

**LAW 590-3 § 951**  
**Senior Writing Seminar**  
**Health Care Compliance**

Professor Holli Dethrow  
Fall 2024

**SYLLABUS**

**General Course Information**

Distance Learning

Synchronous via Zoom Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:00 pm – 7:15 pm

Email: hdethrow@outlook.com

Cell: 314-717-4740

Office Hours: As needed via Zoom

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This is a senior writing seminar that introduces students to the compliance function in various health-related settings and explores the basics of healthcare compliance. As a writing seminar, students will learn advanced research, writing, citation, and legal analysis skills, culminating in a substantial independent research paper. This course satisfies the School of Law’s Senior Writing Requirement which “requires the production of a paper or papers totaling a minimum of 7500 words in length, which must involve substantial research and analysis of one or more complex legal issues. The seminar shall include significant writing instruction. Faculty supervision of the student writing shall include individual formative and summative assessments, which should include at least one opportunity for students to have an individual conference with the instructor to discuss their work product and then rewrite that work product.” Article III (5)(b)(i)

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Define key terms and concepts commonly used in connection with compliance programs.
- Identify basic compliance issues, consult relevant sources of guidance on achieving compliance, and develop plans that address compliance challenges and mitigate risk.
- Articulate the need for a diverse and inclusive workforce, recognizing the impact of diversity and inclusion practices on healthcare organizations and patient outcomes.
- Analyze various laws and regulations that govern the healthcare system and understand how they are applied and enforced in the healthcare environment.

**COURSE TEXTBOOK:** There is no required textbook for this class.

**GRADING AND EVALUATION:** Research Paper (100% of final grade)

The SIU School of Law has adopted a credit hour policy in compliance with ABA Standard 310. According to ABA Standard 310(b)(1), “a “credit hour” is an amount of work that reasonably approximates: (1) not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and two hours of out-of-class student work per week for fifteen weeks, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount

of time.” This is a 3 credit-hour class, meaning that we will spend 3 hours together each week. The SIU School of Law rules do provide us with the opportunity to forgo up to four weeks of class meetings for intensive research, writing, and individual conferences on writing projects. Overall, you should plan on spending at least 9 hours each week on course-related work.

**ATTENDANCE:** There is a maximum of **TWO** unexcused absences for this course. A student will be withdrawn from the course on their third unexcused absence.

**PLAGIARISM:** Plagiarizing another's work, in whole or in part, is a violation of the Honor Code and can lead to serious penalties, including expulsion. An Honor Code investigation must also be reported to the Bar Examiners, even if you are cleared of any violation. The Honor Code defines plagiarism as:

passing off another’s ideas, words, or work as one’s own, including written, oral, multimedia, or other work, either word for word or in substance, unless the student author credits the original author and identifies the original author’s work with quotation marks, footnotes, or other appropriate designation in such a way as to make clear the true author of the work.

**COLLABORATION WITH OTHERS:** You are not allowed to obtain help from any other person (including any other student) or from generative artificial intelligence (including, but not limited to, ChatGPT and Lexis AI) on the required writing assignments in this course. This ban on collaboration includes obtaining written materials from any other person or generative artificial intelligence and communicating with any other person about the assignment. If you violate the ban on collaboration policy, you will receive a failing grade on that assignment. You also may be found in violation of the Honor Code, which can lead to serious penalties, including expulsion. An Honor Code investigation must also be reported to the Bar Examiners, even if you are cleared of any violation. When in doubt about how to proceed, ask me.

Collaboration does not include discussing course work; sharing and discussing ideas, authorities, and concepts; nor reading and critiquing another student’s course work. If at any point you have questions about what is permitted, contact me to discuss before submitting work.

**EMERGENCY PROCEDURES:** We ask that you become familiar with **Emergency Preparedness @ SIU**. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, on the Emergency Preparedness @ SIU website, and through text and email alerts. To register for alerts, visit <http://emergency.siu.edu/>.

**DISABILITY POLICY:** SIU Carbondale is committed to providing an inclusive and accessible experience for all students with disabilities. Disability Support Services coordinates the implementation of accommodations. If you think you may be eligible for accommodations but have not yet obtained approval, please contact DSS immediately at 618-453-5738 or [disabilityservices.siu.edu](http://disabilityservices.siu.edu). You may request accommodations at any time, but timely requests help to ensure accommodations are in place when needed. Accommodations and services are determined through an interactive process with students and may involve consideration of specific course design and learning objectives in consultation with faculty. Please send approved accommodations to your faculty through the DSS online portal.

