

LAW & SOCIETY Syllabus – (POS 240); 3 cr.

Taught by

Jad Maalouf Sec A TTh. 9:30-10:45

Office Hours / Contact

By appointment jmaalouf@ndu.edu.lb

1 Course Description

This course aims at introducing students to a variety of topics related to the nature of law, the legal process and many of the law's functions, in the U.S., Lebanese and global context. It is intended to provide a basic understanding of the relationship between society and the law, the importance of the rule of law, legal authority, the purpose of regulations and the relationship between law and morality. It will include an overview of the courts systems in the US and Lebanon as well as the law making process. Certain laws and legal institutions will be evaluated through a critical approach and with respect to justice and fairness in order to introduce student to such critical analysis.

2 Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, and as a result of the activities and study in this course, the students should be able to accomplish the following:

- To discuss the subject of the course using convincing arguments supporting specific ideas.
- To express themselves in writing about the subject by forming their own opinions and arguments.
- To be able to take a position from their readings as well as to justify it by providing logical reasons.
- To be able to express their intended meanings, and to support them with details.
- To understand the lawmaking process and the court organization.
- To understand some of the basic legal terminology.
- To be able to identify the relationship between law and social control and change.
- To be familiarized with the Lebanese legal system.

3. Teaching Methodology and Techniques

This course relies on lectures by the professor; the students will also be required to contribute to discussions based on readings and to analyze and resolve cases presented by the professor during class.

4. Required Text Book

Text Book

Steven Vago, 2009, *Law & Society*, Pearson International Edition

Material Provided by the Instructor

5. Resources Available to Students

- Library Resources: NDU Library is open to students to help you in all your research and class work. Qualified personnel are available to help you.
- Writing Center: The Writing Center provides assistance to all students who wish to discuss their writing with a trained consultant. The Center is located in HA 114. An appointment is required.
- Blackboard (bb) Software: If you are not familiar with the Blackboard system, it is recommended to attend a training session at the University Computer Services in

LAW & SOCIETY Syllabus – (POS 240); 3 cr.

order to know how to use the Blackboard system to enrich the academic communication with your instructor and your colleagues

6. Grading and Evaluation

Tasks	Assessment
Attendance, Participation & Preparation	25%
Midterm	20%
Paper	20%
Final Exam	35%
Total	100%

Writing Across the Curriculum

NDU considers that knowledge of a subject is both oral and written. Mastering the knowledge of a certain course means acquiring the ability to write on subjects related to that subject matter. Writing a research/term paper requires the appropriate command of language skills, proper terminology, and correct use of quotations, footnotes, and references, regardless of the course and topic.

7. Course Schedule

Date	Day	%	Time	Important Dates	Assignment
Feb. 11	F			Orientation Sessions for New Students - Attendance Obligatory	
Feb. 15	T			Prophet's Birthday : Holiday	
Feb. 17-18	Th. - F		8:00 -12:30/1:30-4:00	Registration Period	
WEEK 0 Feb. 22 Session 1	T		7:30a.m.	Classes begin	Introductory Remarks
Feb. 24 Session 2	Th.		8:00-12:30/1:30-4:00	Late Registration (Classes are in session)	Introduction Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 1-20
Feb. 28	M		8:00-12:30/1:30-4:00	Drop and Add (Classes are in session)	
WEEK 1 Mar. 1 Session 3	T				The Organization of Law: Courts Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 89-113
Mar. 3 Session 4	Th.				The Organization of Law: Courts in Lebanon Reading Assignment: Material Provided by the instructor
WEEK 2 Mar. 8 Session 5	T				The Organization of Law: The Flow of Litigation Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 113-120
Mar. 10 Session 6	Th.				The Organization of Law: Legislatures Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 120-128
WEEK 3 Mar. 15 Session 7	T				The Organization of Law: Administrative and Law Enforcement Agencies Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 128-146.

LAW & SOCIETY Syllabus – (POS 240); 3 cr.

