WELCOME LAW STUDENTS,
READ THIS SYLLABUS SO YOU WILL KNOW THE DETAILS OF THE CLASS
AND WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU

I am very happy that you have chosen to come learn with me. It is my goal to provide for you a fun, comfortable and engaging learning experience. Whether this is your first law class, or you are a seasoned legal eagle, you will be introduced to concepts, facts, ideas and beliefs that will help you understand our “law-saturated” society. We explore legal concepts, ideas, facts and
rules which will present themselves in your everyday lives. In order to learn in a contextualized manner, we will examine legal influences in our world will explore how the law affects our perceptions and impacts nearly everything we do.

There are many legal issues present in your life, which you are experiencing daily, and many legal challenges that may arise the course of your life. This class is intended to help you understand the how and why of the law and hopefully empower you to use the law as a helpful tool to help you achieve your goals rather than an obstacle to prevent your success.

Please carefully review all of the important information contained in this syllabus so you will know what to expect in this class, and what is expected of you, throughout this semester.

**COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION** Law for the individual and family for lifelong decision-making. Topics include legal problems associated with family relationships, impairment of physical and mental health, home and vehicle ownership, evaluation of insurance coverage, employment relationships and other contracts, crime, torts, estate planning for death or incompetence, courts, credit reports, identity theft, and dispute resolution. Emphasis is on preventive law to minimize stress associated with legal problems and achieve optimal physical and mental health.

**Student Learning Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the nature and scope of the American legal system.
2. Identify and interpret various methods of dispute resolution.
3. Contrast the powers of the federal government with state government.
4. Debate the constitutional rights of individuals.
5. Support and advocate for a need in the community.
7. Analyze the various types of civil actions brought by private citizens.
8. Demonstrate the necessary skills required for professional advocates such as lawyers.
9. Evaluate the rights and obligations of the parties to an employment contract.
10. Summarize forms of employment discrimination.
11. Distinguish between the remedies available to a party injured outside the course and scope of employment to a work-related injury.

12. Describe the rights and obligations of home and vehicle ownership as it pertains to liability issues.

13. Differentiate types of insurance coverage for property, liability, disability, life, and errors and omission policies.

14. Explain community property law as it relates to ownership of property and debts.

15. Breakdown the obligations a parent has toward his or her children.

16. Compare and contrast the difference between a marriage and domestic partner relationship.

17. Assess difficult legal situations presented in hypothetical scenarios to choose solutions to the problem.

18. Describe personal health problems as they relate to impairment of physical and mental capacity.

19. Synthesize the legal consequences of a conservatorship and the various types of power-of-attorney.

20. Evaluate the threats of financial insecurity due to inadequate and improper insurance coverage.

21. Identify the cause of physical and mental stress caused by legal problems.

22. Examine the resources available to consumers of legal services to assist in decision-making.

23. Demonstrate the use of evaluation skills for lifelong understanding of legal problems.

24. Integrate physiological and psychological stimuli to equip oneself for lifelong understanding and self-development.

**Student Learning Outcomes (SLO’s):**

**BUS 116 – Personal Law/Street Law**

1. Students will identify four specific criteria that are used by lenders when assessing the credit worthiness of a loan applicant.

2. Students will be able to recognize legal issues that may arise in transactions involving the purchase of real and personal property and how to avoid or manage legal pitfalls associated with such transactions.
Textbook Information

Required Material(s) (1)

- STREET LAW: UNDERSTANDING LAW Edition: N/A

  Author: Street / Abertman
  ISBN: 9780076624058
  Copyright Year: 2012
  Publisher: McGraw-Hill

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Blackboard  http://saddleback.blackboard.com

Professor's Home Page  http://www.saddleback.edu/faculty/equinlan

Class Details from Schedule

https://mysite.socccd.edu/eservices/ClassDetail.asp?sectionID=10995&termid=20163

Important Dates, e.g., Drop Dates

Firefox Browser Required for Internet Access to Blackboard Website

The college district supports and recommends the use of Firefox, when visiting any of the college web sites. We are experiencing difficulties with the new Internet Explorer and proprietary browsers (such as AOL) when accessing Blackboard, so they are not recommended.
If you do not have a current version of Firefox, go to the publisher’s website to obtain a free download of the most current version of the browser software. *Since a lot of coursework and communication is done online, THIS IS REQUIRED.* It is my experience that students are unable to open links using other browsers or are unable to access Bb altogether. In order to use all of Blackboard’s features, please follow the instructions in the Orientation menu item for setting the browser preferences.

