

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE & NUMBER: CI 480: Legal Careers and Processes.

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 1:00-1:50p.m.

SEMESTER: Fall Semester, 1999 term. Main campus. Henry Hall 118.

INSTRUCTOR: Collin K. C. Lau, Assistant Professor

TELEPHONE: 735-4882 or CJ office 735-4703 (Michelle)

E-MAIL: Clau@chaminade.edu.

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, **Fridays (7:30a.m.-9:30a.m.)**, Tuesdays, Thursdays (**11a.m.-noon**). Before or after class or by appointment. Office is located at Henry Hall 206A.

BIOGRAPHY: Mr. Lau is an Assistant Professor in the Criminal Justice department at Chaminade University. He received a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Hawaii and a Juris Doctorate from the Richardson School of Law. Mr. Lau has worked as a law clerk for the Hawaii Supreme Court, a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, a **Deputy** Corporation Counsel and in the private practice of law. Mr. Lau **also worked two terms** as an Independent Counsel to the Oahu Grand Jury.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will examine various careers within the legal profession and the theories and practices of legal problem solving. This course will also involve practice and preparation techniques for attending law school.

COURSE OBJECTIVE: Upon completion of the course, the student will have been exposed to the American legal systems, legal careers and legal processes of civil and criminal law. The course is designed to provide the student with a realistic and practical exposure to the demands, challenges, and expectations of a legal career.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS: Robinson and Tallia, ***Cracking the L.S.A.T.***: 1000, Princeton Review (1999).

Castleman, **Niewoehner**, Castleman, *Going to Law School?: Everything You Need to Know to Choose and Pursue a Degree in Law*, Wile and Sons (1997).

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION: Class participation is an expected and essential requirement of the course. A student's participation in each session is considered important to the learning process. Missing a session is not an excuse for not being prepared for the next session. A student's absence from or late arrivals to a session will impact the student's grade. In general, there is no make-up procedure for missed examinations or assignments. Students who have advanced knowledge that they will miss a session or **deadline** should contact the instructor to make arrangements to take the examination at another time. The decision to allow a make-up assignment under these circumstances rests with the instructor and will be made on a case-by-case basis. If a student did not have advanced notice that s/he would miss a session or assignment deadline, s/he must contact the instructor **within** 24 hours. A message may

be left by the student on voice mail at any time. A student who misses an session or deadline and is allowed by the instructor to take do a make-up must be prepared to take it immediately (usually within 48 hours).

READING ASSIGNMENTS: All reading assignments must be completed prior to class or the student will not be prepared to participate meaningfully in class discussions. Classes are prepared on **the assumption** and **expectation** that the student has read the assigned materials and completed any required assignments. It is **particularly** important that assigned cases are read for presentation in the upcoming class.

COURSE EVALUATIONS: Final grades are **based** on the following factors:

MID-TERM ASSIGNMENT..... 100 Points
FINAL ASSIGNMENT100 Points
CLASS ASSIGNMENTS 150 Points

GRADING: A = 90% or more of the possible 350 total points. (315+)
8 = 80% or more of the possible 350 total points. (280+)
C = 70% or more of the possible 350 total points. (~~245~~+) **(245+)**
D = 60% or more of the possible 350 total points. (210+)
F = less than 60% of the possible points. (<210)
FA = failure due to excessive unexcused absences
(7 or more under regular schedule).

Note: a grade calculated by the percentage of possible examination points may be reduced to the next lower grade in the event of excessive absences or failure of class participation.

End of syllabus.