

**There is no prerequisite for this course**

**Textbook**: With Justice For All? Nature of the American Legal System, Michael Fowler.

**Optional Materials:** N/A

**Course outcome competencies**: Students will be able to understand, explain and describe the American legal system including its history and development, the courts, participants, processes, the adversarial system, and criminal and civil law.

**Attendance**: (On-campus classes) Students enrolled at one of the University’s external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings.  All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up.  When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus dean.  Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course.  Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University’s attendance policy.

**Additional attendance policies:** N/A

**Service for the Disabled**: 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: Your grade will be based on your performance on the following:**

Discussion Topics- Each week, I will post your weekly assignment, which will consist of 4 discussion-type questions and/or definitions, which are related to that week’s reading. You will be required to respond on the “Discussion Board” on Blackboard. Each week’s assignment is worth 10 points. To qualify for the 10 points, each comment should be posted ***no more than 7 days*** after I post the initial question/comment. I will try to post this Tuesday morning. Your total points are 100 for the 10 weekly assignments.

Major Exams: There will be a midterm exam and a final exam. The exam questions will be posted under “Midterm Exam” or “Final Exam,” which will have a link to each respective exam. Each exam is worth 100 points. Please note the date for the final. This date will not be moved forward or backward for anyone for any reason.

Research Paper- Write a 8-page research paper. See below (Total 100 points). You must use at least 10 references and annotate the paper according to APA guidelines. Your research paper is to be posted through blackboard.

Research Topic- You must compare our system of justice to another country’s justice system. You may make the comparison in either civil law or criminal law or both. For example, compare the justice system in the U.S. to that of Great Britaian.

### RESEARCH PAPER

Each student will be required to write a 8 page **(does not include title page, bibliography, summary symopsis, etc.)** ***typed written*** research paper on the comparison of the U.S. justice system (either civil law, criminal law, or both). The paper should be no shorter than 8 pages. The requirement includes ***actual text written*** by the student, it does not include a title page, an abstract, or the bibliography page. The main body of the paper should include no photographs, illustrations, charts, graphs, lithographs, etchings, or drawings of any kind. You must utilize 10 references and annotate them according to APA guidelines.

**STRUCTURE:**

**Font:** The font should be New Times Roman 12-point type. **PLEASE NOTE**- these settings are already set in most computers.

**Margins:** The paper should have 1-inch margins (top, bottom, and both sides). It should be doubled spaced only. Include page numbers. **PLEASE NOTE**- these settings are already set in most computers.

**Sources:** The paper should include 10 resources, including, but not limited to books, news magazines, newspapers, business journals, or Internet sites. NO three (3) resources should be the same type (i.e. a student can have no more than 3 sources that are from books, news magazines, newspapers, business journals, or internet sites). Students who vary their resources will receive better grades. Students should use the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) as a format for their footnotes, and ***sources should be properly footnoted within the paper.***

**Paper Presentation-** Each paper should be submitted via the appropriate link through blackboard.

**TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS FOR THE SEMESTER GRADE=400**

Point Value Assignments:

100-90 = A

89-80 = B

79-70 = C

69-60 = D

59- 0 = F

M**ethod of determining course grade: See above.**

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.

**Instructor’s policy on Academic Dishonesty: Refer to student handbook.**

**Tentative Schedule**: The week of….

Week 1 Chapter 1 and research topic due for approval

Week 2 Chapter 2

Week 3 Chapter 3

Week 4 Chapter 4

Week 5 Chapter 5- Paper Due

Week 6 Chapter 6-Midterm Exam

Week 7 Chapter 7

Week 8 Chapter 8

Week 9 Chapter 9

Week 10 Chapter 10

Week 10 Final Exam

**Additional Information**: none.