

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
PROFESSOR YAROSHEFSKY
Tues-Thurs

10:10-11:30 am
Room 238

FALL 2017

COURSE OVERVIEW

This is a 3 credit course about the law governing a lawyer's professional obligations. It is a survey course that includes lawyering in transactional settings as well as in litigation. We discuss both criminal and civil contexts. One of the course's goals is to expose you to a wide range of ethical issues that lawyers confront. We focus upon practical problems in the profession. The textbook is oriented to the practice of law. We will use simulations in this course to engage you in law practice.

Throughout this course we will make reference to both the Model Rules of Professional Conduct and New York's Rules of Professional Conduct. You should familiarize yourself with the Model Rules before the first class. Read the Table of Contents first.

This course is not a substitute for the MPRE review course.

I expect that you will exhibit high standards of professionalism in this class. I will engage the class as if you are attorneys in a law office and you have encountered ethics issues.

Required Books:

--Gillers, Regulation of Lawyers, 10th ed., Wolters Kluwer (2015)

--Gillers and Simon, Regulation of Lawyers, Statutes and Standards
You may use the new edition or any edition from 2011 onward.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to learn the Rules of Professional Conduct and demonstrate knowledge of the ethics rules, law and other regulations governing the conduct of lawyers. There is an emphasis upon the connections between the law of lawyering and other areas of the law such as torts, contracts, criminal law and procedure, securities regulation and corporate law. Students will develop ability to analyze ethical issues in a range of legal contexts and will demonstrate an understanding of the methodology by which lawyers engage in decision-making when confronted with ethical dilemmas.

Class Preparation

You are expected to be prepared for class. This includes completion of the readings with reference to the applicable Model Rules provisions. The reading is often uneven. You should be prepared to discuss the assigned problems. You will be called upon randomly. I encourage class participation.

Please insure that you are using your laptops ONLY for taking notes during class. Shopping online, emailing, playing games and other improper uses of your computer during class are not permitted. This will affect your grade.

I may prohibit the use of laptops for certain classes.

Class Attendance

Attendance is required and will be taken. You have two unexcused absences in the semester. If you cannot attend class, you must notify me in advance by email. My email is yaroshef@hofstra.edu.

Grades

Your grade will be based upon a combination of:
final examination,
class participation,
attendance.

The final examination accounts for approximately 70% of your grade.

Final Examination

The final examination is an in class one. It consists of multiple choice and essay questions. The examination is based upon class discussion and assigned readings. It is a three hour examination.

Consultation Hours

My office hours are Mondays 2-4 pm and Thursdays Noon-2 pm. You can reach me via e-mail at yaroshef@hofstra.edu if you wish to set up an appointment during other hours. My telephone number is 516-463-5882.