

Additional Course Information (Descriptions and Permissions for LAW 520 and
Other Courses (updated 11/05/2020)

LAW 520 Courses

LAW 520B: State & Local Tax Law

The course provides students a foundation of state and local taxation systems, including: (i) the constitutional foundations of state and local taxation, including jurisdiction to tax, federal regulation of interstate and foreign commerce, federal and state constitutional requirements of equality and uniformity, and federal immunity from state taxation; (ii) the construction and application of state and local laws with respect to personal and corporate income tax, sales and use tax, and property tax; and (iii) an overview of state tax procedure. Students will develop an understanding of the framework of state and local taxation and how it fits within the overall federal taxation system, including the sources of inter-jurisdictional conflicts among states and the means, such as interstate compacts, used to resolve those conflicts.

LAW 520K: Topics in Native Hawaiian Law: The Public Trust Under the Hawai'i Constitution

Much of Hawai'i's uniqueness results from its natural and cultural resources. To assure their preservation, the Hawai'i Constitution provides that all public natural resources are held in trust by the State for the benefit of Hawai'i's people and the generations to come. The constitution also specifies that the "ceded" lands returned to Hawai'i upon its admission to the Union are held by the State in trust for the benefit of Native Hawaiians and the general public. This course explores the legal framework for Hawai'i's public trust doctrine, including the court decisions that have established vital fiduciary duties of the State to protect and conserve natural resources however they are utilized. Analysis of these decisions additionally considers the parties' litigation and case presentation strategies.

LAW520O: THE CURRENT SUPREME COURT IN FLUX

[Description is forthcoming]

LAW520P: MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT COMPLIANCE IN THE PACIFIC REGION

[Description is forthcoming]

LAW 520Q: BAR TOOLKIT

The Bar Exam Toolkit is a course designed to help students acquire the knowledge, skills, and habits that lead to success on the bar exam, specifically on the Multistate Bar Exam (MBE) (the multiple-choice portion of the bar exam). The course will provide students with an introduction to the content, test strategies, and study skills necessary to succeed on the MBE. In the course, students will complete and review hundreds of MBE questions. In the process, students will relearn and reinforce key substantive topics in Civil Procedure and Real Property while also practicing MBE specific test-taking skills. In addition, the course will inculcate successful learning strategies for bar exam preparation and teach students to apply the concepts of metacognition, spaced repetition, and retrieval practice to enhance their learning in the course, in law school, and during bar preparation.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION FOR OTHER COURSES

LAW 501: Organizing for Social Change (Matsuda)

In this class, students learn by doing: we study the history of and ideas about justice and social change, while students work to make change. There is no exam. The project is the basis of evaluation. Enrollment preference is given to students who have an identified organizing goal and an existing organization to work with. It is difficult, but not impossible, to organize others from scratch in one semester. In the past, successful projects have worked with existing organizations to meet some goal. For example, students worked with environmental organizations to implement the plastic bag ban, worked with community groups to keep jet skis out of fishing areas, and worked in schools to help students make demands for improvements in their educational environment. Students have also organized within the law school to achieve goals (establishing the immigration law clinic!) that they thought would improve legal education at WSRSL. There are many campus/student organizations, non-profits, and advocacy groups who would love to work with you.

If you would like to enroll in Organizing, please send a short paragraph identifying an organization/on-going change effort you plan to work with, and why this issue matters to you. **Please email your paragraph to lawreg@hawaii.edu and title your email to the Law Registrar's Office as "Organizing for Social Change Request for Enrollment" by Tuesday, November 10.**

After the 10th, Prof. Matsuda will review the submissions and notify the Law Registrar's Office of the students who can enroll in the class in the first week of the registration period.

Note: Normally, the best organizing is done "face to face." Given the current pandemic, there is absolutely no requirement that any of the work for this course happen in person. We will study tactics of digital and no-contact organizing.

Keep your request for enrollment simple. Here is a suggested template:

1. What: The goal
2. Who: The organization/constituency
3. Why: This matters to me because... (Optional: feel free to add a bit about who you are, if that is useful in explaining why you want to take this course)

LAW 590B: Prosecution Clinic

Typical Course Credit: 2-4

This class teaches litigation skills through the prosecution of real, minor criminal cases and the simulation of a major civil trial. After about three weeks of classroom discussions and simulations, students prosecute real traffic and misdemeanor cases for the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. The classroom component meets throughout the semester and is designed to meet the needs of students interested in both civil and criminal litigation. Courtroom work is supervised by Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys. Simulated cases are critiqued by the faculty and practicing lawyers. The course can be taken as a 2, 3 or 4 credit class. The 2 and 3-credit options have fewer court appearances and class meetings, and does not include the mock civil trial which uses expert witnesses. Co-requisite: Evidence (LAW 543).

PREREQUISITES REQUIRED: [LAW 543 - Evidence](#)

LAW 590K: Entrepreneurship & Small Business Clinic

For the Spring Term, the Entrepreneurship and Small Business Clinic will be making some exciting changes. It will be open to ALL students, including those who have already taken the Clinic, but registration will be subject to the instructor's approval. The topics covered will be different from the Fall . . . we will cover Mergers and Acquisitions, Licensing Agreements, Strategic Partnerships, Fundraising and Securities Laws, Tax Law, Hiring and Employment Law, Intellectual Property, and other subjects, as they relate to startups, high growth companies, and small businesses.

The client work will be similar to the Fall term, i.e. business formations, contract preparation and review, trademark registrations, etc., which will entail on-the-job training.

If you are interested, please send me (grkim@hawaii.edu) a one paragraph statement of interest by Friday, November 13.

Students who are admitted will be informed before registration begins, and given an override to register for the class.

LWEV527C: Environmental Trial Practice

Tuesday 7:50-9:00 p.m.; Thursday 7:25-8:45 p.m. via zoom

TRIAL: Saturday, May 1, 2020 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

This class will teach you the skills you need to try an environmental case in front of a judge (not a jury), pursue injunctive relief, or participate in a contested case hearing. It will teach you how to draft findings of fact, conduct cross examination, apply the rules of evidence, and use documents in a trial. You will learn by doing -- and re-doing. You will also discover whether you really want to litigate.

You should not take this class if you: hate environmental law; despise speaking in public, or thinking on your feet, or shudder at the thought of objecting.

This class is limited to 8 students.

Evidence is a prerequisite.

J-Term Courses

Course descriptions for J-Term Classes are forthcoming.