

JURISPRUDENCE: INTERPRETATION

Lewis & Clark Law School

Syllabus – Spring 2008, Version 1 (Dec 2007)

Prof. Joseph Scott Miller

Course Materials

We use two books for the course:

- 1) Peter L. Strauss, *Legislation: Understanding & Using Statutes* (2006)
- 2) Kent Greenawalt, *Statutory Interpretation: 20 Questions* (1999)

There are also supplementary materials (*e.g.*, for the first session's reading assignment), which I post on the course website.

The course website is <http://www.lclark.edu/faculty/jsmiller/interpretation.html>

Meeting Time & Place

LRC Classroom 6, Mon & Wed, 1:30 – 3 pm

Contact Information

My office is LRC #236. My phone number is 503-768-6805. My e-mail address is jsmiller@lclark.edu.

Course Schedule & Reading Assignments

The current reading schedule lists the readings for the first 24 sessions of the class, taking us through the statutory interpretation portion of the class. When I have finalized the readings for the last four class sessions—that is, the contract interpretation portion of the class—I will post a revised Syllabus on the course website.

Student Obligations & Grading

Class attendance is mandatory (as it is in all classes at the Law School). If, on more than two occasions, you are absent from class without having cleared the absence with me in advance, I will direct the Registrar to drop you from the class.

I base your grade in the class on two factors: your grade on a one-draft, 25-30 page paper, and the quality of your participation in class discussion. I describe the paper writing project requirements in a separate document, posted on the course website. I account for class participation in your grade as follows: Your participation may merit a one-step upward or one-step downward adjustment from your paper grade (*e.g.*, from B+ to A-, from B- to C+), or it may not merit altering the paper grade at all. In an exceptional case, the upward or downward adjustment may be two steps, rather than one.

Reading Schedule (Version 1)

Session	Readings
1	<i>Session #1 Readings</i> , posted on website; Greenawalt pp. 1-20; document about the paper writing project, posted on website
2	Greenawalt pp. 21-28; Strauss pp. 1-34
3	Greenawalt pp. 29-43; Strauss pp. 34-52
4	Strauss pp. 52-89
5	Greenawalt pp. 43-57; Strauss pp. 89-108
6	Strauss pp. 108-143
7	Greenawalt pp. 59-76; <i>Session #7 Reading</i> , posted on website
8	Strauss pp. 144-178
9	Greenawalt pp. 77-116
10	Strauss pp. 178-209
11	Strauss pp. 209-219; Greenawalt pp. 117-144
12	Greenawalt pp. 145-176
13	Greenawalt pp. 177-200; Strauss pp. 219-238
14	Greenawalt pp. 201-211; Strauss pp. 238-258
15	Greenawalt pp. 213-232; Strauss p. 259-281
16	Strauss pp. 281-313
17	Strauss pp. 313-323, 331-351
18	Strauss pp. 351-384
19	Strauss pp. 384-409
20	Strauss pp. 409-415
21	Strauss pp. 415-456
22	Strauss pp. 456-480
23	Greenawalt pp. 233-249; Strauss pp. 480-496
24	Greenawalt pp. 251-284
25	Contract Interpretation reading, to be determined
26	Contract Interpretation reading, to be determined
27	Contract Interpretation reading, to be determined
28	Contract Interpretation reading, to be determined