

University of Florida Levin College of Law
Public Health Law and National Security Seminar
Syllabus **Spring 2009**

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Wednesdays, 2:00-3:45pm, Room 354

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PLEASE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS WITH CARE

Introduction

This course will examine the origins and present state of public health law, a formerly antiquated but now vibrant body of law, in light of current national security concerns. Topics to be considered include compelled vaccination, disease reporting, and isolation and quarantine. Course requirements include a substantial research paper and several class presentations.

TWEN

I expect students to register for the TWEN class titled "Public Health Law and National Security Seminar" and to supply it with a valid e-mail address.

Readings

The principal text for this seminar will be Victoria Sutton, *Law and Bioterrorism* (Carolina Academic Press 2003) (ISBN: 0890890714). Additional readings may be distributed throughout the semester. A precise reading schedule can be found in a separate document titled "Readings."

Office Hours

Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 11:00am to noon. It is not necessary to have an appointment. I would also encourage you to come at other times, with or without an appointment. In addition to my office hours, I will be happy to answer your questions via e-mail

Grading

Three-fifths of a student's grade will be based on the quality of his research paper. The remainder will come from his presentations and contribution to the classroom discussion.

The paper's topic is to be determined in consultation with me, with a formal proposal due on Saturday, January 31, at 5pm. An introduction and outline will be due on Saturday, February 28, at 5pm. A preliminary draft of the paper is due on Saturday, March 21, at 5pm. (Citations, formatting, proofreading, etc. for this draft need not be perfect.) The paper's final draft is due on Saturday, April 4, at 5pm. I will provide oral responsive comments on the proposal, the introduction and outline, and the preliminary draft in a scheduled meeting in the week immediately following submission. All submissions should be made electronically, via TWEN, with a paper courtesy copy placed in my faculty mailbox by 1pm on the following Mondays.

In addition to the paper, each student will be expected to make two individual in-class presentations between Weeks Two and Twelve. The subject for each of these presentations will be derived from the class reading for the day and is expected to last no longer than 15 minutes. Each student will also be expected to present his own research between Weeks Thirteen and Fifteen and to provide oral commentary on a fellow student's paper near the end of the semester.

Credit

A passing grade in this class will result in the award of two credits.

Etiquette

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Students are expected to refrain from activities that could distract themselves or others from the discussion. These include, among others, e-mail and instant-message communication, internet browsing, side conversations, game playing, and eating. To facilitate compliance, I request that students turn off and put away all electronic devices before class begins. This prohibition includes but is not limited to laptop computers, cell phones, PDAs, and pagers.