

# CJL 2000 Law & The Legal Process

Instructor: Gissel Perez, M.A.

LIT 127 | Summer B 2022 | MTWRF (3:30 - 4:45 PM)

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GisselPerez@ufl.edu



## Office Hours

T | 8:00am-9:00am | Zoom - 99971897633

W | 11:00am - 12:00 PM | TUR 3347



There are no required textbooks for this course.

All readings will be available via UF Libraries or posted on Canvas.

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## Course Description

This survey course promotes an understanding of law and the U.S. legal system. It serves as an introduction to legal ethics, civil procedure, criminal law and procedure, family law, contract law, torts, and property law. Readings and cases are used to analyze (1) how disputes are resolved by application of legal principles to factual situations, (2) the implications of legal decisions on future cases, (3) and how justice is served by law.

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## Course Objectives

By the end of this course students should be able to:

- Read, analyze and critically engage with legal opinions.
- Discuss the role of morality and ethics in law
- Describe the various sources of law and theories for judicial decision making
- Discuss the various forms of jurisdictions.
- Discuss the function and role of the civil trial system in our society
- Discuss the criminal procedural law as it relates to seizures, arrests, and interrogations by police, and one's constitutional rights.
- Discuss the role of the state in defining and establishing requirements for marriage and divorce.
- Discuss the requirements for contract formation and the obligations created, as well as the role of contracts in society.
- Discuss the role of tort law in society.
- Describe the balance of interests between property rights, environmental concerns, and the government.

## Course Grading

**Exams – 20%.** There are 2 exams, and each exam will be worth 10% of your grade.

**Quizzes – 20%.** There are 8 quizzes, and each quiz will be worth 2.5% of your grade.

**Papers – 20%.** There are 3 papers, and each paper will be worth 6.67% of your grade.

**Attendance/ Participation - 25%.** Attendance will be taken at random throughout the semester.

**Activities - 15% -** There will be 4 in-class group activities throughout the semester, worth 3.75% each.

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## Grading Scale

Final letter grades will be assigned based on the following ranges:



A = 93 +	C = 73-76
A - = 90-92	C - = 70-72
B + = 87-89	D + = 67-69
B = 83-86	D = 63-66
B - = 80-82	D - = 60-62
C + = 77-79	E = 59 and below

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## Email

You may contact the instructor via e-mail ([gisselperez@ufl.edu](mailto:gisselperez@ufl.edu)), or through canvas. You can expect a response within 48 hours. Please resend the e-mail if you do not receive a response within 48 hours. Be sure to include the course title in the subject heading (i.e., CJL 2000). Also, please use your UF email. This reduces the likelihood that your email is sent to the spam folder and it is a more secure way of communicating.

## Attendance / Participation

Attendance is required and part of your grade is participation in class. Participation will be determined with in-class writing assignments or activities. You cannot make up participation assignments.

In this class you will be required to read specific legal cases and other readings related to the class material. Sometimes you will be asked to listen to Podcasts. The participation assignments will require you to have read or listened to this material already, therefore it is your responsibility to come to class prepared to discuss these cases, readings and/or Podcasts.

You should attend the entire class period. If you attend the first half of class and we do an attendance assignment in the second half of class, you will be marked absent, and this will not be excused. In other words, if you do not stay in class the full time, you will not earn attendance points.

You are responsible for getting any notes and/or assignments from your fellow classmates should you need to miss class. As students, you must take responsibility for learning the material covered in class.

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## Quizzes

All quizzes will be on Canvas. You will receive two 12-minute attempts to take each quiz. They will consist of 10 true/false and multiple choice questions. The questions will be different each time. This provides you the opportunity to improve your grade by giving you time to go back and study the material. You will not be given the correct answers. So, know what material and questions you felt less familiar with and focus on that to study before your second attempt. If you have specific questions about what you got wrong or about material you did not understand, please email the instructor. Quiz dates are on Canvas and course schedule.

## Exams

All exams will be on Canvas. You will only get one attempt to take the exam. The exams consist of true/false and multiple choice questions. You will need to download and install Respondus Lockdown Browser. A link to that software is available on Canvas (go to the home page and click on the “Welcome” icon). Again, after you submit your exam, **you will not be given the correct answers**. If you have specific questions about what you got wrong or about material you did not understand on the exam, please email the instructor. Exam dates are on Canvas and course schedule.

