

SEMINAR IN CRIMINAL LAW: Violence By and Against Women, section W2
Spring 2011 [Jan 14 to May 5], Saturday, 1:15 to 3:15, Room 240A

Professor Mary Jane Morrison, mmorrison@hamline.edu
office hours: at a minimum, Saturdays from 11 to 1;
see also “mandatory and optional meetings” times detailed below

Course Description for All Seminars: A seminar is a rigorous writing experience requiring the production of a substantial research paper. Each student will complete at least one well-developed draft, which the professor will critique extensively. Each student will rewrite the draft(s) based on the faculty member's assessments. Enrollment in the seminar class cannot exceed 16 students. A student may take more than one seminar, but students who have not yet had a seminar have priority.

Course Description for This Seminar: This seminar will examine violence against and by women in the United States and the responses--or lack thereof--of American criminal law to that violence. Students will review selected criminal statutes and will read demographic information and scholarship about gendered violence in the United States. Students will research, draft and redraft a substantial paper in which the student presents analytical arguments on the student's thesis about how the criminal justice system ought to handle some aspect of criminal violence by or against women. The goals of this seminar are to improve students' legal research and writing skills and their understanding of American criminal law in the context of violence against women and by women. Grading will reflect the student's weekly participation in the seminar, the draft of the paper, and its redraft.

REQUIRED TEXTS: You need a copy of or access to the latest edition of the Harvard The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation. [The one via the web has reported issues.] All other texts for this course are on the TWEN site for this course or are available through the library, Lexis, Westlaw, or the Web. THE DOCUMENTS I HAVE PUT ON TWEN IN PDF OR DOCX SOMETIMES ARE FROM LEXIS OR WESTLAW AND HAVE LOST THEIR HYPERLINK FORMATING. YOU ARE WELCOME TO USE THE CITATION FUNCTION IN THOSE DATABASES TO ACCESS THE DOCUMENTS TO USE INSTEAD OF THE FORMS IN WHICH I HAVE LOADED THEM ON TWEN.

Learning Outcomes: Students will improve
their skills in legal research and analytical writing;
their abilities to state and analytically defend a thesis;
their abilities to organize and present their research orally;
their abilities to respond critically to the presentations other members of the seminar make of their own research.

The usual Code of Conduct rules apply as to preparation and presence for class and to honesty in research and writing.

A student's irresponsible uses of his or her laptop or other electronic devices of course will result in a ban on the device for the remainder of class sessions.

ASSIGNMENTS: {there are 11 weekend and 5 weekday students}

I will email this syllabus and the detailed assignment sheets for each of the first six classes to the enrollees in this seminar in December. Anyone else who wants those sheets in December or January may obtain them simply by sending me an email request and allowing me time to comply. I also will put copies of each sheet in each of the folders for the first six weeks on TWEN,

Class #1, Jan. 15—consult the “FIRST WEEK” document in that folder on TWEN. This class covers a variety of introductory materials.

Class #2, Jan. 22—consult the “SECOND WEEK” document in that folder on TWEN. This week is the first of two weeks on “intimate partner” violence—focusing this week on male-on-female violence.

Class #3, Jan 29—consult the “THIRD WEEK” document in that folder on TWEN. This second week on “intimate partner” violence focuses on female-on-male and female-on-female violence.

Class #4, Feb. 5—consult the “FOURTH WEEK” document in that folder on TWEN. This week addresses motherhood and violence.

Class #5, Feb. 12—consult the “FIFTH WEEK” document in that folder on TWEN. The focus this week is sexual violence, including trafficking.

Class #6, Feb. 19—consult the “SIXTH WEEK” document in that folder on TWEN. The topic this week is women and terrorism.

Class #7: instead of meeting as a group on Feb. 26, individual students will meet with me in MANDATORY INDIVIDUAL CONSULATATIONS:

- WEEKDAY STUDENTS, DURING THE WEEKDAYS of FEB. 21 through FEB. 25, in 30-minute appointments, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Monday through Friday of that week and by special arrangement that week, if necessary
- WEEKEND STUDENTS, ON SATURDAY, FEB. 26, in 30-minute appointments, 11:20 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. [7 to 8 slots] or SUNDAY, FEB. 27, in 30-minute appointments between 11:20 and 1:10 [4 to 5 slots]; and by special arrangement those two days, if necessary

[Mar. 8—no class; Spring Break]

Class #8, Mar. 12—all students are drafting; the three students who are presenting the following week have priority for meeting with me in individual conferences; any other students may meet with me by mutual arrangement

Class #9, Mar. 19 through Class #13, Apr. 16—

- **the three students who are presenting their research papers on Saturday:**
 - will POST their EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES not later than the relevant preceding WEDNESDAY through TWEN at 7 p.m.;
 - {I will return written comments on these Executive Summaries on the writers' presentation Saturdays}
 - will PRESENT their research papers on the relevant SATURDAY;

- will DELIVER their first draft in hard copy to me not later than 2 p.m. on the WEDNESDAY following the Saturday presentation;
 - {I will return written comments on these three first drafts within 10 days of receipt}
- have priority for individual conferences with me during office hours of the previous week and immediately subsequent week
- **all other students:**
 - are drafting or re-drafting;
 - may meet with me by mutual arrangement

[Apr. 23—no class; Easter Break]

Class #14, Apr. 30—all students are re-drafting and meeting with me in individual conferences, by mutual arrangement, during the week and on the weekend

THURSDAY, MAY 19, NOT LATER THAN 2 P.M.—ALL RE-DRAFTS ARE DUE IN HARD COPY TO THE REGISTRAR