



LAW 590-3
Senior Writing Seminar:
Human Trafficking
Spring 2026

Meeting Time and Place: TTH 3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. /LC 164
Course Credit Hours: 3 Credit Hours

FACULTY CONTACT INFORMATION: Professor Shelly Page Cheryl.page@siu.edu
Office Hours: M-Th - 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office: 210 Phone: 618-453-8120
Please Call Me for Any Additional Appointments Outside of These Times

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION: This Human Trafficking course is designed to help students gain a better understanding of contemporary human trafficking and modern-day slavery. During this course, students will learn key terminology in this field, the different types of human trafficking, and the scope of the problem, both domestically and globally. Students will also learn about the physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual trauma experienced by victims of Human Trafficking and the methods used to recruit and control them. The roles that entities such as government, the media, faith-based organizations, organized crime, and culture play in these complex human rights and social (in)justice issues will also be explored. (There are no prerequisites for this course).

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

My goal in this course is to assist you in developing the skills necessary to be effective attorneys in the field of human trafficking law. To be an effective advocate, you will be expected to come to class prepared (having studied and read the assignments as listed herein) and ready to participate in the course activities and discussions. The legal field demands that you be professional and prepared to assist your clients in their legal proceedings. At the end of the term, I expect that you will have a working knowledge of the basics of Human Trafficking, including 1. An understanding of the scope and magnitude of human trafficking, both domestically and internationally. 2. The ability to recognize and articulate the various forms of human trafficking and modern-day slavery that exist. 3. The ability to recognize the tools necessary to understand trafficking from the perspective of the victim and the multiple needs of survivors. 4. To learn key terminology associated with human trafficking. 5. To identify those factors known to be associated with human trafficking – the “push and pull” factors. 6. To recognize the roles that various disciplines/professionals have to play in anti-trafficking efforts. You should view this class as an opportunity to develop your lawyering skills, including the ability to closely read and comprehend legal opinions, the ability to analyze and synthesize case law, and the ability to advocate for a position both in writing and orally.

III. REQUIRED READING-TEXTS/MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE: The textbook for the course, *Human Trafficking*, 2nd Edition, Page & Piatt (2022). I will also assign additional readings, which I will provide in advance of the specific class.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS, ASSESSMENT (LEARNING OUTCOMES), AND EVALUATION METHODS: Specific skill goals include the following:

1. Students will master the following **case analysis** skills:
 - i. Identify the elements of a reported opinion: procedural facts, legally relevant facts, issues, holdings, reasons and policies, legal rules, and disposition.
 1. Synthesize a line of related opinions.
2. Students will master the following legal **problem-solving** skills:
 - i. Identify legal issues in simple and complex fact situations.
 - ii. Identify the relevant legal authority and policy.
 - iii. Identify potential alternatives to achieve the client's goal.
3. Students will be able to make an **effective legal argument** by:
 - i. Identifying the legal issues.
 - ii. Identifying the relevant facts, authority, and policy.
 1. Distinguishing unfavorable facts, authority, and policy.
4. Students will master the following **critical thinking** skills:
 - i. Evaluate cases, statutes, arguments, documents, and attorneys' actions and their effects on (1) clients, (2) the legal system, and (3) the community.
 - ii. Evaluate the strategy and ethics of applying different kinds of human rights and human trafficking laws and statutes to specific facts.
 - iii. Challenge assumptions made by judges, legislators, attorneys, students, professors, and themselves.
5. Students will experience basic lawyering skills, such as fact investigation and oral argument.

Attendance and Tardiness

Class will begin promptly on the designated days and times. Please review the Law School's regulations on attendance and tardiness as outlined in the Student Handbook; these will be strictly enforced. Please Note: You will not be permitted **to enter the classroom if you are more than 5 minutes late**. Please come to class and be on time.

Per the SH: No student may miss more than 20% of the scheduled class meetings in any course. This requirement IS NOT subject to modification by a professor. "Scheduled class meetings" is defined as the total number of classes scheduled for a particular course, pursuant to the school calendar.

Class Preparation and Participation

Class preparation and participation are **essential** to the learning process. The final grade may be reduced by one step (e.g., B- to C+) based on lack of class participation. In this regard, students will be selected at random to participate in discussions or answer

questions. Keep in mind, you cannot earn credit for class participation if you are not present. While you may have days to use as an absence, this may negatively impact your class participation credit.

Cellular Phones; Beepers

Cellular telephones, all electronic devices, electronic timers, watch alarms, etc. must be turned off during class.

Beverage consumption is allowed in class; food consumption is not allowed. As a courtesy to other students, once class has started, students are expected to remain for the duration of the class, except in an emergency.