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## Papers

**Three** papers are due in this course. There are three movies that you will be responsible for watching over the course of the semester, and you must write a paper on all three movies. **Movies will either be available for free or will be no more than \$4 to rent**. Papers must be submitted on Canvas, or they will not be accepted. The rubric and exact due dates are available on Canvas and the course schedule. You will be graded based on your:

1. Summary of the movie (20%) – limit this part to 1.5 pages max;
2. Incorporation of relevant case law and assigned readings to explain the significance of the topics discussed in the movie and how it applies to the course material (30%) – this part should:
  - Be at least one full page (10%),
  - Incorporate and cite relevant case law from the readings or the lectures (**at least two cases**). (20%)
3. Opinion of the movie and whether it changed your perspective on the topic (10%);
4. Use of correct formatting requirements (40%) -
  - 3 full pages, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, double-spaced, 1” margins, reference page

*Important Note: It is the responsibility of the student to make sure they turn in a working file. Extensions will not be provided if the student turns in a corrupt file. Students may email the instructor at least 24 hours before the due date should they have any concerns about their file.*

## Activities

There will be 4 in-class group activities throughout the semester. These activities will require you to apply course material and/or relevant case law. The purpose of these activities is to help you better understand the course material. For these activities, you will be graded on whether you complete all parts of the activity and on the accuracy of your responses. Dates for the class activities can be found on the course schedule.

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## Course Policies

### Classroom Rules of Conduct

- The instructor has the primary responsibility for control over class behavior and may order temporary removal or exclusion of students from the discussions who disrupt the class or who violate the general policies of the College. Disruptive conduct shall include, but is not limited to, any offensive or rude behavior directed toward the instructor or other students during any online discussion forums or in the classroom.

### Disputing Grades

- All grades are posted on Canvas throughout the semester. It is your responsibility to review your grades regularly. If you have any question or concern about a grade you received, please reach out to me. If you have questions about your grade on a quiz, paper, etc. you have one week after the grade is posted on Canvas in which to inquire about your grade. In other words, if you want to dispute a grade you will have until one week after your grade was released to dispute it. After that one week, the grade stands. However, if you still want to discuss what you got wrong, how you can improve or simply ask a question about the class material to increase your understanding, you can still do this.
- Please keep in mind that grades for this semester are due August 8th, so if you have any questions about any of the final assignments (e.g., exam 2), you will need to reach out to me no later than August 6th.

## Make-up Work

- All make-up work is the student's responsibility. If you know you may miss a class, inform the instructor as soon as possible. I understand that sometimes one's personal life interferes with the ability to take a quiz, turn in a paper, attend class, etc. If you have a legitimate reason for missing a class or assignment (e.g., documented illness), and can provide documentation, you will be allowed to make up what you missed without a grade deduction. If you contact me immediately before/after the missed assignment. Religious holidays are excused without documentation but must be discussed with the instructor in advance.
- Late papers will be accepted within **48 hours** of the due date and will have the grade lowered as a penalty. For each day the paper is late, your grade will be **reduced by 10%** (i.e., if your paper is 2 days late, you will receive a 20% deduction). **Any work submitted after 48 hours will not be accepted.**
- Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues **MUST** be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You **MUST** e-mail your instructor **within 24 hours** of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

## Academic Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel.

## Student with Disabilities

- Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The DOS will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the course coordinator, when requesting accommodation.
  - You should contact me and the Disability Resource Center as early in the semester as possible. The Disability Resource Center is located in 001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall). Their phone number is 352-392-8565. Find more information at: <https://disability.ufl.edu/>
  - It is important that you provide me with your accommodation requests as soon as possible so that I can accommodate you. Accommodations will NOT be retroactive.
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### Campus Resources

Part of learning about law and the legal process involves examining some sensitive topics. If this becomes emotionally difficult at times, I encourage you to seek out campus resources for support. UF provides several different types of resources:

#### **Counseling and Wellness Center:**

- <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>

#### **Student Health Care Center:**

- <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- 352-392-1161



#### **UF Police Department Office of Victim Services:**

- <https://police.ufl.edu/services/victim-services/services-provided/>
- (352) 392-5648 (Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.) or
- (352) 392-1111 (after business hours and on weekends)

#### **Dean of Students Office – emergency response team:**

- <https://dso.ufl.edu/resources/uf-emergency-response/>

#### **U Matter, We Care**

- Can also help students, staff, or faculty in distress. You can reach them via email at [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or phone 352-392-1575.
- If you find yourself concerned about a fellow student, you can notify U Matter, We Care, and they will reach out to the student.

## Academic Resources

### E-learning technical support:

- Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

### Career Connections Center:

- Career assistance and counseling services
- Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601.
- <https://career.ufl.edu/>

### Library Support:

- Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- <https://uflib.ufl.edu/>

### Teaching Center:

- General study skills and tutoring
- Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420.
- <https://academicresources.clas.ufl.edu/>

### Writing Studio

- Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138.
- <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

### Student Complaints On-Campus:

- Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.
- <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-%20code-student-conduct-code/>

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## Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <http://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.



## COVID Policy

In response to COVID-19, the following recommendations are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit [one.ufl.edu](https://one.ufl.edu) for screening / testing and vaccination opportunities.
- If you are sick, stay home. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 to be evaluated.
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.

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## Disclaimer

The instructor reserves the right to alter the course syllabus as circumstances dictate. Any changes will either be announced in class or posted on Canvas. Student not attending class are responsible for obtaining this information.

