

Advanced Legal Analysis and Strategies
Professor Cox's section
Tu & Th 11:00-12:15, Room 103

Required Text: *Clearing the Last Hurdle: Mapping Success on the Bar*, by Wanda M. Temm (2d ed. 2017, Wolters Kluwer)

Greetings and welcome to both me and you re: the ALAS course.

I am excited to be joining the SIU law faculty and to be teaching this course. I look forward to getting to know each of you through it.

The purpose of the ALAS course is not to teach you the substantive material you need to pass the bar exam. You will be teaching or refreshing your knowledge of that material mainly on your own from now through the summer, and hopefully you have much of it somewhere in your head already. This course instead is designed to help you assess where you are right now in terms of being able pass the bar and to help you devise strategies that will give you the greatest likelihood of success on the bar.

We will use substantive (doctrinal) examples from only a few of the bar tested subjects to make points, since our goal (to repeat) is not to teach the bar topics, but instead is to help you learn how you can cement or teach yourself the bar tested topics. The course will involve your active preparation of material and includes required individual conferences in addition to our group meetings. Since the class is small, everyone's participation is vital to the class's success. While the class is not graded, you should prepare for it the same way as for a graded class. Under ABA guidelines, this means that you should expect to spend *at least* two hours outside of class for every fifty (50) minutes of class time.

Class attendance is required and normal SIU attendance rules apply, meaning (if I calculate correctly under the material found at http://law.siu.edu/_common/documents/rules-code/attendance-rules-ay17-18.pdf.) that you will fail this class if you miss more than six class sessions. You will likely fail the class if you have that many absences anyway, since much of the course success depends on your participation in class. All individual conferences are required and cannot be missed.

We will have assignments beyond the readings and materials in the Temm book, but that book provides us a starting point for our explorations and properly includes material about learning theory that we will use to help us understand why strategy is a part of successful bar study.

I will be providing you additional information and assignments after we get started. There will be a TWEN page for our course which will likely be in place the weekend before first classes.

But for our first week of classes (and a little of the second and third weeks), please do the following:

Week one:

Tues, Jan 15

Before our first class, please read Chapters 1 (pages 1-10) & Chapter 8, (pages 103-106) in *Clearing the Last Hurdle*. We will definitely spend some time in class on Chapter 8, so be sure to read it carefully.

Thurs, Jan 17

Before our second class, please read Chapter 2 (pages 11-21) and Chapter 3 (pages 23-28, stopping at “B. Phase Two”), in *Clearing the Last Hurdle*.

During the first week I will also be giving you a reflection type assignment to help us get started in assessing where you are for bar readiness at this point, and to help us prepare for our first individual meeting. There will also likely be a very brief assignment due at the end of the weekend of our first week related to our guest speaker for the luncheon meeting January 24.

For the second week, on Thurs, Jan 24, there will be a mandatory luncheon meeting at 12:20 related to bar exam requirements, with a guest presenter. So please put this on your calendar.

For the third week, we will likely be having mandatory individual conferences instead of classes. I will likely need to have all these individual conferences concluded by Wednesday, January 30. I will hope to have a sign up sheet for you the first week of class for those meetings in the third week.

Again, I look forward to meeting and working with you this semester!

Stan Cox

Here are some additional law school policies and procedures that I think you are already aware of but of which I need to remind you:

Emergency Procedures: Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT’s website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will assist your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

Disability Support: Disability Support Services (DSS) provides the required academic and

programmatic support services to students with permanent and temporary disabilities. DSS provides centralized coordination and referral services. To utilize DSS services, students must come to the DSS to open cases. The process involves interviews, reviews of student-supplied documentation, and completion of Disability Accommodation Agreements. See: <http://disabilityservices.siu.edu/>. Upon completion of a Disability Accommodation Agreement with DSS, students should bring the agreement to the School of Law Registrar's Office to ensure the School of Law provides the proper classroom and examination accommodations.

Saluki Cares: The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a university-wide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students and their families, SIU will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For Information on Saluki Cares: (618) 453-5714, or siucares@siu.edu, <http://salukicare.siu.edu/index.html>. At the School of Law, Assistant Dean Judi Ray is also available to help students access university resources. Her email is judiray@siu.edu, and her phone number is (618) 453-3135.