UMKC School of Law Spring 2009

COURSE NUMBER: EDU 5557
COURSE NAME: Legal Aspects of Higher Education
PROFESSOR(s): Weddle

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITE(S):

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITE(S):

COURSE BOOK(S):


2. **Recommended**: TBA

METHOD OF GRADING AND APPRAISAL OF STUDENT FOR GRADE:
Grading will be based on short writing assignments, group projects, a final paper, and class participation. There will be no final examination.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:
If you want to serve effectively as counsel to university and college administrators, you will have to understand how your legal advice will look in their classrooms, offices, and hallways. If you want to serve effectively as a university or college administrator, you will have to understand how your administrative practices will look in a courtroom. In this course, law students and education students will examine federal and state law affecting institutions of higher education and will consider how that law should inform the philosophies and practices of university and college administrators in their dealings with faculty, staff, students, and other constituencies.

COURSE CONTENT:
Law students and higher education administration students will work together to translate legal principles into real-world administrative practice. Law and education students will often be paired as “attorney and client” and will work to resolve the kinds of problems typically encountered by university and college administrators. Law students will learn to tailor their advice to the practical realities faced by educators, and education students will learn to tailor their administrative approaches to the legal realities imposed by state and federal law. Both should leave the course with a deeper understanding of the law governing institutions of higher education, the interplay between legal and educational principles, and the ramifications of that interplay for both university administrators and university counsel.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES:
See above.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR MO/MULTI-STATE BAR EXAMINATION PREPARATION:
Because education law touches so many of the areas of law tested on the bar, law students should find their understanding of those areas refined and deepened. The study of education law necessarily includes, among other things, the study of contract, tort, property, employment, administrative, and constitutional law.