Syllabus: Advanced Legal Research & Analysis

Course Requirements:

Texts

There is no required text. Mandatory reading assignments for each class will be posted on the course web page. The class web page has detailed information for each class meeting, including readings, important links, and power points. If articles are available on Westlaw or Lexis, there will be a direct link on the class web page. These articles can be accessed with your Westlaw or Lexis password. You must have a Lexis and a Westlaw password for this class, as well as a Bloomberg password. Bloomberg passwords instructions will be given out in class. Articles not available on Westlaw or Lexis will be accessible to students registered in the class, through the class web page. These readings are password-protected. Passwords will be given out in class. Readings listed for a specific class meeting must be completed before the class begins. There is also a TWEN page for this class, where pre-class quizzes will be posted. Check TWEN before class to see if there is a pre-class quiz.

Attendance and Class Participation

Classroom participation is required, and so is attendance. This class involves significant discussion and hands-on participation in classroom research projects. Class participation includes doing the assigned readings and any associated TWEN quizzes. Missing more than four full class meetings (six hours) will result in a grade reduction of at least one full letter grade.

Laptop Policy: Laptops are required in order to participate in classroom research projects. If you do not have a laptop, laptops are available for checkout at the Law Library's Circulation Desk. Laptops may only be used for class work; there is no laptop use during class for non-class purposes.

Grades/Due Dates

This is a 3-unit graded (GPA) course. Grades are determined as follows:

Classroom participation	20% 20 points.
Written Assignment 1 (this is an anonymous take-home assignment).	10% 10 points

Written Assignment 220% 20 points(this is an anonymous take-home assignment).

Final Research Assignment50% 50 points(this is an anonymous untimed take-home assignment).

Total 100 points

All three written assignments must be entirely the individual work of each student. If it is not your individual work, it is plagiarism, which is student conduct subject to discipline in accordance with the Law School's Honor Code (http://www.colorado.edu/law/about/honorcode/).

This rule does not apply to the work we will do in class; you will be asked to work on many in-class assignments as group projects, and on these projects, collaboration is encouraged.

The first two written assignments require you to solve a series of short research problems applying the principles learned in class to real world legal problems. The final written assignment will also involve a real research problem, but requires you to solve more complex problems, and to demonstrate mastery of the full complement of legal strategies and resources discussed during the semester. The first two written assignments and the written comments on the assignments will help you prepare for the final research assignment.

Classroom participation and classroom exercises are not individually graded. The purpose of the exercises is to get an understanding of legal resources and how best to use them, so the focus is on the process and not on whether or not you have found the full answer. However, failure to participate or to adequately complete all of the classroom exercises and the TWEN exercises will result in a grade reduction of up to 20 points.

I do not accept unexcused late assignments. If you cannot meet a class deadline, be sure and contact me before the due date to explain the problem and **get an extension of time** to complete your work. I always give extensions of time, within the constraints of the academic calendar. The first two assignments are due in class on the dates listed below AND an electronic copy must be posted in the class TWEN page's assignment drop box by. 5:00 p.m. on the date listed below. The final assignment is due in the Records Office by 5:00 p.m. on the date listed below AND an electronic copy must be posted in the class TWEN page's assignment drop box by 5:00 p.m. on the date listed below.

Assignment 1 due: February 22, 2013, and must be delivered to the Records Office by 5:00 p.m. and posted on TWEN by 5:00 p.m.

Assignment 2 due: March 21, 2013, and must be delivered to the Records Office by 5:00 p.m. and posted on TWEN by 5:00 p.m.

Final Written Assignment due: May 9, 2013, and must be delivered to the Records Office by 5:00 p.m. and posted on TWEN by 5:00 p.m.

Office Hours:

My office is in the library. I am here every day. Please feel free to drop in any time, or to make an appointment to see me. I will have regular office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3:00. The telephone is 2-1233. My email is susan.nevelow.mart@colorado.edu.

University Policies:

Disability accommodations: The University of Colorado has a written policy on accommodating people with disabilities. If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and <u>www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices</u>. For additional assistance, you may also contact the law School's Assistant Dean Whiting Leary (303-492-6682, whiting.leary@colorado.edu).

Religious accommodation: The University of Colorado has a written policy on accommodations for religious observances and obligations. The policy requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, if you need an accommodation, please notify me at least one week in advance so we can work together on an appropriate accommodation. Any work can and must be made up. For the details of the University's policy, please see http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Classroom behavior: The University of Colorado has a written policy on classroom behavior. Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty has the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See polices at

<u>http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html</u> and at <u>http://www.colorado.edu/</u> <u>studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code</u>. Discrimination and harassment: The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment (http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html), the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment, and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes he or she has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at http://www.colorado.edu/odh The sexual harassment policy requires all supervisors, which includes all faculty members, who experience, witness or receive a written or oral report or complaint of sexual harassment or related retaliation to promptly report it to the campus sexual harassment officer. This means that as a faculty member, I must report all allegations of sexual harassment that come to my attention; however, there are several offices on campus that can provide free, confidential guidance to faculty, staff and students who believe they have been sexually harassed. A complete list of these offices can be found at: http://www.colorado.edu/sexualharassment/ resources.html .

Law School and Campus Honor Codes: All law students are subject to the Honor Code of the University of Colorado Law School.

http://www.colorado.edu/law/about/honorcode/. Alleged violations of the Law School Honor Code are dealt with as explained in the Code. Students who are found to be in violation of the Law School Honor Code may be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions.

Further, all students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct in the Law School may also be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html and at

http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/.