Course: Family Law 8751
Professor: June Carbone

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITE(S): none

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITE(S): Civ Pro I & II, Property I & II

METHOD OF GRADING AND APPRAISAL OF STUDENT FOR GRADE
Grade will be based on a final examination.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

The Family Law course explores the relationship of the law and the family. By the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Describe and apply the basic doctrines in the law designated "domestic relations" (marriage, divorce, custody, support), drawing upon Missouri statutes and contrasting approaches from other states.
2. Identify the issues that arise in drafting documents, negotiating agreements, and contrasting alternative ways to arrange family relationships.
3. Appreciate the differences between litigation and other ways to resolve family disputes, such as mediation.
4. Be aware of the role of attorneys in counseling, negotiating, litigating and planning in the context of family issues and disputes.

COURSE CONTENT:

Defining “Family”, Cohabitation, Entering Marriage, Duties and Responsibilities in the On-going Family, Dissolution, Child Custody & Support, Client representation, ADR Mechanisms used in Family law.

COURSE MATERIALS:
Required:
Harris, Teitelbaum & Carbone, FAMILY LAW (Fourth Ed. 2011)
Family Law Supplement (available online)

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES:
If you plan on a career in any area of domestic relations, civil or criminal, or juvenile law, this course is essential. Since all attorneys are regularly appointed to act as representatives of parents or children in termination of parental rights proceedings, this course is an essential introduction to this area of practice as well. Finally, almost every attorney is asked to help out friends or family members in their domestic relations matters.
RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR MO/MULTI-STATE BAR EXAM PREPARATION.

The Uniform Bar Exam does test Family Law from time to time; however, I urge students to avoid taking Family Law solely for this purpose. The bar tested aspects of the subject can be readily picked up in a bar review course.