

## CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS

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

**IME:** Tuesdays, Thursdays 9:30-10:50 a.m.

**SEMESTER/LOCATION:** 2001 Fall Day Term, Main Campus.

**INSTRUCTOR:** **Collin** K. C. Lau, J. D.

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

**E-MAIL:** Clan@chaminade.edu.

**OFFICE HOURS:** **M/W/F** 7:30-9:00 a.m., M/F 10-11 a.m. or by appointment. Behavioral Science Building **Office** 110.

**BIOGRAPHY:** Mr. Lau is a **full-time** lecturer in the **Criminology** and 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 as an Independent Counsel to the Oahu Grand Jury.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** **Chaminade University offers its** students an education in a collaborative learning environment that prepares them for **life**, work and **service**. Guided by its Catholic, Marianist and **liberal** arts educational traditions, Chaminade encourages the development of moral character and personal competencies, and the commitment to build a just and peaceful society.

### 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:

- > learn about the challenges and demands of **attending** law school.
- > have been exposed to the structure and workings of the American legal systems.
- > learn about a variety of career avenues in the legal field.
- > be exposed the processes of legal research and **writing**.
- > gain an understanding of the demands, challenges, and expectations of a legal career.
- > be exposed to a variety of ways of looking at problems.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:** Falcon, Atticus, *Planet **Law** School*, Fine Print Press (1998).

**ATTENDANCE and 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 an 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

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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 and WRITING 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. Writing assignments are expected to comply with the "Writing Across the Disciplines" standards stated on pages 50-1 of the Chaminade University General Catalog.

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

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

**GRADING:** A = 90% or more of the possible 350 total points. (315+)  
B = 80% or more of the possible 350 total points. (280+)  
C = 70% or more of the possible 350 total points. (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 un-excused absences  
(4 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.**