



The mission of Concord University is to provide quality, liberal arts based education, to foster scholarly and creative activities and to serve the regional community (<http://www.concord.edu/academics/>).

Course Prefix, Number and Title: LSPL 301, Legal Ethics

Course CRN # and Section: CRN-20673, Section - 20

Semester Taught (including year): Spring 2019

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: LSPL 101, LSPL 201

Course Time (if applicable): Tuesday 4:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Building and Room Number: Admin 309

Professor: Judge Anthony Bisaha

Office Location: A107

Office Hours: Available before and after class and upon appointment

Email: abisaha@concord.edu

Phone: 304-673-8547

Office Fax: 304-384-6091

**College/Department Website:
<http://www.concord.edu/sws>**

Course Description/Rationale: An in-depth review of ethical issues and dilemmas in law. Students are expected to master the rules of legal ethics, including the Model Rules of Professional Conduct and the Model Code of Professional Responsibility, and the ethical issues surrounding the attorney-client privilege, the duty of confidentiality (including issues surrounding client perjury, fraud, or criminal activity), conflict of interest, advertising, practicing with other lawyers or non-lawyers, and the unauthorized practice of law. To make an A in the class, students will be required to not only know the ethical rules, but be able to apply them to specific factual situations through critical thought and legal reasoning and to grasp and explain the tension that often exists between the ethical rules and what might seem morally and socially correct. We may also explore various ethical rules that surround medical and business environments.

Course Management System: Blackboard

Hardware/Software Needed: Laptop or Computer

Text requirements: Class Book (Binder Provided -WV Rules of Professional Conduct)

The Moral Compass of the American Lawyer. Zitrin, R. &
Langford, C., The Ballentine Publishing Group

Other Possible Supplemental Readings

Concord University Educational Goal(s): To prepare and develop the skill and knowledge to undertake the MPRE (multi-state professional responsibility exam).

National Standards: MPRE

Specific Learning Outcomes: Students are expected to master the rules of legal ethics, including the Model Rules of Professional the Model Code of Professional Responsibility, and the ethical issues surrounding the attorney-client privilege, the duty of confidentiality (including issues surrounding client perjury, fraud, or criminal activity), conflict of interest, advertising, practicing with other lawyers or non-lawyers, and the unauthorized practice of law.

Course Requirements: It is critical that you come to class prepared with the required texts. This includes your preparedness for discussion on assigned readings and other supplemental assignments.

Grading Policy and Scale, Make-up Policy, Late Work: Students will be given three equally weighed exams during the semester, in addition to a final exam. The final exam may be comprehensive, but if so it may be weighed more to the materials covered after the third test. Make-up tests must be arranged immediately upon a student's return to class. No make-up exam will be given more than one week after the original test date unless the professor, at his discretion, agrees. Cheating or plagiarism on tests will not be tolerated, and may result in expulsion from the class with a grade of F. Part of learning the law is learning to think, act and argue independently of others, and students are on the honor system in this class to do so. It is the ethical position, as we will discover. Appropriate assistance or informal tutoring between students and for formation of study groups, however, are encouraged in this course. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor of an absence with explanation and to arrange for any late or make-up work prior to or during the next class meeting.

This class will be based on a points scale. The following amount of points will earn you the corresponding letter grade:

630+	A
560-629	B
490-559	C
420-489	D
Under 420	F

Course Timeline (Schedule of Assignments/Assessments/Presentations)

Assignments:

Chapters that are assigned are to be read before coming to class and problems completed. It is expected that each student will come to class and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings and problems. Students shall be prepared to discuss the relevant legal issues. It will be the responsibility of the student, if the student is absent, to obtain from student colleagues any materials distributed or information disseminated.

Evaluation Item:

Exams (4 @ 100 points each).....	400
Team Project	100
Current Events.....	100
Participation.....	100
TOTAL.....	700

Exam Dates:

- Exam 1 - 2/19/2019
- Exam 2 - 4/02/2019
- Exam 3 - 4/30/2019
- Final Exam – 5/7/2019

Team Project:

A team project will be required in which the team will research, write and present a paper discussing a legal ethical issue. This will be an opportunity to investigate a legal ethical issue in depth. The project will require creativity, critical thinking, legal analysis, and content knowledge. The team will select a topic with the approval of the professor. Although the text may be used as one source of information, the team will need a minimum of nine (9) more sources for a total of ten (10) sources or cites that will appear throughout the written portion of the project as well as on the citation page. Page cutting and pasting from the internet will result in a lower grade and perhaps an "F", especially if the internet source is not quoted and cited. The paper shall be 5 - 10 pages in length.

Process:

- The class will be divided into small groups.
- Each group will share in whole (team) and in part (individual) in the grade.
- Therefore, clear division of tasks is essential from the beginning.
- This project simulates an analysis/brief presented to a professional group of colleagues.

Current Events/Legal Ethics:

Each student, weeks 2 - 11, will bring a current events article on legal ethics into class to discuss and turn in for credit. Ten articles times 10 points. Examples of articles may be current violations performed by attorneys, regulations as discussed by government with legal ethics, etc.

Teaching Plan:

We will cover approximately as in the guideline below, per week. We will cover approximately 1 chapter of The Moral Compass per week. There may be supplemental readings provided by the professor. This plan may be amended based upon student progress and the professor's discretion. The Teaching Plan is aggressive; therefore, it is imperative that students expend time and effort to keep up with the readings and assignments.

Weekly:

Class 1 – 1/15/2019 – Intro, Preamble

Class 2 – 1/22/2019 – Rules, MCAL, Class Project

Class 3 – 1/29/2019 – Rule 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4. Chapter 1 of The Moral Compass of the American Lawyer (MCAL), Current Events (CE).