Mar. 17 Session 8	Th.				Lawmaking: Legislation Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 163-168 Material provided by the instructor
Mar. 18	F			Turath Day (Classes are not in session)	
WEEK 4 Mar. 22 Session 9	T				Lawmaking: Administrative Lawmaking – Judicial Law Making Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 168-175
Mar. 24 Session 10	Th.				Lawmaking: Influences on the Lawmaking Process and Sources of Impetus for Law Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 175-194
Mar. 25	F			Feast of the Annunciation: Holiday	Law and Social Control Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 203-227
WEEK 6 Mar. 29 Session 11	T				Law and Social Control: Crimes Without Victims Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 227-241
Mar. 31 Session 12	Th.				Law and Social Control: White-Collar Crimes Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 241-246
WEEK 7 Apr. 5 Session 13	T	20 %		Mid-Term	
Apr. 7 Session 14	Th.				Law and Social Control: Social Control of Dissent Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 246-251
WEEK 8 Apr. 12 Session 15	T				Law and Social Control: Administrative Law and Social Control Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 251-255
Apr. 14 Session 16	Th.				Law and Dispute Resolution: Methods of Dispute Resolution Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 273-284
Apr. 15	F			Open House Main Campus	
WEEK 9 Apr. 19 Session 17	T		4:00 p.m.	Deadline for Fall 2010 incomplete grades	Law and Dispute Resolution: Demand for Court Services in Dispute Resolution Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 284-296
Apr. 20	W		3:00 p.m.	Easter Mass	
Apr. 20	W		9:00 p.m.	Easter vacation begins (Eastern & Western)	
Apr. 25	M		9:00 p.m.	Easter vacation ends	
WEEK 10 Apr. 26 Session 18	T		7:30 a.m.	Classes Resume	Law and Dispute Resolution: Disputes Between Individuals Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 298-305
Apr. 26 – June 10	T - F			Application for Work Study Grant & Sibling Grant	

LAW & SOCIETY Syllabus – (POS 240); 3 cr.

Apr. 28 Session 19	Th.				Law and Dispute Resolution: Disputes Between Individuals and Organizations Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 305-314
Apr. 29 – May 12	F – Th.			Advising period for Summer and Fall 2011	
May 1	S			Labor Day : Holiday	
WEEK 11 May 3 Session 20	T				Law and Dispute Resolution: Disputes Between Organizations Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 314-318
May 5 Session 21	Th.				Law and Social Change Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 331-337
WEEK 12 May 10 Session 22	T				Class Discussion: The Death Penalty Law and Social Change: Law as an Instrument Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 337-342
May 12 Session 23	Th.				
May 13	F			Founder's Day – Main Campus (Classes are not in session)	
WEEK 13 May 17 Session 24	T				Law and Social Change: Advantages of Law in Creating Social Change Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 342-248
May 19 Session 25	Th.				Law and Social Change: Limitations Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 342-254
WEEK 14 May 24 Session 26	T				Law and Social Change: Resistance to Change Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 354 - 362
May 26 Session 27	Th.				The Legal Profession Reading Assignment: Vago S. pp. 370-406
WEEK 15 May 31 Session 28	T				Class Discussion: Drugs, Law and Society
June 2 Session 29	Th.				Juveniles and the Law: Material provided by the instructor
WEEK 16 June 7 Session 30	T				Juveniles and the Law: Material provided by the instructor
June 9 Session 31	Th.		4:00 p.m.	Deadline for officially withdrawing from a course	Human Rights in Lebanon: Material provided by the instructor
June 14	T		9:00 p.m.	End of Classes (Tuesday classes do not meet : Friday classes meet)	
June 15	W			Reading Day	
June 16 – June 23	Th. – Th.			Final Examination Period	

LAW & SOCIETY Syllabus – (POS 240); 3 cr.

