

**John Marshall Law School**

Workers' Compensation Law

Fall 2014 Semester

Tuesdays 6:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Adjunct Professor Craig Henderson

Mediator

Georgia State Board of Workers' Compensation

Office hours: One hour before and after class and upon prior appointment

Telephone: 404 656 4412

E-mail: craighend12@bellsouth.net

**COURSE SYLLABUS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

**Course Overview:**

Workers' Compensation law deals with the management of claims and resolution of claims for work related injuries and illnesses. In an ever-changing workplace and economy, work related injuries and illnesses can have serious consequences for the injured worker, their families and dependents, and the businesses for which they work. The purpose of this course is to educate the student about the various concerns and principles within the workers' compensation system. As in many areas of the law, while individual state statutory schemes may differ in their particular form, the intention of this course is to provide a student with sufficient grounding in the fundamental principles so that adaptation to any particular system is possible. While every system may have different nuances in how they administer claims, they each address in some fashion the employer-employee relationship, causation of the injury or illness, and the administration of benefits.

**Course Format**

Surprising no one, the teaching format for this course will be primarily through class examination and discussion of the cases and materials in the required reading assignments. It is likely that time constraints will preclude in depth discussion of everything; nonetheless, students are required to read completely the assigned cases and sections for each class.

**Required Text**

The required text for the course is WORKERS' COMPENSATION, CASES AND MATERIALS, Seventh Edition, by Little, Eaton and Smith.

## **Class Participation**

Class participation is expected from every student. In order to benefit from this participation, as well as provide a benefit for other students, it is incumbent upon each student to fully complete the required reading before class. Discussion and questions in class are encouraged. As a practical matter, the more students participate voluntarily in classroom discussion it stands to reason that the teacher will have less time to explore a particular member of the class's occasional and accidental less than stellar preparation and grasp of the materials and cases being discussed. Additional assistance will be provided pursuant to the office hours noted above. Unless prior approval is given by the Associate Dean, students shall not tape or digitally record classes.

## **Attendance**

Students are reminded that it is the policy of John Marshall Law School that all students must attend at least 80% of scheduled classes. There are no excused or unexcused absences. Attendance will be taken by students signing in for each class. If a student misses more than the permitted number of classes, that student will be denied the right to sit for the exam, will be academically withdrawn, and will receive a W/F as a grade. Faculty cannot alter this policy.

## **Grading**

Grades will be based upon class participation, (5%), a mid-semester examination (15%), and a comprehensive written final examination (80%). The purpose of the mid-semester examination is to allow for an opportunity for each student to assess their grasp of the materials to that point as well as to gauge their ability to communicate their knowledge and understanding. This grading policy will be explored more fully in class.

## **Ethics and Professional Responsibility**

Students are expected to conduct themselves ethically and professionally in class. For purposes of this class, the above stated admonition simply means that as a law student, you are expected to conduct yourself as a future officer of the court. Students are expected to act respectfully towards themselves, their peers, and the education and profession they seek to join.

**Class Assignments: WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW, Seventh Edition, Little, Eaton and Smith).**

**Week 1 August 19, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 1, Sec. 1-4 pp.1-54; Chap. 2, Sec. 1-5, pp.55-83.

**Week 2 August 26, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 3 Section 1-7 pp. 85-156.

**Week 3 September 2, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chapter 3, Sec. 7-8 pp. 156-170; Chap. 4, Section 1-3, pp. 171-198

**Week 4 September 9, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 4, Sec. 4-7, pp.198-248.

**Week 5 September 16, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 4, Sec. 8, pp.248-256; Chap. 5, Sec. 1-6, pp. 257-303.

**Week 6 September 23, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 5, Sec. 7-8 pp. 303-319; Chap.6, Sec. 1-4,pp. 320-347.

**Week 7 September 30, 2014**

One hour Mid –Semester Examination

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 6, Sec 4-5 pp. 347-393.

**Week 8 October 7, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap 6, Sec 5-6, pp393-417; Chap. 7, Sec. 1-3, pp.419-442.

**Week 9 October 14, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 7, Sec. 4-7 pp. 442-474, Chap. 8, Sec. 1-2, pp. 475-498.

**Week 10 October 21, 2014**

**Little Eaton and Smith** Chap 8 Sec 3-5, pp. 498-551.

**Week 11 October 28, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 9, Sec 1-4, pp.553-612.

**Week 12 November 4, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 10, Sec. 1-8, pp. 613-637, Chap. 11, Sec. 1-2, pp. 639-669.

**Week 13 November 11, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 11, Sec. 2-5, pp. 670-720.

**Week 14 November 18, 2014**

**Little, Eaton and Smith** Chap. 12, Sec. 1-9 pp. 721-771.

Final Exam -To Be Announced.