Please Note: The schedule below is tentative and subject to change.

Instructor:
Shamika Dalton
175A Holland Hall
(352) 273-0702
sdalton@law.ufl.edu

Office Hours: Monday 1:00-3:00 p.m.
(and whenever my office door is open)

Class Schedule:
Thursdays 2:00 pm – 3:50 pm
AC 210

Course website: Accessible through UF e-Learning (Canvas): https://lss.at.ufl.edu/.


Course Objectives:
The fundamental objective of this course is to improve students’ legal research skills beyond the basic concepts taught in the first-year curriculum. To do that, we will analyze the development, interaction, and organization of laws and legal sources in federal, state, and local jurisdictions and in print and electronic formats. Students will learn cost-effective legal research strategies to prepare for legal practice and students will have the opportunity to develop a research expertise on a chosen legal topic (see “Final Project” description below).

Grading:
The components of the final grade for the course are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework Assignments</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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Final Project:
The final project for this course is a paper of at least 15 pages in length that (1) analyzes the legal research resources available in all formats on a legal topic of your choice (I will provide a list of topics for your consideration) and (2) describes and analyzes your research process in finding those resources. The goal of the final project is to develop a research expertise in an area of law that interests you and/or one in which you intend to practice upon graduation.

The final project is due on or before 5:00 pm the last day of class (Thursday, April 14, 2016).

I will grade the final project on criteria including, but not limited to, the following:

- Difficulty of legal topic
- Range of sources consulted and demonstration of completeness of research
- Analysis, justification, and self-critique of your legal research process
- Attention to course themes
- Written, professional format and presentation
- Attention to detail
Homework Assignments:  
Assignments will be posted on the course website (in the “Assignments” tab) after class. The due date for each assignment is 5:00 p.m. the Monday following class. Students must work individually on assignments, unless otherwise indicated.

Quiz:  
There will be one closed-book quiz distributed during the semester. The quiz will test course concepts, readings, and research strategies.

Participation:  
Participation points are determined by attendance, preparation for class, and active participation in class.

Disability Accommodation:  
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Academic Honesty and Code of Conduct:  
Students must adhere to the UF Honor Code and the UF Conduct Code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Schedule</th>
<th>Before Class Preparation</th>
<th>In-Class</th>
<th>Homework Assignment</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| January 7      | • Review Syllabus        | • Review Syllabus  
                  |             | • Information Literacy Lecture  
                  |             | • Information Literacy In-Class Exercise  
                  |             | • Information Literacy Homework (located in the “Assignment” tab) |
| January 14     | • Information Literacy Homework Due | • Information Literacy Continued  
                  |             | • Big Picture Themes  
                  |             | • In-Class Exercise  
                  |             | • No Homework |
| January 21     | • Armstrong & Knott, pgs. 89-102, 137-148  
                  | • General Secondary Sources Lecture  
                  | • Secondary Sources In-Class Exercise  
                  | • No Homework |
| January 28     | • Review Subject-specific PowerPoint and readings  
                  | • Subject -Specific Secondary Sources Cont’d.  
                  | • International Legal Research  
                  | • No Homework |
| February 4     | • Armstrong & Knott, pgs. 220-224  
                  | • Federal and State Statutes Lecture  
                  | • Federal and State In-Class Exercise  
                  | • No homework |
| February 11    | • Be prepared to conduct statutory research in print sources.  
                  | • Statutes In-Class Exercise (in the library)  
<pre><code>              | • Statutes Homework Assignment (located in the “Assignment” tab”) |
</code></pre>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Homework/Dates</th>
<th>Topics/Assignments</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</table>
| February 18 | • **Statutes Homework Due**  
  Armstrong & Knott, pgs. 63-88                                                                 | • Legislative History Lecture  
  Legislative History In-Class Exercise                                  | • No homework                                                                       |
| February 25 | • Armstrong & Knott, pgs. 103-136                                             | • Case Law Lecture  
  Case Law In-Class Exercise                                                   | • No homework                                                                       |
| March 3     | • N/A                                                                           | • No-Class Spring Break                                                          | • No Homework                                                                       |
| March 10    | • Be prepared to conduct case law research in *print* sources (aka, digests)    | • Cases In-Class Exercise (*in the library*)                                      | • Mid-term. Midterm will be available online beginning 3/11 – 3/13. Once you access the exam online, you will have 8 hours to complete it and submit online. |
| March 17    | • Armstrong & Knott, pgs. 149-175                                              | • Administrative Law Lecture  
  Administrative Law In-Class Exercise                                           | • No homework                                                                       |
| March 24    | • Review Administrative Material from last week                               | • More Administrative Law                                                         | • No homework                                                                       |
| March 31    | • Prepare for quiz (*study guide located in the “Module” tab*)                 | • Quiz                                                                           | • **Big Pic Themes Worksheets (located in the “Assignment” tab)**               |
| April 7     | • **Big Pic Themes Homework Due**  
  Armstrong & Knott, pgs. 189-195; pgs. 220-224                                     | • Local Legislation/Court Rule/Dockets Lecture  
  Local Legislation/Court Rules/Dockets In-Class Exercise                      | • No homework                                                                       |
| April 14    | • **Final Projects Due**                                                       | • Evaluation  
  Review Quiz  
  Review Big Pic Themes Worksheets                                               | • No homework                                                                       |