

HAMLIN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
FAMILY LAW - SYLLABUS SPRING 2009

PROFESSOR SANGEETA JAIN

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Wadlington and O'Brien, *Domestic Relations*, 6th Ed., Foundation Press, 2007.
Additional handouts may be provided throughout the term.

COMMENTS:

I expect that students will be prepared and have completed the reading as assigned prior to class. If you are not prepared, please inform me prior to class. You can expect to be called upon and are expected to participate in each class.

This syllabus is intended to serve as a guide to material that will be discussed. The syllabus may be modified during the semester as best meets the needs of the class. All contents of the readings may not be discussed in class.

I expect regular class attendance. I will consider more than two unexcused absences to be excessive. Potential sanctions for failure meet these requirements are set forth in the Student Handbook.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Appointments can be made as needed by contacting me in advance. I am usually available prior to or subsequent to the class.

Email: SangeetaJain@comcast.net

W: 612-237-5766

EXAMINATION AND GRADES:

A three-hour closed book final examination will be given at the end of the spring semester. A three-credit grade will be given on the basis of the final examination. I reserve the option of raising a grade on the basis of superior classroom participation. I also reserve the option of lowering a grade on the basis of repeated lack of preparation, absences, or disruption of the class.

GOALS

- Learn fundamentals of family law
- Understand the underlying theory
- Ability to envision an evolving structure that will meet the changing needs of our society

FORMAT

- Ten minute break after approximately each fifty minutes of class.
- Occasional exercises and hypotheticals in class.
- Encouraged and required class participation.
- Seating chart where attendance will be taken.
- Small group participation.

ASSIGNMENTS:

First Class: Marriage and Family. Definitions, function vs. form, contractual arrangements, State's interest. Chapter 1, pages 1-58, 60-68.

Second Class: Procedures 192-210; Annulment 210-225; Eligibility 225-265

Third Class: Roles, rights, duties and issues in the family structure 278-295; 300-350

Fourth Class: Dissolution: Fault and No-Fault: 356-383; Jurisdiction: 383-429

Fifth Class: Financial Issues: 431-492

Sixth Class: Financial Issues: 492-548

Seventh Class: Prenuptial and postnuptial: 595-647; Enforcement-contempt 648-666

Eighth Class: Child Support: 548-595; Paternity: 666-732

Ninth Class: Constitutional Issues: 68-158

Tenth Class: Custody 1038-1114

Eleventh Class: Visitation and Enforcement: 1114-1179

Twelfth Class: Raising children 847-952

Thirteenth Class: Termination of parental rights 1202-1264

Fourteenth Class: Adoption 1264-1340

FINAL EXAM: 3 HOUR. CLOSED BOOK. COMPREHENSIVE