Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

PLAW 205
FOUNDATIONS OF LAW

COURSE DESCRIPTION
An introduction to the theological and philosophical foundations of law, including the Augustinian concept of antithetical thinking; the Creator/creature distinction; the development of higher/natural law thinking; the basis for the distinction between the judicial and prudential methods of analysis; the origins and jurisdictional boundaries of family, church, and state; the schools of jurisprudence; and the biblical basis for the fundamental principles underlying the several courses that comprise the basic curriculum.

RATIONALE
In law schools throughout this country, students are taught tertiary law, a constitutional misnomer, to the exclusion of primary and secondary law. Students are taught the law divorced from its historical meaning and Christian foundation. When its rich history is ignored or re-written and the Judeo-Christian tradition of law and justice is abandoned, law becomes a cold instrument of power – a mere utilitarian tool. Manifestations of specific laws are only as good as the hub to which they are connected. A proper worldview is important to the study and practice of law because the manifestations of law (sometimes referred to as “positive” law) are only as grounded as the first principles that form the basis of a person’s worldview.

I. PREREQUISITES
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Word
   (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Identify the distinctives of a Christian worldview.
B. Explain the relevance of the cultural mandate to those involved in the legal profession.
C. Identify the obstacles to formation and ratification of the Constitution.
D. Describe the significant role religion played in forming the United States of America.
E. Describe the Biblical roots of American constitutional government.
F. Explain how the modern judiciary undermines the Constitution and our liberties.
G. Explain how Congress has used the General Welfare clause to improperly expand its authority.
H. Identify the errors in the proposition that there is a “wall of separation” between church and state.
I. Identify appropriate responses to the secular attacks on the Constitution.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings, articles, and presentations
B. Course Requirements Checklist
   After reading the Course Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
C. Discussion Board Forums (3)
   There are 3 Discussion Board Forums, and each forum is over a two-week period. One thread of 250–300 words is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Modules/Weeks 1, 3, and 5. Two replies of 100–150 words each are due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Modules/Weeks 2, 4, and 6. A minimum of one source must be cited for each post.
D. Short Essays (2)
   There will be 2 short essays of about 400–550 words each, completed in Bluebook format. A minimum of 2 sources must be cited for each essay.
E. Final Exam Essay
   The student will be given 2 hours to complete a cumulative, open-book/open-notes final exam essay with 3 short essay questions.
F. Quizzes (3)
   There will be 3 open-book, open-note quizzes with multiple-choice and true/false questions. Students will be given 1 hour to complete a 25-question quiz by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of Modules/Weeks 3, 5, and 7. Quiz 1 will cover the course material from Modules/Weeks 1–3, Quiz 2 will cover the course material from Modules/Weeks 4–5, and Quiz 3 will cover the course material from Modules/Weeks 6–7.
VI. Course Grading and Policies

A. Points

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Board forums</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threads (3 at 75 pts ea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Replies (3 at 25 pts ea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes (3 at 50 pts ea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Essays (2 at 150 pts ea)</td>
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<td>Final Essay Exam</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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B. Scale

A = 900–1010   B = 800–899   C = 700–799   D = 600–699   F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Quizzes/Exam

For the quizzes and final exam, you will receive a 10 point deduction for every 5 minutes, or any portion thereof, over the time limit (thus one minute over is a 10 point deduction; 6 minutes over is a 20 point deduction).

E. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
COURSE SCHEDULE
PLAW 205


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK/MODULE</th>
<th>READING &amp; STUDY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
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<td>Beliles &amp; Anderson: chs. 13–14 1 presentation 1 article</td>
<td>Final Exam Essay</td>
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TOTAL 1010

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week (except week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.