SYLLABUS
Legal Profession
Law 580
Summer 2015
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
1:00-2:40 p.m.
Room 102

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Clinical Assistant Professor

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NOTE: I have utilized Professor John Erbes’s Syllabus in preparing this Syllabus. Therefore, much contained herein is his work, & I thank him for his assistance.


Companion Material: Regulation of Lawyers: Statutes and Standards, Gillers, Simon & Perlman, Aspen/Wolters Kluwer, 2016 (or any other set of the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct that includes the comments).

Course Description: This course examines the Rules of Professional Conduct that attorneys must follow, along with related topics such as the attorney-client privilege, maintaining confidentiality of information, conflicts of interest, attorney fees, ethics & civility in advocacy, and attorney discipline. The course will also address malpractice, attorney liability to third parties, and judicial ethics. Much of the material that we will cover is tested on the Multistate Bar Exam on Professional Responsibility (MPRE).

Testing and Grading: There will be a final exam and two (2) mid-term assignments. I may also consider class participation in determining final grades.

Attendance: I must take attendance. The rules of the law school require it. I will do so by circulating an attendance sheet during each class. Please be sure that you sign it. Your signature on the attendance sheet establishes your presence during that class period. Correlatively, the lack of such a signature conclusively establishes your absence. Therefore, be certain to sign the attendance sheet each day. Under the rules of the School of Law, you are entitled to three (3) absences. More than three (3) absences will result in your withdrawal from the class.

Recording of Class Sessions: The Law School no longer records classes as a matter of routine. Therefore, this class will NOT be recorded. If that creates a problem for you please let me know and I will see what I can do.
There is a TWEN page for the course. You must sign on to the TWEN page immediately so that I can contact you as needed. Consult the TWEN page regularly. Changes in class meetings, assignments, and other important material will be presented on the TWEN page. It is your responsibility to check the TWEN page regularly.

Office Hours: My office is Room 211, on the second floor of the law school. I have not established formal office hours for the summer. If you would like to meet with me, just send me an e-mail and we can arrange a time to meet. Otherwise, I will nearly always be available immediately after class.

Computers in the Class: A couple of years ago I banned computers in this class because I believed that students don’t pay adequate attention in class. Since, I have continued the policy and it appears to work well, so you may not use your computer OR PHONE in class. YOU NEED TO PAY ATTENTION IN THIS CLASS, not just because you must pass it to graduate, but because you must also pass the MPRE. COMPUTERS AND PHONES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN CLASS.

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.

Disability Accommodation Policy: 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.

Course Schedule & Assignments:

Week of June 14:

14  Where do “Ethics” Rules Come From?
**Assignment:** Read the ABA Model Rules Preamble, Textbook, Chapter 1, pages 1-18 & Chapter XII, ppg. 596-606 & Assignment 1-**Fitness to Practice** from TWEN.

15  Read the balance of CHAPTER XII Control of Quality: Reducing the Likelihood of Professional Failure. Pages 583-648 and Assignment 1-**Jurisdictional Issues** on TWEN.

16  Read Chapter XIII, Subpart A-C (pp. 649-715).