

Course Syllabus: Law, Literature and Pop Culture

Course Information Discipline and number: IDH 3034 RVR

Term: Fall 2021

Day: Online

Professor Contact Information: Professor Andrej Milic amilic@fiu.edu

Office hours by appointment:

Course Description:

This course will explore the intersection of law and literature by approaching narratives in four areas:

- Literature and the Law
- Poetry and the Law
- Music and the Law
- Court Opinions and the Law

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Students will define literary and legal terms.
- Students will compare and contrast the narratives of law and literature through analyzing literary texts as legal texts, influence of the law on pop culture, the impact of literature on legal scholarship, and the regulation of literature by law.
- Students will examine the contributions of the field of law and literature to the intersection to the social sciences and humanities.
- Students will compare film, literature and legal text from the United States with those from other countries.

Required Textbooks:

Lenora Ledwon. Law and Literature. (1st ed.) Garland Publishing, Inc., 1996. ISBN 978-0815320463

Materials to Be Utilized in this Course:

Literature that will be reviewed in the course:

The Paper Chase
Big Law
The Nature of the Judicial Process
Bartleby the Scrivener
The Rooster Bar
Law School Confidential
One L Films that will be analyzed:

Legally Blonde
The Pelican Brief
My Cousin Vinny
Michael Clayton
Liar Liar

Blogs that will be analyzed:

The Girl's Guide to Law School
Above the Law
Ms. JD
SCOTUS Blog

Podcasts that will be analyzed:

The Digital Edge
Lawyer 2 Lawyer
Legal Rebels
Supreme Podcast
Law School Toolbox Podcast

Students are expected to:

- **Review the getting started page** located in the course modules;
- **Introduce yourself to the class** during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion;
- **Interact** online with instructor and peers;
- **Review** and follow the course calendar and weekly outlines;
- **Log in** to the course **4 times** per week;
- **Respond** to discussions by the due date specified. **No late work will be accepted;**
- **Respond to emails** within **48 hours;**
- **Submit** assignments by the corresponding deadline.

The instructor will:

- Log in to the course at least **4 times** per week;
- Respond to discussion postings within **7 days of the deadline**;
- Respond to **emails** within **48 hours**;
- Grade assignments within **7 days** of the assignment deadline.

Course Communication:

Communication in this course will take place via the Canvas Inbox. Check out the [Canvas Conversations Tutorial](#) or [Canvas Guide](#) to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox.

Zoom Video Tool:

Zoom is a video conference tool that you can use to interact with your professor and fellow students by sharing screens, chatting, broadcasting live video/audio, and taking part in other interactive online activities. We will be utilizing this tool to conduct **online office hours by appointment**.

Zoom Test Meeting Room (Links to an external site.)

Use this link to access the Zoom Test Meeting Room. This meeting room is available to test out the software before joining an actual session.

Reference the provided links to access Zoom student tutorials to learn about the tool, how to access your meeting room, and share your screen.

- - o [Download Zoom \(Links to an external site.\)](#).
 - o [Login to Zoom through Desktop Application \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
 - o [Enable and Test Audio & Webcam \(Links to an external site.\)](#).
 - o [Invite others to join meeting. \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
 - o [Chat \(Professors\) - Students look at attendees section for instructions \(Links to an external site.\)](#).
 - o [Getting Started with iOS. \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
 - o [Getting Started with Android. \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

Prerequisites:

Student must have completed at least 36 credits towards their degree program, completed IDH 1931 with a passing grade and IDH 1001/1002 with a passing grade. Honors College students who have completed IDH 1931 with a passing grade and IDH 1001/1002 with a passing grade

may register for IDH 3034/3035 in the next available semester. The purpose is to allow the student to apply academic knowledge to the legal field. Students may utilize their presentation to bring in any material that include the law to analyze in depth the interrelatedness of various subject matter when it comes to the law.

Global Learning at FIU:

All FIU undergraduates take at least two global learning courses prior to graduation — one interdisciplinary foundations course in the general education curriculum and one discipline-specific global learning course as part of the major.

Global Learning Foundations courses are part of the University Core Curriculum.

Interdisciplinary in content, they deal with essential questions and complex issues that are best understood and addressed through multiple disciplinary perspectives. These courses set the stage for students to make interdisciplinary connections throughout their university career, and incorporate a co-curricular activity as part of the syllabus.

Discipline-Specific Global Learning courses are embedded into nearly every undergraduate academic program. These courses provide students with a global view of their discipline of study and may be taken either as required courses or as electives.