Class 4 – 2/5/2019 – Rule 1.5, 1.6, 2.7, 1.8. Chapter 2 of MCAL. CE.

Class 5 – 2/12/2019 – Rule 1.9, 1.10, 1.11, 1.12. Chapter 3 of MCAL, CE.

Class 6 – 2/19/2019 – Rule 1.13, 1.14, 1.15, 1.16. Exam 1. CE.

Class 7 – 2/26/2019 – Rule 1.17, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4. Chapter 4 of MCAL. CE.

Class 8 – 3/5/2019 – Rule 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4. Chapter 5 of MCAL. CE.

***** - 3/12/2019 – Spring Break – NO CLASS

Class 9 – 3/19/2019 – Rule 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8. Chapter 6 of MCAL. CE.

Class 10 – 3/26/2019 – Rule 3.9, 4.1, - 4.4 and Chapter 7 MCAL, CE

Class 11 – 4/2/2019 – Rule 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4. Exam 2. CE

Class 12 – 4/9/2019 – Rule 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8. Chapter 8 of MCAL. CE.

Class 13 – 4/16/2019 – Rule 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5. Chapter 9 of MCAL.

Class 14 – 4/23/2019 – Rule 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5. Chapter 10 of MCAL.

Class 15 – 4/30/2019 – Last Class 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5. Exam 3.

5/7/2019 – Final Exam

Group Projects individually scheduled.

Accessibility/Accommodations:

Concord University is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please inform your instructor at the beginning of the class semester if you have a disability and are requesting accommodations. It is your responsibility to self-disclose that you are requesting accommodations. The University and instructor will provide you with a reasonable accommodation. You should register with CU's Disability Services Office, located in the Athens campus Jerry and Jean Beasley Student Center, Bottom Floor, across from the Campus Post Office. The Disability Services Office phone is 304-384-6086 or you can email the Director, Nancy Ellison, at nellison@concord.edu for assistance.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is morally unacceptable as well as destructive to the learning and teaching atmosphere. Academic dishonesty includes the giving or receiving of improper help on examinations or assignments, falsifying documents, and plagiarism (the act of stealing and using, as one's own, the ideas or the expression of the ideas of another). Such dishonesty can lead to a variety of penalties — including but not limited to failure of assignment, failure of course, loss of institutional privileges, or dismissal from the University. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

Concord University Honor Code

A Concord University Honor Code was approved by students, staff, faculty, administration, and the CU Board of Governors. The Code states:

"As a member of the Concord University Community I will act with honesty and integrity in accordance with our fundamental principles and I will respect myself and others while challenging them to do the same."

The Honor Code is intended to unite the Concord community behind a culture of honesty, integrity, and civility.

Class/Online Attendance Policy

Regular class attendance is part of a student's academic obligation at Concord. Irregular attendance may affect academic performance adversely and is detrimental to the atmosphere of a class. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

Emergency Alert System

In an effort to increase safety and security on our campus, Concord University encourages everyone to register for instant text message alerts. Alerts will only be used for security and safety notices. All students, faculty, and staff are eligible to receive text message alerts on their cell phones or email alerts. Please contact the IT Help Desk for further assistance (304-384-5291).

Emergency Information

Emergency/courtesy telephones are located at the main entrance of each residence hall and at various other locations on campus. Emergency telephones can be identified by the flashing blue light and will provide the user with a direct link to Public Safety at the press of a button. To report an on-campus emergency, call 304-384-5357 or 911. The Office of Public Safety is located on the bottom floor of the Rahall Technology Center. For further emergency information go to:

<http://www.concord.edu/administration/office-public-safety>.

Inclement Weather Policy

As a general policy, the University will remain in normal operations during adverse weather conditions. In the event of severe weather conditions, the following may occur:

University Closure

No students or employees are to report.

Classes Cancelled

Students do NOT report BUT employees are expected to report to work at their normal time.

Operating on an Inclement Weather Delay

Under this schedule, all 8 a.m. classes will start at 10 a.m. Students and faculty will follow the Inclement Weather Schedule. (See <http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts> for Athens/Beckley Inclement Weather Schedules.)

**Announcements invoking the late schedule or other options referenced above are aired on area radio and television stations and are sent as text and email messages to those enrolled for this service.*

Student Conduct

In classrooms, online, laboratories, and during any activities that are part of course requirements, students are expected to observe reasonable rules of conduct.

Sexual Harassment & Assault

Federal law, Title IX, and Concord University policy prohibits discrimination, harassment, and violence based on sex and gender (Including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, and retaliation). If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can receive confidential counseling support through the Concord University Counseling Center (304-384-5290). Alleged Violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Concord University Title IX Coordinator at 304-384-6327 or titleix@concord.edu. Reports to Campus Security can be made at (304-384-5357). As an employee at Concord University, I am a mandatory reporter which means I must report any sexual misconduct I am made aware of. This includes verbal or written (such as in an assignment) disclosures of sexual harassment or sexual assault.

Technology Services

Contact the CU Help Desk at extension 5291 from campus or 304-384-5291 off campus. You may also e-mail cuhelpdesk@concord.edu.

Syllabus Disclaimer

"This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class. Please check it regularly."

Miscellaneous:

TEAM PROJECT SCORE SHEET

TOPIC	10
LEGAL ANALYSIS	10
LEGAL RESEARCH (10 CITES)	10
PAPER GRADE	20

GROUP PRESENTATION GRADE	25
INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATION GRADE.....	25
TOTAL	100