INTRODUCTION TO CALIFORNIA LAW
Instructor: Stephanie Kain Ferrill
WINTER Quarter 2010

COURSE SYLLABUS & READING ASSIGNMENTS
Introduction to Law 4th Ed., Hames & Ekern

Weeks 1 & 2  Chapter 1 Introduction to Law
Chapter 2 The U.S. Legal System
Chapter 3 The Courts and Legal Personnel

Weeks 2 & 3  Chapter 4 Finding the Law
Chapter 5 Using the Law

Week 4  Chapter 6 Constitutional Law
Assignment 1 Due (1/25/10)

Weeks 5-6  Chapter 8 Family Law
QUIZ (2/6/10)

Weeks 7  Chapter 9 Wills & Trusts
Chapter 10 Contract Law

Week 8  Chapter 14 Criminal Law & Juvenile Law

Week 9  Chapter 12 Civil procedure Before Trial
Chapter 13 Alternative Dispute Resolution
Assignment 2 Due (3/1/10)

Weeks 10-11  Chapter 15 Criminal Procedure Before Trial
Chapter 16 Rules of Evidence
Chapter 17 The Trial

Week 12  FINAL EXAM - Thursday, March 25th at 11:30 am

* All dates APPROXIMATE - Instructor reserves the right to change these dates.
ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments must be typed, and include your name and page numbers (if multiple pages). If the assignment consists of multiple pages or includes copies/attachments, all pages must be stapled together, or bound. When applicable, you may "cut and paste" your answer from the website, as long as you cite where you obtained the information. ALL ASSIGNMENTS TURNED IN MUST BE YOUR OWN WORK.

Written Assignment 1

A. Go to home page for state of California www.ca.gov. Check out the site and links therein. Locate and visit the sites for the Department of Corporations and for the Secretary of State to answer the following:

Questions re Department of Corporations:
1. What does the department do? (read About the Department of Corporations)
2. What does the securities regulation division do?
3. What does the enforcement and legal services division do?
4. Who is the secretary of state for California and what are the Secretary’s duties?

B. Visit the home page for the California courts (www.courtinfo.ca.gov). Take the “guided tour”. Find answers to the following questions:

5. Who are the members of the California Supreme Court?
6. What are the qualifications for a California Supreme Court Judge? (http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courts/supreme/about.htm)
7. What is the Judicial Council?
8. List 4 Judicial Branch Agencies. (http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/about/)
9. Outline a day in the life of the Alameda Court. (http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courts/dayarch/alamday1.htm)

C. Next, go to the following site: http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courts/about.htm

Answer the following questions:
10. What are the two types of courts in California?
11. What do the courts of appeals do?
12. Which counties are in the 6th appellate district? In which district is San Francisco located?
13. Which court is small claims court part of? What is the monetary limit of small claims court?
14. What is a “judge pro tem?”

D. Read and Brief the Marvin v. Marvin case in Appendix V, pgs. 493 - 507 of the Intro. to Law text.

DUE: 1/27/10
Assignment 2

Answer in Writing:

1. Read Katzenbach case, pgs. 17-19, then answer questions 1, 2 & 3 on pg. 19.

2. Read Texas v. Johnson, pgs. 20-21, then answer questions 1, 2a & 2b on pg. 21.

3. Page 34, Assignments and Projects, answer question 1 (and all subparts).

4. Read In re Marriage of Modnick, pgs. 77-78, then answer questions 1 & 2 on pg. 78.

5. Page 81, Application and Analysis Problems No. 1.

6. Read Brown v. Board of Education, pgs. 124-126, then answer questions 1, 2, and 3 on pg. 126.

7. Read In the Matter of the Arbitration...New York, pgs. 334-335, then answer questions 1 & 2 on pg. 335.

8. Read Roy v. Gomez, pgs 356-358, then answer questions 1, 2 & 3 on pg. 358.

9. Read Mapp v. Ohio, pgs 390-393, then answer questions 1 & 2 on pg. 393.

DUE: 3/01/10