

Project Excellence Courses for Fall 2019

Through the program known as Project Excellence, Barrett students who meet the eligibility requirements have the extraordinary opportunity to take selected classes in ASU's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, located at the **Downtown Phoenix Campus**. Pre-law students and other students interested in law should consider taking one of these classes.

Students should be aware that if they participate in Project Excellence, they will be taking an actual law school course; in most cases law students will form the large majority of each class. But past Project Excellence participants report that the professors in the law school are extremely free with advice and assistance for Honors students.

Project Excellence Grading Policy

PE students are required to take graduate law courses on the same grading basis as the matriculated law students. This policy means that PE students cannot take a course on a Pass/Not Pass basis where this option does not exist for law students. However, when grading PE students, faculty will grade PE students separately from the law students, and the law school curve. All HON 494 Project Excellence classes for the Fall 2019 semester must be taken for a letter grade.

Fall 2019 Courses

Class #	Campus	Course	Title	Days	Begin	End	Instructor	Cap	Credits
93346	DTPHX	HON 494	Private Property Rights (LAW 657)	F	8:30am	11:25a	Claus	10	3
93347	DTPHX	HON 494	Philosophy of Crime and Punishment (LAW 791)	W	1:35p	3:30p	Murphy	2	2
93348	DTPHX	HON 494	Law, Science, and Technology (LAW 703)	MW	10:05a	11:30a	Marchant	5	3
93349	DTPHX	HON 494	Biotechnology (LAW 691)	TTH	1:35p	3:00p	Marchant	5	3
93350	DTPHX	HON 494	Blockchain & Cryptocurrencies (LAW 691)	M	3:40p	5:35p	Marchant	3	2
93351	DTPHX	HON 494	Federal Income Taxation (LAW 606)	TTH	8:00a	9:55a	Scharff	3	4
93352	DTPHX	HON 494	Energy Law (LAW 619)	TTH	1:35p	3:00p	Rule	5	3
93353	DTPHX	HON 494	History of MLB Since WWII (SLB 523)	F	1:35p	3:30p	Gibson	3	1
93354	DTPHX	HON 494	Health Law & Policy (LAW 650)	T	8:00a	9:55a	Hodge	5	2
93355	DTPHX	HON 494	Public International Law (LAW 615)	TTH	10:05a	11:30a	Fellmeth	5	3
93356	DTPHX	HON 494	International Human Rights (LAW 709)	TTH	3:40p	5:05p	Fellmeth	5	3
93357	DTPHX	HON 494	International Legal Research (LAW 691)	F	10:05a	11:00a	DiFelice	5	1
93358	DTPHX	HON 494	Law & Foreign Policy in D.C. (LAW 791)	F/S (specific dates in description below)	Times listed in description below		Fromholz	10	2

Scroll down to view the course descriptions.

Eligibility Requirements

Honors students must be in good academic standing with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 and have completed honors credit hours.

- Students who started Barrett as Lower Division, and must earn 36 total honors hours, should complete 18 honors credits before requesting an override into a Project Excellence class.
- Students who started Barrett as Upper Division, and must earn 21 total honors credits, should complete at least 6 honors credits before requesting an override into a Project Excellence class.

Enrollment Instructions

Barrett students who meet the eligibility requirements and are interested in enrolling in a particular Project Excellence course should email Miranda Schultz at Miranda.Schultz@asu.edu.

In your email, please include your name and **10-digit ASU ID number**, and list up to 3 choices of classes with your priorities in order 1-3.

Example:

1. **Arizona Constitutional Law #33023**
2. **Federal Indian Law II, #33030**
3. **Employment Law, #33029**

Once we have confirmed your eligibility to enroll in the class and given you an override, you will be sent a confirmation email and may register online.

There will be a required Project Excellence orientation session the first week of the classes. By signing up for a class, you are also agreeing to attend the required orientation. Dates and times for the orientation session(s) are not established at this point, but you will be contacted over the break with that information. For students who have previously completed a Project Excellence course the orientation is optional, but strongly encouraged.

Course Descriptions

Private Property Rights #93346

This course will focus upon one of the most controversial topics in the law and a subject which has received considerable attention from the United States Supreme Court in recent years: the conflict between private property rights and the right of the government to acquire private property for public use or to regulate the use of private property in a manner which substantially limits its economic potential.