8. Recommended Readings:

Olafson, Frederick A., 1961, *Society, Law and Morality: Readings in Social Philosophy from Classical and Contemporary Sources*, Prentice Hall (Shelf mark: CAT 931005-11206; NDU main Library)

Allott, Philip, 2002, *The Health of Nations: Society and Law Beyond the State*, Cambridge University Press (Shelf mark: 340.115; NDU main Library)

Perry, Michael J., 2007, *Towards a Theory of Human Rights: Religion, Law and Courts*, Cambridge University Press (Shelf mark: 323-01 P464t; main Library)

Posner, Richard A., 1977, *Economic Analysis of Law*, Little, Brown & Co. (Shelf mark: 340.0973 P8559e2; NDU main Library)

Sarat, Austin, 2001, *Law, Violence and the Possibility of Justice*, Princeton University Press (Shelf mark: 340.11 L415; NDU main Library)

Murphy, Walter F., Pritchett, C. Herman and Epstein, Lee, 2002, *Courts, Judges and Policies: An Introduction to the Judicial Process*, McGraw-Hill (Shelf mark: 347.731 C866c5; NDU main Library)

Khare, R.S., 1999, *Perspective on Islamic Law, Justice and Society*, Rowman and Littlefield (Shelf mark: 340.59 P467; NDU main Library)

Hanks, Gardner C., 1997, *Against the Death Penalty, Christian and Secular Argument Against Capital Punishment*, Herald Press (Shelf mark: 364.66 H2415a; NDU main Library)

Chanbliss, William J. and Zatz, Monjonie S., 1993, *Making Law: The Law and the Structured Contradiction*, Indiana University Press (Shelf mark: 340.115 M235; NDU main Library)

Gershman, Gary P., 2005, *Death Penalty on Trial: A Handbook with Cases and Laws and Documents*, ABC-CLIO (Shelf mark: 345.73 6381d; NLC Library)

Abel, Richard L. and Lewis, Philip Simon Coleman, *Lawyers in Society: An Overview*, University of California Press (Shelf mark: 340.023 L4259; NDU main Library)

Witty, Cathie J., 1980, *Mediation and Society: Conflict Management in Lebanon*, Academic Press (Shelf mark: 347.569209 W832; NDU main Library)

Kay, Judith W., 2005, *Murdering Myths The Story Behind the Death Penalty*, Rowman & Littlefield (Shelf mark: 364.66 K232m; NLC Library)

Hartun, Frank E., 1965, *Crime, Law and Society*, Wayne State University Press

Goldberg, Ellis, Kasaba, Resat, and Migdal, Joel, 1993, *Rules and Rights in the Middle East: Democracy, Law, and Society*, University of Washington

Cicourel, Aaron V., 1976, *The Social Organization of Juvenile Justice*, Heinemann Educational Books

Lopez, Ian Haney, 2007, *Race, Law, and Society*, Ashgate,

Mallat, Chibli, 2009, *Introduction to Middle Eastern Law*, Oxford University Press

Journal of Law and Society, Cardiff University Law School, available on Wiley interScience

Law and Society Review, Law and Society Association, available on Wiley interScience

LAW & SOCIETY Syllabus – (POS 240); 3 cr.

In addition students are advised to research in the library periodicals. Supplementary reading will be provided in class.

9. Course Policies

There are no make-ups for missed tests or for the final examination. Failure to sit for a scheduled test and/or final exam will result in an F on the test/exam. A student may be excused in exceptional cases and upon the discretion of the Department of Hotel Management and Tourism, and only if the student presents a valid documented excuse (from the SAO in case of illness) to the chairperson of the department within 72 hours of the scheduled exam date.

While understanding that we all are busy with school, work, and family, your decision to register for this course is an indication that you have made it a high priority. Thus, extensions of assignment due dates are given only in extreme situations (death of a close family member, hospitalization, etc.) and require documentation on your part. Otherwise, due dates are fixed and non-negotiable. All assignments should be submitted on or before the assigned due date. Assignments past the due date will not be accepted for full credit. Examples of unreasonable extensions for an assignment include frequent computer malfunctions, outside class-work, or job responsibilities that inhibit meeting the required deadlines. If you anticipate missing a deadline on an assignment, you should send an e-mail to your instructor before the deadline. Unexcused assignments submitted after the due date may be returned ungraded or assigned a lower evaluation. Whether an extension is allowed will be at the instructor's discretion.