<b>Module</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Class Description / Readings</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
	<b>June 27</b>	Welcome to Law and the Legal Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions</li> <li>• Review course syllabus</li> </ul>	
<b>1</b>	<b>June 28</b>	Introduction to Law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Miller v. Alabama</li> <li>• Washington v. Glucksberg</li> </ul>	
	<b>June 29</b>	Introduction to Law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gideon v. Wainwright</li> <li>• Harper v. Virginia State Board of Elections</li> </ul>	
<b>2</b>	<b>June 30</b>	Ethics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People v. Beardsley</li> <li>• Marsalis v. LaSalle</li> </ul>	Quiz 1 due at 11:59pm
	<b>July 1</b>	Ethics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People v. Belge</li> <li>• Client Confidentiality: The Buried Bodies Case</li> </ul>	
	<b>July 4</b>	<b>Holiday – No Class</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>July 5</b>	Institutional Sources of American Law <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United States v. Lopez</li> <li>• National Fed. of Ind. Business vs. Sebelius</li> <li>• Brown v. Board of Education</li> </ul>	Quiz 2 due at 11:59pm
<b>4</b>	<b>July 6</b>	The Judicial System: Courts & Jurisdiction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Shoe Co. v. Washington</li> <li>• Helicopteros Nacionales de Colombia v. Hall</li> </ul>	
	<b>July 7</b>	The Judicial System: Choice of Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carnival Cruise Lines, Inc. v. Shute</li> <li>• Guaranty Trust Co. v. York</li> </ul>	Quiz 3 due at 11:59pm
<b>5</b>	<b>July 8</b>	Civil Procedure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In re Vioxx Products Liability Litigation</li> <li>• Cain V. George</li> <li>• Hanna v Plumer</li> </ul>	

	<b>July 11</b>	<b>Movie: “A Civil Action” (1999)</b>	Quiz 4 due at 11:59pm
<b>July 12 – Exam 1 Review</b>			
<b>July 13 – Exam 1</b>			
<b>6</b>	<b>July 14</b>	Criminal Law and Procedure: Elements of Crime & Defense <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regina v. Dudley and Stephens</li> <li>• State v. Norman</li> <li>• M’Naghten’s Case</li> </ul>	
	<b>July 15</b>	Criminal Law and Procedure: Criminal Procedure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rhode Island v. Innis</li> <li>• Colorado v. Connelly</li> </ul>	<b>In-class Activity 1</b>
	<b>July 18</b>	<b>Movie: “The Central Park Five” (2013)</b>	“A Civil Action” paper due at 11:59pm
<b>7</b>	<b>July 19</b>	Family Law: Marriage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loving v. Virginia</li> <li>• Obergefell v. Hodges</li> <li>• Forsyth Memorial Hospital v. Chisholm</li> </ul>	Quiz 5 due at 11:59pm
	<b>July 20</b>	Family Law: Divorce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Port v. Cowan</li> <li>• Estate of Thornton</li> <li>• Zablocki v. Redhail</li> </ul>	<b>In-class Activity 2</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>July 21</b>	Contracts: Offer, Acceptance, and Consideration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normile v. Miller</li> <li>• Cook v. Coldwell Banker</li> <li>• Batsakis v. Demotsis</li> </ul>	
	<b>July 22</b>	Contracts: Voiding Contracts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dodson v. Shrader</li> <li>• Odorizzi v. Bloomfield School District</li> <li>• Syester v. Banta</li> </ul>	Quiz 6 due at 11:59pm
<b>9</b>	<b>July 25</b>	Torts: Intentional Torts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wallace v. Rosen</li> <li>• Parvi v. City of Kingston</li> <li>• Taylor v. Vallelunga</li> </ul>	“The Central Park Five” paper due at 11:59pm
	<b>July 26</b>	Torts: Negligence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Palsgraf v. Long Island R. R.</li> <li>• The T. J. Hooper v. Northern Barge Co.</li> </ul>	Quiz 7 due at 11:59pm

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Behrens v. Bertram Mills Circus</li> </ul>	
	<b>July 27</b>	Torts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clohessy v. Bachelor</li> <li>Atlanta Oculoplastic Surgery v. Nestlehutt</li> <li>Curtis Publishing Co. v. Butts</li> </ul>	<b>In-class Activity 3</b>
	<b>July 28</b>	<b>Movie: "Hot Coffee"</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>July 29</b>	Personal & Common Property <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pierson v. Post</li> <li>Ghen v. Rich</li> <li>Nat'l. Audubon Society v. Los Angeles</li> </ul>	Quiz 8 due at 11:59PM
	<b>August 1</b>	Property & Government Control <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Babbitt v. Sweet Home Chapter of Communities for a Great Oregon (<i>only read the majority opinion</i>)</li> <li>Yick Wo v. Hopkins</li> <li>Hawaii Housing Authority v. Midkiff</li> </ul>	<b>In-class Activity 4</b>
<b>August 2 – Exam 2 Review</b>			
<b>August 3 – Exam 2</b>			
<b>August 4 – "Hot Coffee" Paper Due</b>			