

**2020 Summer Institute
Special Programs for Global Engagement, Office of International Initiatives
Georgia State University**

**INTRODUCTION TO U.S. LAW (SUMMER 2020)
July 6-31, 2020**

Tami Wells Thomas, J.D.
Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice
Business & Social Sciences Department
Georgia State University, Perimeter College
Newton Campus - Room 2465
239 Cedar Lane, Covington, GA 30014
tthomas151@gsu.edu
678-891-2652
Course Time: TBD
Classroom: Georgia State University, College of Law

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

2. REQUIRED MATERIALS

**Textbook: Katherine A. Currier and Thomas E. Eimmermann, The Study of Law: A
Critical Thinking Approach (Wolters Kluwer 3rd ed. 2013)**

3. COURSE GRADING

Include how the course grade will be computed and the meaning of letter grades. For example:

Class activities and homework.....	60%
Quizzes.....	20%
Final presentation	20%

Letter grades for this course have the following meanings:

A+	97-100	A	93-96	A-	90-92
B+	87-89	B	83-86	B-	80-82
C+	77-79	C	73-76	C-	70-72
D	60-69	F	below 60		

4. ATTENDANCE

Attendance is essential for success. The Office of International Initiatives will be notified of any absences. Please talk with the instructor if you are not able to attend class.

5. ACADEMIC HONESTY & PLAGIARISM

You must submit your own work and conduct yourself in an honest manner. One aspect of academic

honesty is plagiarism. Plagiarism can include one or more of the following situations:

- a. Copying information from another student's work or from other materials, and submitting that work as your own.
- b. Using other people's ideas, words, or data without properly documenting or acknowledging the source.
- c. Overusing sources without incorporating your own ideas.

All assignments are to the textbook unless otherwise indicated. Please read all assignments **before** class and be prepared to discuss and analyze the assigned materials.

FIELD TRIPS TO BE ANNOUNCED.

July 6, -10th

1. Chap. 1, "Introduction to the Study of Law," pp. 3-21
2. Chap. 2, "Functions and Sources of Law," pp. 23-44; See NETNOTE on p. 33 Read the Declaration of Independence on the indicated website and The Constitution in Appendix A of your textbook, pp. 595-605 [available in your textbook as well as on the online site].
3. Chap. 3, "Classification of the Law," pp. 45-70

July 13-17

4. Chap. 4, "The Court System and the Role of Judges," pp. 71-99
5. Chap. 5, "Civil Litigation and Its Alternatives," pp. 101-143

July 20-24

6. Chap. 6, "Constitutional Law," pp. 147-206
7. Chap. 7, "Torts: Elements of Negligence," pp. 207-245
8. Chap. 7, "Torts: Defenses to Negligence, Strict Liability, New Torts and Remedies," pp. 245-275

July 18-19

9. Chap. 8, "Contract Law," pp. 277-329
10. Chap. 9, "Chap. 9, Property and Estate Law [Trusts and Estates]," pp. 331-363

July 27-31st

11. Chap. 10, "Laws Affecting Business," pp. 365-423
12. Chap. 11, "Family Law," pp. 425-475
13. Chap. 12, "Criminal Law and Procedure," pp. 477-545

July 31st Class Wrap Up
Final examination is due.