

## Summer 2024 Course Descriptions

3/19/2024

##: indicates courses that satisfy the advanced writing requirement (Academic Regulations 2.1 (2))

\*\*: indicates courses that satisfy the research requirement (Academic Regulations 2.1 (3))

^^: indicates courses that meet the skills requirement (Academic Regulations 2.1 (5))

### **B639 Advanced Legal Research ^^ (2) – Ahlbrand, A.**

Advanced Legal Research offers students an opportunity to gain in-depth working knowledge of legal research methods and resources. The course will emphasize use and comparison of a broad range of legal research tools, with a focus on electronic materials. The course will review the complete range of federal and state primary sources, diving deeper to cover topics critical to practical legal research, such as how to work with court dockets and how to track down superseded statutes; in addition, we'll introduce two other critical areas of legal research: legislative history and administrative materials (covered in greater detail in a separate 1-credit ALR course offered in the Fall). Special attention will be paid to effective and efficient research strategies, such as making smart use of secondary sources and practice aids when tackling unfamiliar areas of law. During the span of this course, students will become expert in the use of Lexis and Westlaw, but will also be introduced to a number of other subscription-based and free resources for conducting quality legal research. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to evaluate research options and make choices that best suit the widest possible variety of modern legal research situations.

This section will be offered in an asynchronous online format, meaning that the class will not meet at regular intervals for live instruction. Instead, instruction will take the form of course readings, recorded lectures, and other online resources, as assigned. Students will have several opportunities to assess their progress in the course, through a combination of shorter and more in-depth research assignments that will allow them to develop their skills not only at finding the best answers to research questions, but also at conveying the fruits of their research to others. In keeping with ABA regulations requiring substantive and meaningful interaction between instructor and student and among students, students will have the opportunity to participate in discussion board prompts on Canvas covering timely topics in law, such as the usefulness of generative AI in legal research. These discussion boards will form a substantial portion of their participation grade for the course.

Each student's course grade will be based on (1) research quizzes accompanying each module of the course, (2) a lengthier written research exercise, and (4) class participation.

### **B658 Law & Education: Legal Perspectives on Education (3) –**

This course prepares students to: 1) identify legal and ethical issues occurring in public PK-12 schools; 2) apply school/district policy and federal/state law to current legal/ethical dilemmas to formulate, articulate, and defend alternative solutions; 3) increase awareness about the importance of legal literacy for administrators, educators, policymakers, and others; 4) locate primary sources of law (i.e., federal/state statutes, regulations, and case law) needed to solve legal/ethical dilemmas and to stay abreast of evolving law; 5) collaborate with others to solve complex legal/ethical dilemmas; 6) communicate persuasively in oral and written form to advocate for themselves, colleagues, students, schools, and district; and 7) analyze diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice issues related to socio-economic status, race, ethnicity, national origin, language proficiency, disability, gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity. This cross-listed course is a School of Education course (EDUC-A608) which will be taught entirely online and follow the

School of Education calendar. Students are responsible for ascertaining applicable rules of relevant jurisdictions for bar exams/admission. Some jurisdictions limit the number of online hours. This course qualifies as one of the School of Education courses that is required for the **J.D. Minor in Education Policy**. Any law student may enroll in this course, but preference is given to Minor in Education Policy students. Therefore, students who are interested in enrolling or interested in declaring the minor must contact [Dr. Janet Decker](#) by March 20 for summer semester and April 1 for fall semester enrollment permission.

**B658 Law & Education: Advanced School Law (3) –**

This course analyzes current school legal, ethical, and policy issues from a district-level perspective. School leaders and policy makers need an in-depth understanding of several legal and ethical issues that impact schools. The Prerequisite for this course is: *Legal Perspectives in Education* (B658 Education Law/A608) or equivalent with consent from instructor. In *Legal Perspectives in Education* (B658/A608), students explore legal issues from a building-level perspective. Specifically within B658/A608, students discussed legal scenarios focused on teachers and principals. *Advanced School Law* (B658/A615) goes beyond *Legal Perspectives in Education* to examine other complex school legal issues at the district-level, including public employment contracts; collective bargaining and unions; conditions of employment; school choice, governance, and employment discrimination. This is a School of Education course (EDUC-A615) which will be taught entirely online. Students are responsible for ascertaining applicable rules of relevant jurisdictions for bar exams/admission. Some jurisdictions limit the number of online hours. The course also qualifies as one of the School of Education cross-listed courses that is required for the **J.D. Minor in Education Policy**. Any law student may enroll in this course, but preference is given to Minor in Education Policy students. Therefore, students who are interested in enrolling or interested in declaring the minor must contact [Dr. Janet Decker](#) by March 20 for summer semester and April 1 for fall semester enrollment permission.