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DEPARTMENT: Educational Studies, Leadership and Counseling
COURSE NUMBER: PSE 710       CREDIT HOURS: 3
TITLE: Higher Education and the Law

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITE(S): The course examines legal issues relevant to American colleges and universities to provide educational leaders with the fundamental knowledge of higher education law for administrators. Key legal principles that may impact professional practice in higher education include the legal governance of higher education, academic freedom, affirmative action, and issues pertinent to faculty, staff, and students. Permission of the instructor is required.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: As a result of participation in this course, the student will be able to
• Demonstrate an understanding of basic legal concepts and terminology;
• Utilize appropriate legal research sources;
• Describe the legal structure and governance of higher education;
• Articulate an understanding of key legal principles impacting the operations of higher education institutions;
• Demonstrate the ability to apply legal concepts from an administrative perspective;
• Examine regulatory issues in higher education that impact administrative practice.

CONTENT OUTLINE:
• Legal concepts, terminology and resources
• Federal and state law
• Legal structure and governance of higher education
• Regulatory issues in higher education
• Organizational and personal liability
• Students and the law (admissions, dismissals, misconduct, freedom of expression, FERPA)
• Student organizations and the law (student press, organizations)
• Faculty and the law (academic freedom, tenure, and promotion issues)
• Higher education and the workplace (affirmative action, ADA, employment issues)

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:
• Video lecture and discussions
• Online discussion via Canvas
• Small group activities
• Problem-based research projects
• Reading contemporary articles
FIELD, CLINICAL, AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:
Various assignments will require students to interact with practitioners outside Murray State University.

TEXT(S) AND RESOURCES:

EVALUATION, ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING PROCEDURES:
Evaluation of grades will be determined by assignments, projects based on text, supplementary readings and videos in professional journals, presentations, and class discussions. Late assignments will receive a deduction of 10% the total point value for each day late. Due dates can be found in the Canvas course shell.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy Critique (2x20pts)</td>
<td>40 pts</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board (DB) Post (3x10pts)</td>
<td>30 pts</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crisis Response (2x15pts)</td>
<td>30 pts</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online Quizzes (2x10pts)</td>
<td>20 pts</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total (100 pt scale / 10 pts per letter grade)</td>
<td>120 pts</td>
<td>100%</td>
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A = 90 – 100%
B = 80 – 89%
C = 70 – 79%
D = 60 – 69%
E = below 60%

A brief description for each assignment is provided below. Detailed instructions for each assignment can be found in PSE 710 Canvas Course Shell > Getting Started > Semester Assignments Overview.

Policy Critique:
Students will receive a case brief applicable to higher education and be asked to critique a Murray State policy related to the ruling. Students will be responsible for interpreting the case brief, critiquing the current policy, and rewriting (if applicable) the policy to reflect the ruling.

Discussion Board [DB] Posts:
Students will receive a discussion prompt from the instructor relevant to past readings. Direct responses to the DB prompt as well as fellow students’ posts are expected.

Crisis Response:
Students will be given a detailed case study involving a campus crisis where immediate action is required. Responses will address: 1. applicable legal statute(s) and/or institutional policy (and why), 2. stakeholders and resources, 3. prioritized institutional response plan, and 4. (potential) unintended consequences. Classmates will critique your response to the crisis and offer recommendations as part of the grade.
Online Quizzes:
Students will complete FERPA and Title IX tutorials and quizzes. The quiz completion page is required for proof of completion.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy outlined in the current MSU Bulletin.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:
Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students’ academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

Violations of Academic Honesty include:
Cheating - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.
Fabrication and Falsification - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.
Multiple Submission - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.
Plagiarism - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one’s own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

Instructors should outline their expectations that may go beyond the scope of this policy at the beginning of each course and identify such expectations and restrictions in the course syllabus. When an instructor receives evidence, either directly or indirectly, of academic dishonesty, he or she should investigate the instance. The faculty member should then take appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:
1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.
If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of E in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.
Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days. Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Equal Opportunity. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT:
Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Executive Director of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access, 103 Wells Hall, (270) 809-3155 (voice), (270) 809-3361 (TDD).