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**2022 Summer Institute  
Special Programs for Global Engagement, Office of International Initiatives  
Georgia State University**

**INTRODUCTION TO U.S. LAW (SUMMER 2022)  
July 7-29, 2022**

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**Course Time: TBD Classroom: Georgia State University, College of Law**

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1. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This three-credit-hour course introduces undergraduate students to the legal system and the fundamental concepts of law in the United States. The course includes an overview of the U.S. legal system including an introduction to the study of law from a U.S. perspective, sources of law including the role of common law in the U.S., classifications of law, the U.S. court system and the role of judges within it, civil litigation, and alternative dispute resolution. Substantive and procedural subjects include constitutional law, torts, contracts, property and estate law, laws affecting business, family law and criminal law. Students will be exposed firsthand to the U.S. law-making process, criminal and civil processes through field trips.
2. **REQUIRED MATERIALS** **Textbook: Katherine A. Currier and Thomas E. Eimermann, 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 7-8**

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 11-13**

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 14-20**

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 -21-22**

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

**July 25-28**

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 29** Class Wrap Up  
Final examination is due.