



About this Course

Copyright
Eric E. Johnson
ericejohnson.com



Konomark
Most rights sharable

Copyright

- How you can use it in your career ...
- What's rewarding about it ...

Slides

- I don't always use slides, but when I do ...
- My practice is to read every word on every slide.
- And I will post all slides with text content* to the class website after the class in which they are used.
 - *Unless it's incidental text captured in a photo, or the like
- Therefore, I strongly urge you not to try to read the slides in class. Just listen. Then, look at the slides later to review things.

Class Website

- The home for information about the course is the course website:
http://www.ericjohnson.com/courses/copyright_23/
- It's where to find the syllabus and chart of assignments. It's also where I'll post slideshows, handouts, info about the exam, links to supplemental reading, etc.
- I likely will not use Canvas much. To the extent I do, I'll let you know.

Syllabus

- Read the syllabus!
- I have posted it.
- You will be assumed to be on notice for everything in it.
- It is long, but reading it is worth it.
- It is your guide to how to do well in class.
- It is my guide to what I've committed to, how I grade, handle any problems, etc.
- You'll find it on the class website.

Selected in-class rules:

- No audio or video recording.
 - But I'll be recording.
 - And it's possible some students have gotten authorization to record.
- No eating. Keep down smells and noise.
- No electronic communications with others in class (except through Zoom if we have to do that again).
- Read the syllabus for more in-class rules.

Grading

- Read the syllabus, it will provide information about grading in detail! What follows are highlights.
- Regular letter grades will be given for this course (A+, A, A-, B+, etc.).
- Based mostly on a final exam
- Also can affect your course grade:
 - things set out in the syllabus, including:
 - attendance
 - academic misconduct

Grading

- There is no pre-determined grade-point average or grade distribution for the class. So you are not in competition with your fellow students for a limited pool of grades! Favor cooperation.
- The initial assignment of grades will be done by seeing the raw point totals from the exam and inserting cut-offs based on clumps and my sense of how performance corresponds to letter grades.
- Alternative minimum grading: According to the schedule in the syllabus. E.g., if you got 87% of max possible points, then you can't get lower than an B+ for the exam grade.
- You get the higher grade of the two methods.

Grading

- The exam grade is your course grade, unless it is adjusted down.
- Deficient attendance can lower the course grade (or lead to administrative withdrawal or an F).
- Expect that cheating, dishonesty, and serious academic misconduct will result in an F. Note that failing to follow final exam instructions in a way that might give a student an advantage—even without intent to gain such an advantage and even if inadvertent—constitutes, in my judgment, serious academic misconduct.

Attendance Policy

- I am required to have an attendance policy. It has to be enforceable. And I want to make sure it is fair.
- I'm sorry it's long and detailed – but it's the result of a lot of work (and experience) in trying to make it both enforceable and fair.
- It's § 9 in the syllabus. Read it.
- What follows are only highlights ...

Attendance Policy

- Arriving late is half an absence.
- 10 absences is a step-down in grade.
- 11 absences is another step-down.
- 12 absences is another step-down.
- 13 absences is an F for the course or administrative withdrawal.
- If you hit 13 absences, you must immediately give me written notice according to § 9-5.
- [Note: All of this is extra generous \(cf. IP '19: steps down at 6, 7, and 8, with F at 9\).](#)

Attendance Policy

- If you claim special extenuating circumstances and/or excuse for religious observance, you must file an End-of-Semester Attendance Mitigation Statement according to § 9-6.
- It must be filed not earlier than the last day of class, nor later than the day after the last scheduled day of final exams for OU Law.
- Take a moment now to calendar this.

Attendance Policy

- Never ask me how many absences you've accumulated. You need to keep track yourself.
- If you take at least some notes in class, and you date your notes, you'll always know.
- Look. I don't add up attendance on a day-by-day basis. The only time I do it is after the semester when I'm doing grades. Then I make sure no one has gone over the incredibly generous number of absences I allow before doing grading deductions.
- Bottom line, it's just not reasonable to ask me to calculate how many absences you have during the semester. So I won't do it. Sorry if that sounds harsh.
- I really want to spend time outside of class on my students! Discussing students' questions, talking about legal careers, looking over your résumé, chit chatting about your hometown ...
- But calculating your interim attendance record? That's just not quality time.

Law school
pep talk

Law school pep talk

- Look around. These people are not your competition. They are your future support and referral network.
- You will never have another opportunity to make so many friendships with so many people who might be in a position to help you in the future.
- So be kind, be generous, don't be a %\$#€!£.