**SALUKI CARES AND COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS):** 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) 453-2461, or [siucares@siu.edu](mailto:siucares@siu.edu), <https://salukicare.siu.edu/>. Associate Dean Sheila Simon [ssimon@siu.edu](mailto:ssimon@siu.edu) or (618) 536-8321) is available at the Simmons Law School to help students access university resources. Additionally, counseling services are available through CAPS ([\*Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\) | Student Health Services | SIU\*](#)). A counselor is at the law school every Wednesday from noon until 4:30pm in Room 268 for drop-in appointments.

**SAFETY AWARENESS FACTS AND EDUCATION:** Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here: <http://safe.siu.edu/>.

**ATTACHMENTS:** This Syllabus incorporates by reference the Law School Syllabus Attachment and the Provost Syllabus Attachment available on the course D2L page.

**SYLLABUS DISCLAIMER:** The syllabus is a statement of intent and serves as an implicit agreement between the instructor and the student. Information in the syllabus, other than grade and absence policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule, but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. Any changes to the schedule will be posted to D2L.

## **COURSE TOPICS AND WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

### **Week 1**

#### **Tuesday, August 20**

Class Topic: Course Introduction and Course Objectives; Intro to Healthcare Compliance; The Evolution of Compliance Programs; History and Benefits

#### **Thursday, August 22**

Class Topic: Intro to Healthcare Regulation; Interpretation of Regulations; Overview: Compliance Regulations and Guidelines; Key Enforcement Agencies and Responsibilities; paper topic selection and the scholarly research process.

### **Week 2**

#### **Tuesday, August 27**

Class Topic: An Introduction to the Fraud and Abuse Laws and Other Influential Healthcare Laws; Statutory Frameworks/Key Enforcement Laws

#### **Thursday, August 29**

Class Topic: A Compliance Plan and Program: Essential Considerations; The Seven Fundamental Elements of an Effective Compliance Program; Compliance Program Guidance

### **Week 3**

#### **Tuesday, September 3**

Class Topic: Review of previous class; paper topic selection and the scholarly research process.

#### **Thursday, September 5**

Class Topic: **PAPER TOPICS DUE**. Review of previous class; discussion of individual topics and status of research.

### **Week 4**

#### **Tuesday, September 10**

Class Topic: **NO CLASS**. In lieu of class meeting, prepare a list of questions/problems you are having with your writing and research to be discussed next class.

#### **Thursday, September 12**

Class Topic: Outlining and Authority gathering; continue discussion of individual topics and status of research

### **Week 5**

#### **Tuesday, September 17**

Class Topic: Individual reports on status of papers; questions/problems

#### **Thursday, September 19**

Class Topic: **OUTLINE DUE** and list of authorities due at end of class; presentation on draft outline of paper

### **Week 6**

#### **Tuesday, September 24**

Class Topic: Running an Effective, Ethical Compliance Program; Compliance Roles and Responsibilities; Auditing, Monitoring, and Risk Assessment

#### **Thursday, September 26**

Class Topic: Individual reports on status of papers. Practice hypotheticals regarding compliance, auditing and risk assessment

### **Week 7**

#### **Tuesday, October 1**

Class Topic: Evaluation Processes, Investigations, and Non-Compliance Response

#### **Thursday, October 3**

Class Topic: **DRAFT PAPERS DUE.** Time reserved for individual conferences with instructor on drafts.

**Week 8**

**Tuesday, October 8**

Class Topic: Lecture topic TBD.

**Thursday, October 10**

Class Topic: Discussion of individual topics and status of research.

**Week 9**

**Tuesday, October 15**

Class Topic: Lecture topic TBD.

**Thursday, October 17**

Class Topic: Time reserved for individual conferences with instructor on drafts.

**Week 10**

**Tuesday, October 22**

Class Topic: Lecture topic TBD.

**Thursday, October 24**

Class Topic: Lecture topic TBD.

**Week 11**

**Tuesday, October 29**

Class Topic: NO CLASS. Time reserved for individual conferences with instructor on final paper.

**Thursday, October 31**

Class Topic: NO CLASS. Time reserved for individual conferences with instructor on final paper.

**Week 12**

**Tuesday, November 5**

Class Topic: MEET- Individual presentations of papers.

**Thursday, November 7**

Class Topic: MEET- Individual presentations of papers.

**Week 13**

**Tuesday, November 12**

Class Topic: MEET- Individual presentations of papers.

**Thursday, November 14**

Class Topic: NO CLASS. Time reserved for individual conferences with instructor on final paper.

**Week 14**

**Tuesday, November 19**

Class Topic: NO CLASS. Time reserved for individual conferences with instructor on final paper.

**Thursday, November 21**

Class Topic: NO CLASS. Time reserved for individual conferences with instructor on final paper.

**Friday, November 22: Not a class day. FINAL PAPERS DUE by 5pm.**