

Course Syllabus

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**C510-- PROBLEMS IN PROFESSIONAL
RESPONSIBILITY FOR INTERNATIONAL LLM STUDENTS
SUMMER/FALL/WINTER 2021-22
Professors Karen Boxx and Terry Price**

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description and Objectives

All bar associations require professional responsibility or ethics in order to take a bar examination. An initial understanding of the course objectives is therefore particularly important for this class, so that students can understand there are reasons to take the class other than just satisfying an outside requirement. The goal here is also to sensitize you to the difficulties of law practice, in particular the identification and management of conflicts of interest. Many well-meaning lawyers have gotten into trouble because they were trying to be too helpful to too many people and ended up violating a duty to a client. Also, lawyers can end up in situations where the ethical duty to the client may require that the lawyer do something (or refrain from doing something) that seems morally wrong. There are no clear-cut answers to many of these situations, but a goal of the class is to give you the skills to recognize an ethical dilemma before it is too late, and to choose a reasonable course of action. Another objective of the course is to spark some interest in the current debates in legal ethics, so that each of you can participate in the shaping of lawyers' ethical duties in the future.

Structure of the Class

This class is designed for international LL.M. students to get a background in American legal practice prior to their arrival in the United States. It is divided into two components:

- Successful completion of 20 online lecture modules and a Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination-type evaluation covering the Rules of Professional Responsibility in Summer 2021.
- Successful completion of 6 discussion session meetings at the University of Washington School of Law in Autumn 2021 (to be scheduled Friday mornings, from 10:30am-12:45 pm on October 1, October 8, October 15, October 22, October 29 and November 5).

NOTE: The international LL.M. student must successfully complete 4 credits of Professional Responsibility in order to be eligible for a state bar examination. **FAILURE TO COMPLETE BOTH PARTS OF THIS COURSE (THE MODULES AND THE DISCUSSION SESSIONS) WILL MEAN THE STUDENT 1) WILL NOT GET CREDIT FOR THE SUMMER WORK, AND 2) MUST FULFILL A 4-CREDIT PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY COURSE DURING THEIR STAY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON.**

NOTE also that, unless other arrangements are made, the credits for the course will be awarded as follows:

- For Tax, Health, and IP LLM students: 4 credits in Autumn quarter
- For General, Asian and Comparative Law, Global Business, SID: 2 credits Autumn quarter, 2 credits Winter quarter

Grading

Your final grade will be based on the total number of points you accumulate for the following:

- Up to 60 points possible by completion of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination-type evaluation.
- Up to 40 points possible for class participation in the in-person discussion sessions and completion of the online modules. (NOTE: The CANVAS course management system will indicate whether a student has viewed the video modules, and students will not be able to take the evaluation without first completing the modules.)

Access and Accommodation

To request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact Disability Resources for Students (DRS), at 011 Mary Gates Hall or 206-543-8924 or uwdrs@uw.edu (<mailto:uwdrs@uw.edu>) or disability@uw.edu (<mailto:disability@uw.edu>). If you have a letter from DRS, please present the letter to the Instructors so you can discuss the accommodations you might need in this class.

Religious Accommodations

Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at [Religious Accommodations Policy \(https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/\)](https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/) (<https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>). Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this

course using the [Religious Accommodations Request form \(https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/\)](https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/) (<https://registrar.washington.edu/students/religious-accommodations-request/>).

READING ASSIGNMENTS

Please Note: The assignments include the Rules of Professional Responsibility and the comments to the rules. You will find a table of contents for the Rules and the comments at http://www.americanbar.org/groups/professional_responsibility/publications/model_rules_of_professional_conduct/model_rules_of_professional_conduct_table (http://www.americanbar.org/groups/professional_responsibility/publications/model_rules_of_professional_conduct/model_rules_of_professional_conduct_table

Although not required, some students find it helpful to buy a book with Model Rules from the American Bar Association.