Global Learning Outcomes

Upper Division classes have been designated as Global Learning courses. For questions regarding GL requirements, please contact Allen Varela at the Honors College.

GL Learning Outcomes for This Course

- **Global Awareness:** Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interrelatedness of local, global, international, and intercultural issues, trends, and systems.
- **Global Perspective:** Students will be able to conduct a multi-perspective analysis of local, global, international, and intercultural problems.
- **Global Engagement:** Students will be able to demonstrate willingness to engage in local, global, international, and intercultural problem solving.

Religious Observances

Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students whose religious practices coincide with class requirements or scheduling. Please make sure to notify your instructor at the beginning of the semester of which dates you will be absent or any anticipated problems with completing course work.

Physical, Mental and Sensory Challenges

The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and

sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the DRC at 305-348-3532 (MMC) or at 305-919-5345 (BBC) to schedule an appointment. You can also visit them in person in GC 190 at MMC or in WUC 131 at BBC campus.

Honors College Policies and Requirements

Academic Misconduct Procedures and Policies

In The Honors College, the term “honor” refers both to academic accomplishment and character. Students in Honors should therefore adhere to and be held to the highest standards of personal academic accountability. Academic dishonesty in any form, including plagiarism, is antithetical to the very definition of being an Honors student at FIU. Consequently, an Honors College student found responsible for academic misconduct will be dismissed from the College.

An Honors faculty member may bring charges of academic misconduct against an Honors student if the faculty member suspects plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct. The faculty member will decide whether to pursue informal resolution, file formal resolution charges, or take no further action, and will follow the procedures outlined in the Academic Misconduct Procedures available at <https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/get-support/student-conduct-and-academic-integrity/academic-integrity/index.php> . Please refer to the following documents for additional information:

FIU Student Handbook: <https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/about/student-handbook/index.php>

Student Portfolios

The Honors College will be using a portfolio method to assess students’ learning outcomes. The portfolio allows for maximum flexibility in gauging student learning. Students decide (with instructor consultation) what “artifacts” or assignments to include for consideration in their portfolios to demonstrate successful achievement of each of five key student learning outcomes over the 4-year Honors experience. Portfolios provide a rich context for students to show what they have learned and to explain their learning process. Because the Honors curriculum is meant to be thought-provoking and reflective, student self-assessment through portfolios will facilitate learning and provide in-depth assessment. Each Honors College course includes at least one assignment that could potentially fit portfolio requirements. <http://honors.fiu.edu/current-students/portfolio/>

Honors Engagement

Requirements Honors College students are required to accumulate at least 20 engagement points each academic year (Fall and Spring) by attending Honors College activities. Students attending only one semester (Fall or Spring) are required to accumulate 10 engagement points. Each activity has a point value. Students may select which events and activities they want to attend. The new system is designed to be more flexible for students, offering events at various days and times (including some weekend events) and allowing for a variety of ways to meet the requirements. Please plan accordingly. <http://honors.fiu.edu/current-students/citizenship/>

Community Service

Honors College students must also complete 20 volunteer service hours. These hours DO NOT count toward the 20 engagement points discussed above. <http://honors.fiu.edu/current-students/community-service/>

Honors Education in the Arts (HEARTS)

The HEARTS program is designed to give Honors College students opportunities to “explore and appreciate different artistic and cultural traditions and modes of artistic expression. HEARTS will also serve as a clearinghouse (and curatorial framework) for our students to experience the arts on campus and in the community by providing them with information about cultural activities and access to performances with free or discounted tickets. <http://honors.fiu.edu/current-students/hearts/>

Resources:

Panthers Care & Counseling & Psychological Services

If you are looking for help for yourself or a fellow classmate, Panthers Care encourages you to express any concerns you may come across as it relates to any personal behavior concerns or worries you have, for the classmate’s well-being or yours; you are encouraged to share your concerns with FIU’s Panthers Care website.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Learn more about CAPS at caps.fiu.edu Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don’t wait to call 305-348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal.

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COURSE ASSIGNMENT VALUES:

Course Requirements	Total Points Available	Weight
Midterm Exam	25	25%

Class Presentation	25	25%
Class Discussion & Participation	25	25%
Final Exam	25	25%
Total	100	100%

COURSE GRADING SCALE:

Letter Grade Distribution Table

Letter	Range%	Letter	Range%	Letter	Range%
A	94 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 - 76
A-	90 - 93	B-	80 - 82	D	61 - 69
B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	61 or less

DEVIATION FROM SYLLABUS

- Occasionally deviation from the syllabus may occur. Students will be advised of any deviation(s) and collectively will make adjustments to the course requirements.