The course will include a detailed review of the most important United States Supreme Court decisions (e.g., Penn Central, Nollan, Lucas, Dolan, Palazzolo, Tahoe and Lingle) which, in the context of so-called "regulatory takings" disputes, explore the circumstances in which government action may go "too far" and constitute a taking of private property without just compensation. The eminent domain process will also be discussed, including the United States Supreme Court's decision in Kelo v. City of New London.

In addition, a unique section of the course will utilize the land acquisition litigation arising from the planning and construction of the Bank One Ballpark/Chase Field project (Phoenix, Arizona) as a case study. Pleadings from the appellate proceedings will supplement course materials and will focus on the purposes for which private property may be condemned. The course instructor was one of the trial and appellate attorney for the Maricopa County Stadium District.

The course will also examine the nature and history of title insurance and the role of title insurance in protecting private property rights. Unlike other courses which focus solely on a limited area of substantive law or, alternatively, on procedural or evidentiary considerations, this innovative course explores all aspects of "takings" law from philosophies underpinning (and contradicting with) takings jurisprudence to the evolution of the substantive law through the tactics and strategies often employed at trial and in land use planning decisions.

The format will be principally lecture, with lively group discussion anticipated. The course is recommended for future trial attorneys (government and private), for prospective real estate and land use lawyers, and for others with an academic interest in understanding the law and history behind the headlines.

Philosophy of Crime & Punishment #93347

The Philosophy of Crime and Punishment (2 credits). This seminar will explore such topics as the nature of punishment, the justification of punishment, the emotions relevant to punishment (for example: should expressions of remorse lower the sentence for some crimes?), excuses and justifications, and possible alternatives to punishment. Readings will be mainly from the most important and influential 20th and 21st century philosophers of punishment with perhaps some literature and a few legal cases of philosophical interest. The seminar is an offering in what might be called "law and humanities" and will not be doctrinal in a traditional legal sense. I do not allow the use of laptop computers in my seminars (I want eye contact conversations with students, not dictations to stenographers) and expect all students to attend the first session ready to discuss the reading assigned for that meeting.

This course is by invitation only by Professor Murphy. Students must contact Professor Murphy for an interview.

Law, Science, and Technology #93348

Nearly every field in the practice of law now involves some interaction between law and science and technology -- whether it be litigation, administrative law, environmental law, constitutional law, telecommunications law, health law, corporate law, employment law, contract law, property law and many others. Lawyers who are knowledgeable and comfortable in dealing with the scientific and technological aspects underlying many legal issues are in great demand at law firms, companies, government agencies and other providers of legal services. This survey course is intended to provide the student with an introduction to the various ways in which the legal system interacts with science and technology, and the skills and knowledge necessary to address such issues. The course will examine the interactions and conflicts between law and science using a series of illustrative case studies addressing current issues such as the internet, cloning, air pollution, the Daubert standard for admission of scientific evidence, tobacco research, the Microsoft antitrust case, electric vehicles, digital copyright, genetically modified foods, nanotechnology, anti-terrorism technology, global warming and privacy. No special background or expertise in science or technology is required to benefit from this course. Students can elect to take a take-home exam or write a research paper (20-30 pp.) for the course. This course qualifies as a "core course" for the LS&I Certificate program.

Biotechnology #93349

This course will examine the legal, regulatory, scientific, policy and ethical aspects of biotechnology, focusing on genetically engineered plants, animals, foods, drugs, vaccines, and other products. Among issues to be covered are regulation, labeling, liability issues, intellectual property issues, antitrust, the role of the public in biotechnology decisions, international regulation, international trade, bioprospecting/biopiracy, xenotransplantation, animal cloning, synthetic biology, and bioterrorism.

Blockchain & Cryptocurrencies #93350

Blockchain and cryptocurrencies are rapidly evolving technologies that are already disrupting the practice and substance of law. The first blockchain, Bitcoin, has become an international sensation as its value skyrockets and plummets. But Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies are just one small corner of blockchain applications – it is also being applied to supply chain management, financial and banking functions, stocks and bonds, property and land deed ownership, wills and estates, health data, and eventually even government functions such as taxation and voting. It is also changing the practice of law, as some new law firms exist wholly on the blockchain, employing a radically different business model for law. This course will familiarize students with the technology behind blockchain, and explore the legal and policy applications and implications of blockchains and cryptocurrencies.