**ACCESSIBILITY CONCERNS**

This course meets the requirements set forth in the accessibility checklist and universal design grid provided by Special Services. The Web pages, video presentations, textbooks and class materials used in this course are accessible to students with disabilities.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you need special accommodations because of a disability or limited abilities, notify your instructor **immediately.** You ***must*** also register with the Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS) office and we will then be able to help you with special accommodations. Please go to the Saddleback College website for further information and links to the various student services offices. [http://www.saddleback.edu/dsp](http://www.saddleback.edu/dsp)

For each class meeting you ***must***:

1. **Always** be on time; bring your textbook and any forms, handouts or other documents which may have been designated for that class session / lesson, notebook/paper and pen for note taking and class work.

2. **Always** come prepared, reading assignments completed, ready to participate in any class discussion in a positive, productive and meaningful way.

3. **Always** be polite, respectful and considerate of your classmates and professor. Do not speak out of turn or chat with your classmates, always raise your hand to speak, respond when called on, **never use lewd or offensive language or gestures please!**

4. **Never . . . Ever . . .** Turn on, use, or think about using a cell phone, texting device, computer, iPad, camera, recorder or any electronic devices of any kind during class. *Yes, I said "Never . . . Ever" and "any kind."* If you need to text, talk or use an electronic device more than you need to be in our class, then you are free to leave the room for that class, not be permitted to return and to **and be marked absent.** (see below for additional details regarding this important class policy.)

**ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY REGARDING USE OF ANY ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN CLASS**

**ESPECIALLY CELL PHONES**
MAKE NOTE ALL STUDENTS:

If you have your cell phone, iPad, computer or other electronic device out during class, you will be asked to leave the classroom, with all of your belongings and not return for the remainder of the class. Believe me, it will be very weird, embarrassing and uncomfortable for all concerned. **It will be considered a major class disruption.** Regardless of what point in the class the offense occurs, you will be marked absent for that entire class meeting and it will count toward your total absences for the semester. (Note the information regarding college/district absences and grading policy and disruptive classroom behavior below.)

**Students with Special Needs Requiring Electronic Devices?** Contact me, Emily Quinlan, personally before or after class or at equinlan@saddleback.edu and I will address your specific concerns, on a case by case basis, in accordance with the Saddleback College and District Policy, using campus resources and facilities, rules and regulations.

Attendance

Please come to class, every time, on time! You cannot learn if you are not present. You must personally sign the roll sheet which will be passed around at each class meeting. There are no “excused” absences. Signing the roll sheet for another student constitutes fraud and will be dealt with accordance with Saddleback College and SOCCCD policy. The Saddleback College and SOCCCD policies regarding attendance and hours of instruction will be strictly enforced, including the right of your professor to drop students who accumulate too many absences.

Homework Assignments

Homework assignments will include McGraw-Hill Connect. Students will be given detailed written instructions and explanations and/or a grading rubric for all assignments. Homework assignments are due on the date designated in the written instructions. **No late assignments will be accepted.** If an assignment is due on a day you will be absent from class, it is the student’s responsibility to make arrangements to have the written assignment delivered to the instructor prior to the due date and time.

Please Note: Unless you are provided with PRIOR specific written instructions or permission by your instructor, no fax or email attachments or office drop-offs are permitted. They will NOT be accepted for the submission of written assignments. There are no exceptions to this rule for any reason.

**TESTING: TESTS ARE OPEN BOOK AND OPEN NOTE OR TAKE HOME.** Two exams will be given, a midterm and a final.

- All exams may be cumulative
- That means the tests will cover prior sections, textbook units, chapters or other material that were on a prior test. Also, certain material will overlap and you will see “old” topics revisited in connection with a newly presented subject.
Tests may be given in class, during regularly scheduled class time, unless otherwise instructed. Some tests may be given in a computer scan format ("Accusan") so bring a number #2 pencil to class on exam days. A computer scan form will be supplied by your instructor. If there is a written component to an exam, please use dark blue or black ink. Written exams using pencil will be rejected. USE A PEN FOR WRITTEN EXAMS.

