HPM 437: HEALTH LAW
COURSE SYLLABUS

Winter 2020

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Class Schedule: Monday, 5:00 P.M. – 6:50 P.M., Room 51-279

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this course is to introduce the legal system and healthcare related issues that students are likely to encounter as health policy and management professionals operating within United States healthcare organizations. The healthcare industry is one of the most highly regulated industries in the United States, with an ever-increasing intersection between healthcare delivery and applicable laws. Healthcare professionals will encounter a wide range of legal and regulatory issues during their careers, such as fraud and abuse, privacy and security and institutional and individual liability. Therefore, it is important for students to be familiar with: applicable basic healthcare laws and legal principles that affect healthcare organizations and providers; how applicable healthcare laws and legal principles and doctrines are created; and how these applicable laws and legal principles impact the ways in which healthcare organizations and providers operate.

This course is designed to provide students with the practical knowledge necessary to identify relevant legal issues and to understand the legal ramifications of strategic decisions. Additionally, it is also designed to familiarize students with the emerging health law issues that have or are likely to be addressed by the courts and regulators.

The course objectives include:

- Understanding the basic laws and legal standards applicable to healthcare organizations and providers.
- Understanding how healthcare laws and applicable legal principles and doctrines are created.
- Understanding the functions of and interaction between courts, legislatures, regulators.
- Understanding the scope of the law’s ability to dispositively resolve issues.
- Learning to analyze laws and legal principles, apply them to fact patterns and reach reasoned legal conclusions.
In an introductory course, it is impossible to cover all the laws that impact our healthcare delivery system. Therefore, this course will provide an overview of the healthcare topics that health policy and management professionals are most likely to confront in their careers.

**COURSE FORMAT**

This course consists of lectures and in-class discussions regarding current examples of relevant health law articles/cases, an in-class group presentation and a final exam. Materials for each lecture will distributed via MyUCLA before each lecture. Any supplemental reading will be identified in class or via MyUCLA in advance of the applicable lecture, such as selected articles, cases or regulations.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

Class lectures and discussions will be essential to the successful completion of this course. Therefore, it is expected that all students will attend all class sessions and participate in class discussions and exercises. Students are also expected to read and analyze materials assigned in advance of each lecture and be prepared to discuss them. Class attendance and participation will both be considered in determining final grades.

Each student will participate in a group/team in-class presentation regarding a current healthcare legal issue. The healthcare issue will reflect one of the legal principles covered in class.

The final examination will consist of both short answer and essay questions. The examination will be given in class and closed book. The examination is designed to be completed in 2 hours; however, you will have up to 3 hours to complete it, if you chose to take the additional time.

Both the in-class presentation and final examination are designed to determine your understanding of the legal principles covered in class and how to apply them to specific situations.

Grades for the course will be determined as follows:

- Class Preparation and Participation 30%
- In-Class Group Presentation 35%
- Final Examination 35%
Health Law Course Syllabus

COURSE TOPICS

There are many topics that can be covered in a health law class. Far more topics than time permits in this course. Therefore, the topics selected for this class are a survey of those that will be most relevant to Health Policy & Management graduates. The topics will include:

1. Framing Healthcare Law Issues
2. The United States Legal System – Overview
3. Contracts and Torts - Overview
4. Fraud and Abuse
   a. Anti-Kickback Statute
   b. False Claims Act
   c. Stark
5. Corporate Compliance
6. Privacy and Security/HIPAA
7. Research
8. “Hot Topics” - Current Healthcare Law Issues

IMPORTANT DATES

February 24th and March 9th: In-class Presentations
March 16th: Final Exam