

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS - Fall 2012

Professor Cathryn Deal

cdeal@hamline.edu (email preferred)

651-523-2352 (secondary)

GOALS

This course will enable you to understand the rules, practices and public policies directing nonprofit organizations. At the conclusion of this course, you will be expected to:

- 1) understand the legal issues that can arise during the life cycle of a nonprofit, from formation through operation to possible dissolution,
- 2) know the historic underpinnings for today's law of nonprofits and how they impact institutional decisionmaking,
- 3) identify potential ethical pitfalls - and there are many - for nonprofit decision makers,
- 4) understand the interrelation and occasional variations between federal and state laws applying to nonprofits,
- 5) situate nonprofits within today's changing economic conditions, including fundraising, business income and lobbying issues.

COURSE MATERIALS

The textbook for this course is Nonprofit Organizations: Cases and Materials (4th ed.) by Fishman and Schwarz. This is a new update of older editions; you might be able to get by in part with an older edition, provided you keep updated from the current addition, a copy of which will be on reserve in our library when school starts.

Specific readings and assignments for each class day will be posted on the TWEN site for this course. In addition, supplemental materials and news updates will be posted on the site. Therefore, it's essential that you go to TWEN and add this course before the semester begins.

Any notices about the course will be emailed to you via the email address you choose on TWEN, so be sure to check your email frequently.

GRADING

Class participation will count 30% of your final course grade. The remaining 70% of your final course grade will be based upon a written exam. This exam will be a take-home examination, consisting primarily of essay questions with some multiple choice questions. You have 48 hours to take the exam; however, the exam is not designed to consume every one of those hours. The exam will be administered via TWEN. Additionally, there may be several short assignments for which a "pass" grade is assigned; Your timely completion of these assignments is required for successful completion of the course.

Class participation will be evaluated at the instructor's discretion based upon quality of class discussion and contribution of helpful ideas, as well as demonstrated preparation for class discussion when you are called upon.

ATTENDANCE AND USE OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

Regular and timely attendance is required for compliance with the HUSL attendance policy. Absence for more than four classes is grounds for a student being withdrawn from class. Failure to arrive before class starts, remain throughout the entire class period or leave class early without prior permission from Professor Deal may be counted by her as an absence from class.

Cell phones and pages must be turned off during class. Personal computers may be used for taking notes and accessing material specifically approved by the instructor. Use

of a personal computer for other purposes, e.g. surfing the web, checking email, playing electronic games, using chat rooms, is strictly prohibited at all times.