Course Syllabus for Law and Social Science  
Fall, Semester  
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 11-11:50 am  

Instructor: Roger A. Hanson  
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Office Hours: 10-11: Monday and Tuesday  


Additional selected readings will be assigned on a scheduled basis. However, the overwhelming body of materials is found in the textbooks. Because this course is new to the school curriculum gauging the amount of material appropriately assigned each day is difficult. For this reason, please note that they are provided only through November 1 and the specified numbers should be treated tentatively.  

However, the exact number and selection of pages will be assigned to eliminate uncertainty and provide students with a reliable roadmap for the remainder of the course once sufficient experience has been gained. And students should expect only selected portions of Chapters Four, Five and Six in Monahan and Walker will be assigned.  

Finally, organizing questions to guide the reading assignments shall be provided to students in advance of each class session.  

Schedule: 

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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| August 27, Monday | Course Objectives, Outline. Requirements and Grading  
In the modern world, two contending perspectives define law and social sciences. One uses social science tools and techniques to ask questions about how the law works and a second one emphasizes a more instrumental orientation seeking to determine how social science enhances the practice of law e.g., dealing with expert witnesses In this course, both perspectives will be examined to develop a richer understanding of what social science has to offer the theory and practice of law. In fact, the assigned readings at the beginning of course reflect the instructor’s perspective, which is a hybrid of the two alternative outlooks. |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assigned Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 28, Tue</td>
<td>Origins and Developing Nature of Law and Social Science</td>
<td>Assigned reading, Monahan and Walker, Chapter One, pp. 1-27</td>
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<td>September 6, Thu</td>
<td>Connecting Doctrine to Social Realities</td>
<td>Assigned reading: “What Are Tort Awards Really Like” 14 <em>Law and Policy</em> 1992, pp. 77-106</td>
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<td>“Reading the Landscape of Disputes,” 31 <em>UCLA Law Review</em> 1983, pp. 4-71</td>
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September 11, Tuesday Connecting Alternative Dispute Resolution to Desirable Outcomes

Assigned reading: Use of Mediation to Resolve Workers’ Compensation Cases
This material is available on line by going to the website of the National Center for State Courts or (www.ncsconline.org) then to the Information link, followed by the Library link, and then to Digital Archive. Then type in the name of the lead author, Roger Hanson and you will have it on a list of publications.


September 13, Thursday Connecting Doctrine to Social Realities


Viewing Law from the Perspective of the Social Sciences

September 17, Monday The Logic of Social Science Approaches to Understanding Law

Assigned readings: Monahan and Walker, Chapter Two, pp. 48-57
Berman, Chapter One, pp. 1-18
September 18, Tuesday  The Conduct of Social Science Inquiry

Assigned readings: Monahan and Walker, Chapter Two, pp. 58-81
Berman, Chapter One, pp. 18-26

September 20, Thursday  Measurement and Law

Assigned reading: Monahan and Walker, Chapter Two, pp. 81-93
Berman, Chapter Two

September 24, Monday  Measurement to Describe the Landscape of the Law

Assigned readings: Berman, Chapter Two
Both publications are available online and can be downloaded at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs

September 25, Tuesday  Measurement to Explore Elemental Relationships Between the Law and Social Realities

Assigned readings: Berman, Chapter Three


September 27, Thursday  Continuing the Discussion of Exploring Elemental Relationships Between the Law and Social Realities

October 1, Monday  Measuring Associations between Law and Social Realities

Assigned readings: Berman, Chapter Four

Understanding Reversible Error in Criminal Appeals, pp. 27-46
This material is available online by going to the website of the National Center for State Courts
or (www.ncsconline.org) then to the Information link, followed by the Library link, and then to Digital Archive. Then type in the name of the lead author, Joy Chapper and you will find it on a list of publications.
Indigent Defenders Get the Job Done, pp. 51-62
This material is available on line by going to the website of the National Center for State Courts or (www.ncsconline.org) then to the Information link, followed by the Library link, and then to Digital Archive. Then type in the name of the lead author, Roger Hanson and you will have it on a list of publications.

“Organizing the Criminal Appeals Process,” 72 *Judicature* 1989, pp. 239-246

October 2, Tuesday  Continuation of the Discussion Concerning the Measurement of the Association between Law and Social Realities

October 4, Thursday  Measuring Whether Legal Categories have Different Effects
Assigned readings: Berman, Chapter Five

Intermediate Appellate Courts, pp. 30-51
This material is available on line by going to the website of the National Center for State Courts or (www.ncsconline.org) then to the Information link, followed by the Library link, and then to Digital Archive. Then type in the name of the lead author Joy Chapper and you will find it on list of publications.

October 8, Monday  Continued Discussion of Whether Legal Categories have Different Effects

October 9, Tuesday  Estimating the Independent and Combined Effects of Multiple Measures of the Law
Assigned readings: Berman, Chapter 6 and Chapter 8, pp. 159-163.

October 11, Thursday  Continuation of the Discussion of Estimation Tools

October 15, Monday  Continuation of the Discussion of Estimation Tools
Assigned reading: “Effective Adversaries for the Poor,” pp. 105-113

October 16, Tuesday  Looking at Measures of Multiple Complex Concepts
Assigned reading: **Efficiency, Timeliness and Quality**
A 12 page summary of this publication is available and can be down loaded at (www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij). Complete versions of ETQ will be made available free of charge. Students are expected to be familiar with the shorter version of ETQ available on line.

**October 18, Thursday**

**Time Series Analyses and Changes in Law**

Assigned Readings: Berman, Chapter 7, pp. 145-158

“Prison Litigation in Relation to Prisoner Population,” *Caseload Highlights*, 1988. This six page document can be downloaded at ncsconline.org by going to the link CSP and then to Caseload Highlights, vol. 4, Number 2. A fuller version is available at “A Tale of Two Laws,” 22 *Law and Policy* 2000, pp. 89-113. Students are expected to be familiar with the shorter version


**October 22, Monday**

**Class Discussion of Viewing Law from a Social Science Perspective**


**Viewing Social Science as a Tool in Shaping Law**

October 23, Tuesday  
Social Science in Law  
From this point forward in the course, the class course content will correspond very closely to a review and discussion of the material in the casebook.

Assigned reading: Monahan and Walker, Chapter Two, pp. 28-47

October 25, Thursday  
Continued Discussion of Social Science in Law  
Assigned reading: Monahan and Walker, Chapter Two, pp. 28-47.

October 29, Monday  
Selected Readings from Chapter Three pp. 95-129

October 30, Tuesday  
Selected Readings from Chapter Three pp.130-149
November 1, Thursday  Selected Readings from Chapter Three pp. 149-156
November 5, Monday     Selected Readings from Chapter Four
November 6, Tuesday     Selected Readings from Chapter Four
November 8, Thursday    Selected Readings from Chapter Four
November 12, Monday     Selected Readings from Chapter Four
November 13, Tuesday    Selected readings from Chapter Five
November 15, Thursday   Selected Readings from Chapter Five
November 26, Monday     Selected Readings from Chapter Five
November 27, Tuesday     Selected Readings from Chapter Five
November 28, Thursday    Selected Readings from Chapter Five
December 3, Monday      Selected Readings from Chapter Six
Final Examination