No sharing of materials, including but not limited to, books, and other printed material. All students attempting to share, "borrow", or otherwise use another student's materials during tests will receive a grade of "F" for that test and will be subject to formal discipline in accordance with Saddleback College and SOCCCD Policy.

- To prevent identity fraud during exams: We reserve the right to ask for identification from any student taking an exam. PLEASE BE PREPARED TO PRESENT A PHOTO I.D. (Student I.D., Driver's Lic., Passport, or Gov't I.D. Card) UPON DEMAND BY THE PROFESSOR OR EXAM PROCTOR. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE I.D. YOU MAY BE PRECLUDED FROM TAKING THE EXAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE SOCCCD.

- No make-up or late submissions are allowed on a missed examination or homework assignment unless PRIOR, IN ADVANCE, BEFORE THE EXAM OR DUE DATE, arrangements have been made with your instructor. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS SO PLEASE DO NOT ASK. Leaving a message on email or voice mail that you will miss the examination or due date for any reason is not acceptable. You must personally communicate with ME, Emily S. Quinlan or my designated representative to request prior approval of any make-up examination or homework. “Arrangements” may or may not include a makeup exam or extension of time for homework submission.

GRADING

YOU CAN EARN A TOTAL OF 1000 POINTS IN THIS CLASS

1000 – 900 = A
899 – 800 = B
799 – 700 = C
699 – 600 = D
599 – 500 = F

Midterm Exam #1: 200 Points
Final Exam #2: 200 Points
TOTAL POINTS FOR EXAMS: 400

Homework assignments:
THREE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS TO BE ANNOUNCED WORTH APPROXIMATELY 200 POINTS EACH = 600 POINTS TOTAL
TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE FOR EXAMS AND HOMEWORK IN THIS CLASS: 1000 POINTS
MAP EXTRA CREDIT: Bring an original, signed, approved and “locked” MAP – My Academic Plan to class to receive 25 points extra credit. NOT ONLINE – ONLY PERSONAL COUNSELING APPOINTMENTS WILL GET EXTRA CREDIT. Your MAP must be completed, approved, in writing with original signature by a counselor to receive credit. If you have already been accepted for transfer to a four year college, CONGRATS! Bring in your original acceptance letter or email on your phone to receive your 25 points extra credit.

There will be other extra credit opportunities assigned and available in class of which you will be made aware.

Class participation and regular attendance in class is required. Lack of class participation will not lower your grade. Poor attendance will harm your grade if you are dropped by your instructor for accumulating too many absences or you are marked down a full grade for accumulating four or more absences. Excellent attendance and thoughtful participation in class discussions may be taken into account when there is a borderline grade situation. Meaning, if you are very close in point total to the next level to improve your grade, it could be moved up with these factors taken into consideration.

STUDY BUDDIES

You are absolutely required to have two “Study Buddies” by the end of the second meeting of this class. (Study Buddies can be in groups of three or more.) Your Study Buddy will be your connection to the class when you:

1. Need to know if you have missed something in class due to absence or inattention
2. Have a question about an assignment or content on a test review
3. Need someone to talk to about law and your family/friends/significant other is over it.
4. Need a copy of a class handout, note sheet, test review material or class notes or want to know if you “missed anything?”
5. Need a buddy to study with.

➤ IF YOU DO NOT HAVE TWO STUDY BUDDIES BY THE THIRD MEETING OF THIS CLASS, I WILL ASSIGN A STUDY BUDDY TO YOU. I AM AN EXCELLENT MATCHMAKER!
➤ YOU DO NOT NEED TO SHARE YOUR PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION WITH YOUR STUDY BUDDY, YOUR COLLEGE EMAIL WILL BE SUFFICIENT

CONTACTING YOUR PROFESSOR AND OFFICE HOURS
Please feel free to contact me anytime. I want to hear from you and welcome your questions, comments, inquiries and input. “Office hours” are times when I am on campus, usually in my office and you can come and see me to ask questions or address concerns. If I am not in my office, I will leave a note and you can track me down or leave a message.

