Civ Pro I Assignment 1:  *OVERVIEW OF CIVIL PROCEDURE & INTRO TO JURISDICTION*

The first week’s assignment will familiarize you with US Federal Civil Procedure and its issues, policy and reasoning. This assignment should give you both a “big picture” and a “little taste” of many important issues in Civil Procedure. We will also look particularly at the concept of jurisdiction (the power of a court to hear and decide cases) and study one of the most famous jurisdiction cases in US Civil Procedure, one which began the process of defining Constitutional limits to the power of US courts--*Pennoyer v. Neff.*

Spaulding, Marcus, and Bisceglia law review article excerpts (Course Materials folder on TWEN).

Casebook, pp. 1-17, 56-78.

Supp: 28 USC 1332; FRCP 1, 11 & 12(b); US *Constitution*, Art. III, s2, Art. IV, s1 & Amend XIV, s1.

Fundamental Principles of Civil Procedure (Course Materials folder on TWEN)

\*”Preparing” for class includes reading the assigned material sufficient times to discuss it intelligently in class and briefing all cases in the assigned reading of the casebook, unless otherwise noted.  Use the week’s Focus Questions and Key Terms to guide your reading and preparation.

Case briefs should be 1-2 pages long and should contain the case name, jurisdiction, date, material facts, procedural posture or history, legal issues considered by the court, the court’s holding, and the court’s reasoning, including the rule of law which the court applied.   Any dissenting opinion and its reasoning should be noted.  Concurring opinions should be noted where the reasoning significantly departs from that of the majority or turns on a separate legal issue from the majority’s.  Case briefs are not taken up or directly graded, but you are expected to be able to discuss such information in class.  Thus, failing to prepare by briefing the cases can negatively impact your class participation grade.