GRADING: The grade for this course will consist of a short paper (5-10 pages) on a topic chosen by the student and pre-approved by the instructor. The short paper accounts for 20% of the total grade. The short paper is due to me 48 hours before your presentation. A brief presentation is also required. This presentation will cover the pre-approved topic and will last approximately 30-45 minutes (this may change depending on the number of enrolled students). This presentation accounts for 10% of the total grade. The remaining 70% of the grade will be based on the longer paper that must meet the upper-level writing requirements. (The short and long papers are on the same topic.) PLEASE SEE THE STUDENT HANDBOOK FOR THE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.

The SIU School of Law has adopted a credit hour policy in compliance with ABA Standard 310. Under the policy, “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. All told, applying the ABA standard to the number of credits offered for this class, you should plan on spending a total of 9 hours per week on course-related work (3 in class and 6 outside of class).

- v. **METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:** The class may consist of students collaborating and working together on projects.
- vi. **INFORMATION LITERACY/TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES:** D2L and SIU email will be utilized in the classroom.
- vii. **COURSE OUTLINE/ASSIGNMENT/UNITS OF INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:**

Schedule for Researching and Writing Your Papers:

Please adhere to the following schedule:

- **Topic Selection** – Students should select a topic in consultation with me PRIOR to Week 3 of the course. Topic selection is described in detail below.

- **Outline** – An outline MUST be submitted by Week 5. The outline should include a preliminary statement of your intended thesis or approach, the sources you plan to consult, and a preliminary plan for organizing the paper.
- **Preliminary Draft** – A paper MUST be submitted by Week 8. Each section of the paper should be substantially complete and should include footnote sources but need not include polished footnotes. Students will then meet with me to discuss the papers and formulate revisions.
- **Second Draft** – Your second draft should be a complete paper with polished footnotes. This will allow me (and perhaps other students) to provide substantive feedback on your analysis and proposal sections.
- **Short Paper is due 24 hours before your scheduled presentation.** This date will vary for each of you depending on your presentation schedule.
- **No Upper-Level Writing Requirement Needed** - If you have fulfilled your writing requirement and are not fulfilling your writing requirement in this course, the paper length for the short paper is five pages (1,250 to 1,500 words), and the long paper is 10 pages (2,500 to 3,000 words).
- **Final Paper** – **Completed papers must be delivered to me via email no later than April 24, 2026, by 12:00 p.m.** All citations should be in footnote form. Margins should be 1 inch (top, bottom, left, right), double-spaced (including footnotes), and the typeface should be 12-point Times New Roman. According to the Student Handbook, the word count is 6,500. That does not include footnotes. Please add your word count on the title page if you are using this as your writing requirement.

Deadlines

Topic confirmed: Week 3, January 29, 2026
Outline Submitted: Week 5, February 12, 2026
Preliminary Draft: Week 8, March 5, 2026
Consultation/Revision: March 17-26, 2026
Second Draft: April 2, 2026.
Consultation/Revision: April 2-16, 2026

All Papers Due: April 24, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.
Email all papers to Cheryl.page@siu.edu.

My office is 210 on the second floor. My telephone number is 618-453-8120. Please drop in or call me if you have questions or need to discuss something. You may also email me with questions at cheryl.page@siu.edu.

Course Book Reading:

January 13, 2026
pp. 3-20 (before note b.)
Video

January 15, 2026
pp. 20-41
Video

January 20, 2026
pp. 41-50
Video

January 22, 2026
pp. 51-68
Video

January 27, 2026
pp. 69-86
Video

January 29, 2026
pp. 86-101
Video

February 3, 2026
pp. 101-116
Video

February 5, 2026
pp. 116-133 (thru "k")
Video

February 10, 2026
pp. 133 (starting at l)-145 (end after #5 Waivers)
Video

February 12, 2026
pp. 145-169
Video

February 17, 2026
pp. 169-177

February 19, 2026
pp. 179-198

February 24, 2026
pp. 199-214

February 26, 2026

pp. 215-228

March 3, 2026

pp. 228-250

March 5, 2026

pp. 250-271

Presentation & Discussion

March 17, 2026

pp. 272-284

Presentation & Discussion

March 19, 2026

pp. 284-293

Presentation & Discussion

March 24, 2026

Presentation & Discussion

March 26, 2026

Presentation & Discussion

March 31, 2026

Presentation & Discussion

April 2, 2026

Presentation & Discussion

April 7, 2026

Presentation & Discussion

April 9, 2026

Presentation & Discussion

April 14, 2026

Presentation & Discussion

April 16, 2026

Presentation & Discussion

April 21, 2026

Presentation & Discussion

April 23, 2026

Presentation & Discussion

VIII. THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVISE, ALTER AND/OR AMEND THIS SYLLABUS, AS NECESSARY. STUDENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING AND/OR BY EMAIL OF ANY SUCH REVISIONS, ALTERATIONS AND/OR AMENDMENTS.

SYLLABUS ATTACHMENT

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. The Office of Access and Accommodations, formerly 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 OAA immediately at 618-453-5738 or 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, <https://salukicare.siu.edu/>. Associate Dean Shelia Simon 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 4:30 pm 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>