

**Introduction to Law for Public Administration**  
Fall 2021

Instructor: Professor Charles Szypszak  
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Required: ♦Szypszak, *Understanding Law for Public Administration*  
♦Excerpts and other material on Sakai course site

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Due</b>
19 Aug	What is Law?	♦Rosling, <i>Factfulness</i> (excerpt) ♦Ch. 1
26 Aug	Constitutional Framework	♦Ch. 2 ♦ <i>Marbury &amp; Griswold</i> dialogue videos
2 Sep	Finding Legal Resources	♦Ch. 15 - only pp. 307-310, 315-323, 325-326 ♦Nexis Uni overview
9 Sep	Due Process and Equal Protection	♦Ch. 3 ** <b>Locating resources assignment due**</b>
16 Sep	Religion, Speech, and Information	♦Chs. 4, 5
23 Sep	Property and Land Use	♦Ch. 6
30 Sept	Contracts	♦Ch. 7 ♦ <i>Bellsite</i> instead of <i>Voldahl</i> in Ch. 7
7 Oct	Employment Law	♦Ch. 8 ♦ <i>Glover</i> instead of <i>Berube</i> in Ch. 8 ♦ <i>Eves</i> instead of <i>Garcetti</i> in Ch. 8
14 Oct	Torts Liability and Immunity	♦Chs. 9 ♦ <i>Valdez</i> instead of <i>Dolan</i> in Ch. 9 ** <b>Objective analysis paper due**</b>
21 Oct	No class - break	
28 Oct	Criminal Law and Procedure	♦Ch. 10 ♦ <i>Morales</i> instead of <i>Papachristou</i> in Ch. 10 ♦ <i>Staples</i> instead of <i>Agurs</i> in Ch. 10
4 Nov	Agencies	♦Ch. 11
11 Nov	Dispute Resolution and Managing Lawyers	♦Chs. 13, 14 ** <b>North Carolina law analysis due**</b>
18 Nov	Public Ethics Law	♦Ch. 12 ♦Szypszak, <i>Beyond the Rule of Law</i>
6 Dec 9 a.m.	<b>Final Exam</b>	

**Assigned material:** Materials must be studied prior to the class session for which they are assigned. You are expected to be prepared to discuss them.

**Class session rules:** Class begins promptly as scheduled. There will be a few-minute break about midway through a full session. *No electronic devices--laptops, smartphones, etc.--may be switched on while class is in session.* You are highly encouraged to bring the materials to class and to take notes on paper. No food may be consumed in the classroom while class is in session.

**Course grade calculation:**

Locating resources .....	20%
Objective analysis paper .....	20%
N.C. law analysis paper .....	20%
Final exam.....	40%

\*Potentially adjusted by cumulative quiz grade as follows: As an incentive to keep up with the readings and to be ready for class discussions, which are essential to successful learning in the course, several quizzes will be given without advance notice. Each quiz will have five questions that test knowledge of the main points of reading assigned for that session. To pass a quiz, at least four of the five questions must be deemed correct by the instructor. A student must obtain a passing score on all but one of the quizzes. Otherwise, the student's aggregate course grade (based on the items listed above) will be lowered by one full letter grade. For example, a student with a P based on the assignments and exam but who does not pass all but one of the quizzes will receive an L for the course. Students who are absent when a quiz is given cannot take that quiz another time except for extraordinary circumstances beyond the student's control as determined in the instructor's discretion.

All assignments must be submitted by the due date. Late submissions will be penalized except in extraordinary circumstances beyond the student's control, as determined in the instructor's discretion.

The minimum cumulative scores for the final course grade are: H=90; P=80; L=70. Papers will be assigned grades from among the following: H/95; P+/88; P/85; P-/82; L/75; F/60 or lower. The numerical score for the locating resources assignment will be added as such into the course grade calculation. The raw final exam score will be adjusted based on the raw score distribution for the exam and historic averages for equivalent exams over the history of the course, and the result will be added into the course grade calculation.

**Class participation:**

The law involves analytical thinking and weighing alternative reasonable viewpoints. In this class you are expected to engage in an evolving dialogue in which you are probing your own assumptions, looking for contradictions, and finding new connections and patterns. You also are expected to be thoughtful in developing and expressing your analysis, and attentive to, and considerate of, other reasonable viewpoints.

Experience shows a close correlation between earnest class participation and the course grade. Engaging in analytical dialogue greatly aids learning how to think about law. Successful participation results from preparation and regular contribution to discussions by study of the assigned material and effort to apply the *objective analytical reasoning* approaches taught in the course. Positive contributions include those that earnestly respond to the instructor's question, advance the discussion by presenting new ideas or insights, build on others' comments, or present a reasoned counterpoint to others' comments in a respectful way. Contributions that are not positive include those that are nonresponsive or unrelated to the point under discussion, are political arguments or criticisms, repeat points already made, or critique others' contributions in an un-analytical way.

**Papers:**

The assignments, available on Sakai, provide additional instructions. Questions about the papers must be asked during class sessions so that all students have the benefit of the same information.

The locating resources assignment requires independently locating and appropriately identifying primary law. The objective analysis paper requires objectively analyzing issues in a matter pending before the U.S. Supreme Court or a state supreme court. The North Carolina law analysis requires analysis of supplied authority and application of it to an assigned issue. On all assignments, you must work entirely independently and submit findings in the specified format. Consistent with how courts and agencies approach legal procedure in practice, *submissions that exceed length limits or otherwise do not materially comply with the instructions will be returned as un-submitted.*

**Final Exam:** The final exam will be a combination of multiple choice questions to test knowledge and short essay questions to test understanding and application of basic principles. It will be comprehensive and closed book. Additional information will be provided during the course.

**Accommodations:** The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill facilitates the implementation of reasonable accommodations, including resources and services, for students with disabilities, chronic medical conditions, a temporary disability or pregnancy complications resulting in barriers to fully accessing University courses, programs and activities. Accommodations are determined through the Office of Accessibility Resources and Service (ARS) for individuals with documented qualifying disabilities in accordance with applicable state and federal laws. See the ARS Website for contact information: <https://ars.unc.edu> or email [ars@unc.edu](mailto:ars@unc.edu).

**The honor code applies in all respects.**