PART ONE—ONLINE MODULES

Module One

Introduction

- Rule 1.1 Competence
- Rule 1.3 Diligence

Module Two

Client-Lawyer Relationship

- Rule 1.2 Scope of Representation
- Rule 1.4 Communication
- Rule 1.5 Fees

Module Three

Client-Lawyer Relationship

- Rule 1.6 Confidentiality of Information

Module Four

Client-Lawyer Relationship

- Rule 1.7 Conflict of Interest: Current Clients
- Rule 1.8 Conflict of Interest: Current Clients (Specific Rules)

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Module Five

Client-Lawyer Relationship

- Rule 1.9 Duties to Former Clients
- Rule 1.10 Imputation of Conflicts of Interest: General Rule

Module Six

Client-Lawyer Relationship

- Rule 1.11 Special Conflicts of Interest for Former and Current Government Officers and Employees

Rule 1.12 Former Judge, Arbitrator, Mediator, or Other Third-Party Neutral

Rule 1.13 Organization as Client

Module Seven

Client-Lawyer Relationship

Rule 1.14 Client with Diminished Capacity

Rule 1.15 Safekeeping Property

Module Eight

Client-Lawyer Relationship

Rule 1.16 Declining or Terminating Representation

Rule 1.17 Sale of Law Practice

Rule 1.18 Duties to Prospective Client

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Module Nine

Counselor

Rule 2.1 Advisor

Rule 2.3 Evaluation for Use by Third Persons

Rule 2.4 Lawyer Serving as Third-Party Neutral

Module Ten

Advocate

Rule 3.1 Meritorious Claims and Contentions

Rule 3.2 Expediting Litigation

Rule 3.3 Candor Toward the Tribunal

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Module Eleven

Advocate

Rule 3.3 (Continued) Candor to the Tribunal

Rule 3.4 Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel

Module Twelve

Advocate

Rule 3.5 Impartiality and Decorum of the Tribunal

Rule 3.6 Trial Publicity

Rule 3.7 Lawyer as Witness

Rule 3.8 Special Responsibilities of a Prosecutor

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Module Thirteen

Transactions with Persons Other Than Clients

- Rule 3.9 Advocate in Nonadjudicative Proceedings
- Rule 4.1 Truthfulness in Statements to Others
- Rule 4.2 Communication with Person Represented by Counsel

Module Fourteen

Transactions with Persons Other Than Clients

- Rule 4.3 Dealing with Unrepresented Persons
- Rule 4.4 Respect for Rights of Third Persons

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Module Fifteen

Law Firms and Associations

- Rule 5.1 Responsibilities of Partners, Managers, and Supervisory Lawyers
- Rule 5.2 Responsibilities of a Subordinate Lawyer
- Rule 5.3 Responsibilities Regarding Nonlawyer Assistants
- Rule 5.4 Professional Independence of a Lawyer

Module Sixteen

Law Firms and Associations

- Rule 5.5 Unauthorized Practice of Law; Multijurisdictional Practice of Law
- Rule 5.6 Restrictions on Right to Practice
- Rule 5.7 Responsibilities Regarding Law-Related Services

Module Seventeen

Public Service

- Rule 6.1 Voluntary Pro Bono Publico Service
- Rule 6.2 Accepting Appointments
- Rule 6.3 Membership in Legal Services Organizations
- Rule 6.4 Law Reform Activities Affecting Client Interests
- Rule 6.5 Nonprofit and Court-Annexed Limited Legal-Service Programs

Module Eighteen

Information about Legal Services

- Rule 7.1 Communications Concerning A Lawyer's Services
- Rule 7.2 Advertising

Module Nineteen

Information about Legal Services

- Rule 7.3 Solicitation of Clients
- Rule 7.4 Communication of Fields of Practice and Specialization

- Rule 7.5 Firm Names and Letterheads
- Rule 7.6 Political Contributions to Obtain Government Legal Engagements or Appointments by Judges

Module Twenty



Maintaining the Integrity of the Profession

- Rule 8.1 Bar Admission and Disciplinary Matters
- Rule 8.2 Judicial and Legal Officers
- Rule 8.3 Reporting Professional Misconduct
- Rule 8.4 Misconduct
- Rule 8.5 Disciplinary Authority: Choice of Law

PART TWO—IN-PERSON DISCUSSION SESSIONS/REVIEW SESSION

Six (6) two-hour and fifteen-minute sessions will be scheduled for students to complete their required credits for Autumn 2021 quarter. Participation is mandatory.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Fri Nov 5, 2021	 C510 Final Exam (https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1480263/assignments/6299509)	due by 11:59pm
	 Class Participation (https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1480263/assignments/6299510)	