**POLS 102 – Law and Society**

**Course Syllabus**

Ron Bradbury, Instructor

Office Hours: 12:30 to 2:00 PM daily

Room 2122; Phone: 538-4143

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**Introduction**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The law has an impact on each and every one of us, affecting both our public and private lives from birth until our death. “*Law and Society*” will examine the development of our laws and the structure of our legal system. This course is designed to provide each student with a basic knowledge and understanding of the law, how it controls our actions, and how the law can work for us.

**Course Materials**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“*American Law and Legal Systems*” by James Calvi and Susan Coleman

class handouts / guest speaker / topic discussions

**Learning Outcomes**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The learning objectives for this course are to develop skills in critical thinking and improve student performance in understanding the law and our legal systems.

**Disabilities**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Students who have documented disabilities that require accommodations in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Disability Support Services coordinator as well as this instructor in order to ensure that together we create an optimal environment for educational achievement.

**Course Outline**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mon, 9/19 Introduction and overview of course requirements

Tue, 9/20 **Chapter 1:** *Introduction to Law*

Wed, 9/21 Types and Classifications of Law

Thu, 9/22 Washington State Law

Mon, 9/26 **Chapter 2:** *History and the Law*

Tue, 9/27 American Legal Profession

Wed, 9/28 Constitution of the United States – test review

Thu, 9/29 **Test No. 1**

Mon, 10/3 **Chapter 3:** *Court Organization*

Tue, 10/4 Federal Courts

Wed, 10/5 State Courts

Thu, 10/6 Local Courts

Mon, 10/10 **Chapter 4:** *Procedure and Evidence*

Tue, 10/11 Civil Processes

Wed, 10/12 Criminal Processes – test review

Thu, 10/13 **Test No. 2**

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Mon, 10/17 **Chapter 5**: *Limitations*

Tue, 10/28 Your Judicial Rights

Wed, 10/29 Equity Processes

Thu, 10/20 **Chapter 6**: *Constitutional Law*

Mon, 10/24 Constitutional Law and Society

Tue, 10/25 Institutional Roles in the Legal System

Wed, 10/36 Attorney-Client Relations – test review

Thu, 10/27 **Test No. 3**

Mon, 10/31 **Chapter 7**: *Criminal Law*

Tue, 11/1 History of Criminal Law

Wed, 11/2 Fundamentals of Criminal Law

Thu, 11/3 Jurisdiction of Criminal Law

Mon, 11/7 Crime against Person

Tue, 11/8 Crime against Property

Wed, 11/9 Crime against Self

Thu, 11/10 Victimless Crime

Mon, 11/14 Procedural Criminal Law

Tue, 11/15 Elements of Criminal Responsibility

Wed, 11/16 Criminal Liability and the Law – test review

Thu, 11/17 **Test No. 4**

Mon, 11/21 **Chapter 8**: *Administrative Law*

Tue, 11/22 Creating Administrative Agencies

Wed, 11/23 Rule Making by Congress

Thu, 11/24 **Thanksgiving Holiday**

Mon, 11/28 Presidential Powers and Restraints

Tue, 11/29 Separation of Powers Doctrine

Wed, 11/30 *Motor Vehicle Law*

Thu, 12/1 Test Review

Mon, 12/8 **Test No. 5**

**Course Requirements**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Testing** - five exams consisting of 60 multiple-choice questions worth 2 points each for a total of 100 points / students will select any 50 questions. The lowest score of the first four tests will be discarded  **400 points**

**Attendance -** 2 points per class sessions for attendance **100 points**

* Students who leave class without prior approval lose their points for the day

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* Students lose 5 points if: cell phone goes off / seen texting in class / sleeping in class (head on desk)
* students who have cell phone our during a test will receive an “F” grade
* all make-up exams will be short essay

**Grading**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A+ 485 – 500 B+ 434 – 450 C+ 381 – 400 D+ 316 – 340

A 468 – 484 B 416 – 433 C 361 – 380 D 291 – 315

1. 451 – 467 B- 401 – 415 C- 341 - 360