

Study Skills, Section 1  
Spring Semester 2019  
Professor Stan Cox

e-mail, phone, and office info to be provided once I am physically on campus

This syllabus is subject to changes/modifications which will be provided as necessary in the TWEN version of this course. That is also where course assignments and materials are planned to be posted.

MEETING TIMES: The law school web page indicates that this course meets Mondays from 10:30 to 11:30 in room 206, so that is where I plan to meet with you starting January 14, our first day of classes.

Overview of the course:

As you already know from your work with Professor Warren this fall, the purpose of this course is to help you adopt skills and habits that will help you achieve success in your law school courses, and ultimately passage of the bar after you graduate. The type of skills and habits the course is designed to improve include such things as case reading and briefing, legal analysis, synthesizing and summarizing material, outlining, self assessment, including finding proper ways to test yourself as to whether you know material, time management for study and class preparation, developing exam-taking skills, and adopting a proper mind-set that allows you to be an increasingly active and expert learner.

The purpose of the course remains the same this second semester, but the focus for some of you may be different, based on how well you have already incorporated expert learning habits into your law school study life. One of my main jobs, serving primarily in a coaching role, is to help you properly assess where you are in your progress towards becoming an expert legal learner. This means I will be meeting with you individually as well as through the Monday classes.

While I will be primarily responsible for working with Section 1 students, other members of the ASP team may assist you and may participate in class activities from time to time. Professor Warren and I plan to work with each other to ensure that roughly the same emphases and assignments are provided in both sections of the course.

Workload Expectations: You will need to do work both in and out of class for this course. As the ABA has noted, at least two hours of out of class time are usually required for every hour of in-class time. While our course is non-credit, you should expect those same ABA guidelines to apply to our course. The good news for our course is that since all our course efforts are designed to help you succeed in your other courses, you should find that your Study Skills assignments for this course do double duty and count as hours of preparation both for this class and for your other classes.

Successful completion of the Study Skills class is a graduation requirement. Ultimately

assignments and exercises are pass/fail, but you must show mastery of important skills before you will be deemed to have satisfied the course requirement. This may mean that you will be required to redo assignments or exercises if you did not demonstrate mastery the first time. Assignments are intended to reinforce and to be based on what you are doing in your required doctrinal 1L classes.

As with all classes, regular attendance is part of successful completion of the Study Skills class. You should not miss any classes, and if you miss more than two sessions, you will likely be deemed to have failed this course and be required to repeat the program or its equivalent prior to graduation. As previously mentioned, individual meetings are also a required part of the class.

As with all your classes, you are expected to arrive on time to class. Please notify me in advance if you know you will need to be late. Tardiness without advance notice and approval is unprofessional. If you do need to enter the room after class begins, please do so quietly so as not to disturb the activities of the class. You may be counted as absent when entering the room late.

Scheduled assignments will be available as separate documents on the TWEN page. Please note that you have a reflection assignment due the first week of classes and are also required to schedule a first one-on-one meeting with me, with these meetings also starting the first week of classes.

I very much look forward to meeting and working with you this semester, and am very happy to be joining you as your newest Saluki. I expect to help each and every one of you achieve or maintain academic success that counts as such by your own lights. So let's get started!

Stan Cox

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

**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](http://www.bert.siu.edu), Department of Safety's website [www.dps.siu.edu](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:judiray@siu.edu), and her phone number is (618) 453-3135.