OFFICE HOURS:
BGS 205 – Please stop by! Email ahead if you want to discuss a specific matter.

Monday, 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

equinlan@saddleback.edu

In order for me to respond to your email you **MUST use your SADDLEBACK COLLEGE STUDENT EMAIL.** The reason for this requirement is that the very robust spam filters and firewalls at Saddleback College may block your outside email and I may not receive it. I will respond to your email, as promptly as possible. **WHEN YOU SEND IT VIA YOUR SADDLEBACK STUDENT EMAIL.**

Now . . . read the important information below, and then read it again . . .

**THE FOLLOWING IS SUPER IMPORTANT INFORMATION THAT WILL AFFECT YOU THROUGHOUT THIS CLASS:**

1. You are 100% responsible for all of the information contained in the Fall 2014-2015 Class Schedules, 2015 – 2016 Saddleback College Catalog and 2015-2016 Student Handbook. In particular the rules, standards, consequences pertaining to:

   - Student Code of Conduct
   - Plagiarism – Copying – Borrowing – Unattributed Work
   - Cheating
   - Identity Fraud
   - Disruptive or Threatening Classroom Behavior
   - Student Discipline/Expulsion
   - Attendance, Grading, Failure and Drop
   - Hello? This is a law class. . . I’m not kidding!

   Course Catalog: [http://www.saddleback.edu/cc/](http://www.saddleback.edu/cc/)

2. The rules contained therein will be strictly enforced. If you don’t know the rules, learn them. You are 100% responsible for familiarizing yourself with these publicly available materials, and abiding by the rules and subjects of those rules, such as those included, but not limited to, in the above list. You will be held to the strictest standards possible and subject to
the enforcement procedures of Saddleback College and SOCCCD without accommodation from me or exceptions made for any reason.

And last, but not least . . .

Be assured, I will do my best to stick as closely as possible to the reading, homework, and course lecture and test and homework schedule. However, potential guest speaker availability, unexpected twists and turns in the presentation of the material and other factors such as “excessive class participation” may occasionally push us off track. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we make our way on this journey through the extensive course material!

Class Schedule and required textbook reading below . . .

(For detailed dates of the course weeks, see academic calendar on the following page.)

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/22</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
<td>Unit 1 Intro to Law</td>
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<td>Chapter 2</td>
<td>Introduction to the Class Lawmaking</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8/29</td>
<td>Chapter 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Advocacy and Settling disputes</td>
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<td>Chapter 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>The Court System</td>
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<td>Lawyers</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9/6</td>
<td>Chapter 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Unit 2 Criminal Law and Juvenile Justice</td>
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<td>Chapter 9 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Crime in America</td>
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<td>Introduction to Criminal Law</td>
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<td>Crimes Against the Person</td>
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<td>Crimes Against Property</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9/13</td>
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<td>Guest Speaker – Jury Trial Expert</td>
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Homework #1 You be the Professor 200 points
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<td>5</td>
<td>9/20</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
<td>Defenses</td>
<td>Criminal Justice Process: The investigation</td>
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<td>Chapter 14</td>
<td>Criminal Justice Process: The Trial</td>
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<td>10/11</td>
<td>Chapters 20-22</td>
<td>Negligence, Strict Liability, Torts and Public Policy</td>
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<td>Chapters 24 &amp; 25</td>
<td>Contracts Continued, Warranties and Credit</td>
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<td>Chapters 43-45 Individual rights and liberties</td>
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<td>12/12</td>
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ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2015 – 2016

FALL SEMESTER 2015

AUGUST 2015

SUMMER SESSION 2016

JUNE 2016

SPRING SEMESTER 2016

JANUARY 2016

SEPTMBER 2015

JULY 2016

FEBRUARY 2016

OCTOBER 2015

AUGUST 2016

MARCH 2016

NOVEMBER 2015

LEGEND

Classes Not In Session

Institutional Days

Facultal

Contractual Days

Final Examinations

Not In Session

Holidays for Classified and 13-Month Employees

Start of 8-Week Session

End of Commencement

Each college may develop a special final exam schedule.

Vision: To be a leader in exemplary teaching and learning, student success and community partnerships.

Mission: To provide a dynamic and innovative learning environment dedicated to student success and economic growth of the region.