State and Local Government, Law 585-3  
Tuesday & Thursday 3:00-4:15 p.m., Fall 2015  
Lesar Law Building Room 103

Contact Information:  
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Introduction

Welcome to the Law School’s course on State and Local Government. This is only the second time that I have taught the class, but I have much experience practicing in a number of the areas we will discuss. I am therefore confident that we will learn much this semester.

Historically, Professor Tom Britton taught this course. He has been a great help to me in preparing for this semester. In fact, I have largely plagiarized his old syllabus. So when you see him please give him your thanks!

I. Scope of the Course:

This course provides an introduction to the law related to state government, the state-federal relationship, and other subdivisions of state and local government including counties, townships, municipalities and special local government units. The course will focus on the powers and duties of these various government entities and questions of jurisdiction. Examples and problems will be drawn largely from the Illinois experience. The course will be especially useful to those who plan to practice in small to medium sized cities and whose practice is likely to include representation of governmental bodies.

II. Class Management:

Assignments are made on TWEN. They will consist of readings posted on TWEN. There are no textbooks to buy for this course. All students are required to read the entire assignment and participate in class discussion.

III. Attendance:

We will observe the School of Law policy on attendance. Students are expected and required to attend classes. There are no “note-outs.” Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class session. Students who for whatever reason miss more than six (6) class sessions will be withdrawn from the course. Stated another way, you have six absences.
IV. Grading:

I have not yet decided how I will grade the course, except that there may be a mid-term examination. We will discuss this further in class.

GRADE REQUIRED FOR SECTIONS WITH LIMITED S/U GRADING AT INSTRUCTOR’S OPTION: If you have elected to use the limited S/U grading option for your course, you should include the following notice in your syllabus: “The grades of students who have elected to take this course with S/U grading will be converted by the Registrar according to the following scale: 2.1 or greater = Satisfactory; below 2.1 = Unsatisfactory. Only students who receive a Satisfactory grade will earn academic credit for the course.” As a reminder, the list of courses for which the instructor has chosen to provide an S/U option can be found on the “semester information” page of the law school’s website.

V. Tentative Schedule:

**August 25**
- Review of Syllabus
- Opening discussion

**August 27**
**Organization of Government:**
- Assignment 1, posted on TWEN
- Introduction
- State Government
- Units of Local Government
- Equal Protection and Due Process
- Pre-emption- *Lorillard & South Dakota cases.*

OTHER IMPORTANT STUFF:

*Emergency Procedures.* Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT’s website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

*Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency.* The Building Emergency
Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

NOTICE OF RECORDING POLICIES: You may NOT audio or video record the class yourself. It is an Honor Code violation to create or distribute any such recordings when the instructor has prohibited it.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES provides the required academic and programmatic support services to students with permanent and temporary disabilities. DSS provides centralized coordination and referral services. To utilize DSS services, students must come to the DSS to open cases. The process involves interviews, reviews of student-supplied documentation, and completion of Disability Accommodation Agreements. http://disabilityservices.siu.edu/. Upon completion of a Disability Accommodation Agreement with DSS, students should bring the agreement to the School of Law Registrar’s Office to ensure the School of Law provides the proper classroom and examination accommodations.

SALUKI CARES. The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a university-wide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students and their families, SIU will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For Information on Saluki Cares: (618) 453-5714, or siucares@siu.edu, http://salukicares.siu.edu/index.html. At the School of Law, Assistant Dean Judi Ray is also available to help students access university resources. Her email is judiray@siu.edu, and her phone number is 618-453-3135.