Assignments: All work must be typewritten (unless otherwise specified) and submitted in a professional manner. The instructor reserves the right to return, for resubmission, any work that is not neat, legibly, and professionally submitted

Mobile phones should be turned off and out of sight (i.e. not face-up on the desk but preferably inside purses, backpacks, briefcases, etc. or face down on the desk). Phones may not be answered.

Students must attend class with the required material (i.e. original textbook, notebook, pens, etc.).

Once in class, students are expected to remain in class for the entire period.

English must be the only language spoken in class at all times.

Special needs: Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation due to a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss those specific needs.

Students must check their NDU email daily as this is the means used by the instructor to communicate. Students will receive notice via NDU email when the instructor posts announcements on the course's Blackboard.

10. Policies & Procedures**NDU's Attendance Policy**

Student should attend all classes and laboratory sessions on time. A pattern of absences, whether authorized or not, and even below the maximum number (specified below), may alter one's grade substantially. The SAO alone authorizes absences. No absence absolves a student from the responsibility of acting upon the material presented during his/her absence. The maximum number absences for classes that meet on MWF is six; the maximum number for classes that meet on TTh and in the summer is four, (or two hours per credit course). Any student whose absences exceed the maximum limits shall automatically fail the course unless the student withdraws.

LAW & SOCIETY Syllabus – (POS 240); 3 cr.

Office Hours: All instructors at NDU are available for office hours during the week. Please note the office hour that your instructor has dedicated to this course to make an appointment. Just dropping by may not ensure that the professor has set aside time to assist you. Office hours may be used ideally to ask for guidance on an assignment or to ask questions concerning a subject that you were not clear on during class time.

NDU's Academic Integrity Policy

Students are expected and encouraged to be honest and to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity in their academic work and assignments at the University. They shall refrain from any academic dishonesty or misconduct including; but not limited to:

- Plagiarism; that is, the presentation of someone else's ideas, words or artistic, scientific, or technical work as one's own creation. Also, paraphrasing, summarizing, as well as direct quotations are considered as plagiarism, if the original source is not properly cited.
- Cheating.
- Assisting in cheating.
- Substituting a student in the taking of an examination.
- Substituting examination booklets.
- Submitting the same work for more than one course and the like. o Submitting papers written by others.
- Receiving or providing unauthorized help or assistance in any academic work or assignment. Intentional violation of program and degree requirements and regulation as established by the University.
- Dishonest reporting of computational, statistical, experimental, research, results, or the like.

System of Grades

The University uses the following system of grades. This system consists of letter grades with their corresponding numerical ranges (*i.e.* percentage equivalent, and the 4.0 point maximum).

Grade	Description	Quality Point Value	Percentage Equivalent
A ⁺	Outstanding	4.0	97-100
A	Excellent	4.0	93 - 96
A ⁻	Very Good	3.7	89 - 92
B ⁺	Good	3.3	85 - 88
B	Good	3.0	80 - 84
B ⁻	Good	2.7	77 - 79
C ⁺	Satisfactory	2.3	73 - 76
C	Satisfactory	2.0	70 - 72
C ⁻	Passing	1.7	66 - 69
D ⁺	Passing	1.3	63 - 65
D	Lowest Passing	1.0	60 - 62
F	Failure	0.0	0 - 59
UW	Unofficial Withdrawal	0.0	

The grade "UW" is assigned by the instructor when a registered student has never attended a class or has ceased attending and has not submitted an official course withdrawal request to the Office of the Registrar. This grade is computed as an F grade in the grade-point average.