Federal Income Taxation #93351

Federal income tax touches virtually every aspect of modern American life. For practicing lawyers, a basic understanding of the structure and vocabulary of the tax code is critical. In this course, an introduction to federal income taxation, we will learn the basic rules that govern the income tax system, with a particular focus on individuals and unincorporated businesses. Unlike courses that are based on common law, this course will require students to study statutory and administrative law extensively. As we delve into the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, we will also consider fundamental tax policy questions along the way, asking not just what the law is, but also, what it could be and, perhaps, should be.

Energy Law #93352

This course examines laws relating to the ownership, conservation, and use of natural resources, with particular emphasis on energy-related resources such as coal, petroleum, natural gas, hydroelectric power, sunlight, and wind. The course explores and analyzes laws that allocate interests in energy resources and regulate energy production and delivery strategies so as to promote economic efficiency and mitigate adverse impacts on the natural environment.

History of MLB Since WWII #93353

This course examines the history of Major League Baseball (“MLB”) in the context of the waves of change that overtook American society following World War II. We will examine and discuss the ways in which MLB reflected deeper-running currents in post-war America, how MLB served as a catalyst for change in American law and society, and the legal and business developments that have shaped modern professional baseball. We will address such diverse topics as the establishment of the position of Commissioner of Baseball and the powers associated with that position, integration of African-American players into MLB, globalization of the sport, labor relations, expansion, franchise relocation, the growth of the business of Major League Baseball and the state of the game in the 21st Century.

Health Law & Policy #93354

This course explores major aspects of U.S. health care law and policy, including national health care reform initiatives; access, costs, and quality of care; informed consent; health information privacy; and professional licensure and liability. Additional topics are also examined depending on national or regional trends leading up to and during the semester.

Public International Law #93355

This course is an introduction to public international law, which is generally the law governing relations among states. Most fundamentally, the course will explain how international law has developed, how modern international law is made, and how it is enforced. As a survey course, we will also examine a variety of subjects regulated by international law, including among many others, how international disputes are resolved; the law of the sea; state conduct during wars; international human rights law; and the activities of major international organizations and tribunals such as the United Nations and the International Court of Justice.

International Human Rights #93356

This class will provide an overview of the international human rights law system. We will examine the primary substantive standards that comprise the core of international human rights law, such as rights to a fair trial and to be free from genocide, torture, summary execution, arbitrary arrest and detention, and discrimination. We will also examine so-called "second-generation rights," such as economic, social, and cultural rights. We will study the primary institutions and processes for the enforcement of such rights: treaty monitoring bodies, the regional human rights courts and commissions, the United Nations institutions, including the Human Rights Commission and the Security Council, domestic implementation through legislative and judicial mechanisms, as well as through inter-governmental diplomacy, reporting, and the mobilization of shame by non-governmental organizations. And, we will examine the explosion of international criminal tribunals, beginning with an examination of the Nuremberg trials, then a look at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and the new International Criminal Court.

International Legal Research #93357

This course will teach students how to research international and foreign law. As a course project, students will prepare a bibliography on an international law topic of their choice.

Law & Foreign Policy in Washington DC #93358

This class will meet on the following days:

Saturdays Sept 7, 14, 21, 28 from 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Friday, October 4 from 1:30 - 6pm, and

Saturday, October 5 from 9am - 6pm

The objectives of this course are to familiarize you with policy-making mechanisms in Washington, DC, including government agencies, Congress, advocacy organizations, and the United Nations. The course will also focus on the variety of roles that lawyers may take in shaping and implementing policy, and will introduce students to laws related to mass atrocities, to prepare for the simulation that ends the course. This simulation, which will be supervised by a retired CIA officer, is of a kind routinely used in government agencies to help improve policies and their

implementation. In this simulation, students will work in teams to develop governmental and other responses toward an unfolding mass atrocity in Sri Lanka (South Asia).

The simulation is 50% of the grade. 10% is class participation (classes other than the simulation) and a short paper (7 pp) is 40%.