

Online Orientation: Women & Law

This course was originally going to take place in person, but we are moving right ahead with flexibility, patience, and positive energy. Taking an online course can be exciting and satisfying for a multitude of reasons -- you'll be able to work at your own pace within the assignment windows of the class, you can carry on with your careers, care-taking responsibilities, etc., and you can feel a more relaxed atmosphere, bringing the classroom to you wherever you are. Each time you "connect" with our course, you will find new content, comments on your work, discussions ongoing through Canvas, exciting news and links and more.

Learning online presents its own rewards and challenges. Due to its unusual availability, you may find that learning online does not easily fit in your schedule the way an in-person class might, because you are responsible for setting your own time to work on the course. It may be difficult to process all the information you receive, particularly if it all lands in your lap at once. It can also be disconcerting to express your opinions in text form without having a clear mental picture of who is "listening" to you, but please rest assured that I am here for you!

Instructor Contact

The best way to contact me is via email: sfrank9@wisc.edu. Please write me an email with "Hello" or a proper greeting and make sure to sign your name as you prefer to be called so I don't incorrectly default to the UW system name given to you. Please let me know how I can help you or what you've found that we can discuss! No need to tell me which class you are in -- this is my only course for Summer 2020.

You can also book appointments to talk with me in my "Virtual Office" by visiting <https://meetwithfrankie.youcanbook.me> for my updated weekly schedule. You don't have to send me an email or ask when I am free to meet, you can just make an appointment and reserve some time bubbles and I'll meet you via Zoom during the time you select! It's super easy and makes it so that I'm available for students regularly for any variety of meetings and requests.

Let's talk about the way our course will be held this summer:

Lectures/Instruction

- During each week, I will hold lecture Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 am - 11:00 am on BBCollaborate
 - Click on "BBCollaborate Ultra" on the left sidebar
 - You'll find scheduled "sessions" which are times when I will be giving lectures
 - Typically, I have PowerPoint slides shared alongside the video

- All lectures (sessions) will be recorded for students who need to watch content at a different time
- Recordings can be accessed in BBCollaborate by clicking the three gray lines on the left corner of the black "BBCollaborate" banner
- All recordings will have a date and the theme of the lecture
- From about 10:00 - 10:30, I will give a lecture or talk about important elements of the topic we are focused on
- From 10:30-11:00, the session will be open for questions, comments and discussion.
- The course is a blend of asynchronous and synchronous to meet the needs of all students.

Schedule & Required Content

- The best place to start is with "Modules" or click "Schedule & Modules" from the course home page on Canvas
- The course is divided into three "Parts" that serve as markers for the assessments
- Each page you see is grouped by "Week" starting with Week 1, ending with Week 8
- Inside these pages, you'll find a schedule for Monday-Thursday
 - Each day, there is a topic/theme of the class that hones our focus for readings, lectures, etc.
 - Under each day, you'll see "Required Content" which refers to readings, videos and other homework that corresponds with the lecture of that day, just like an in-person class
 - Some days also have "Action Items/Assignments" under which you will see activities or assignment links and due dates.
- I do not do "reading checks" and I don't monitor when students open or click on links or uploads
- If you don't keep with the day-by-day schedule, that's completely okay!
- I recommend that you complete all the work assigned within the same week so that you do not fall behind.
- Assignment due dates are posted and work must be submitted by those dates.

Student Participation

- Please feel welcome to share your comments, questions, ideas, perspectives -- all of your experiences and inquiries are important to me as your instructor
- I want you to succeed and I want you to know that I am here for your questions and to support your learning every step of the way
- There are many ways to participate in this course:
 - You can make comments or ask questions during lectures
 - Leave comments or ask questions of others' discussion posts or engage with material someone else has posted
 - Tweet with relevant course material -- you can include me @teachingfrankly and #womenandlaw

- You can send interesting news articles and relevant links that I will share with the class (or if you just want to talk about it via email or during office hours, that's great too!

Assessments

- Even when I am teaching in-person, my assessments are online and open-note, open-book, open-internet
- They are not open to collaboration. You may not work with other students, friends, family, tutors, teachers, etc.
- Assessments are not cumulative.
- They take the form of multiple choice, true/false, select all that apply and short answer questions.
- There is always a reflection question at the end.

Discussions

- There will be some required discussion posts in this course that are graded for completion or thoroughness
 - I'm using discussions rather than a "blog" post every week
 - Discussion board posts are visible to all students in the class
- When a discussion is assigned, I absolutely invite you to read the work of other students in the class -- the people in here are brilliant and worth talking to
- However, please know that I will not require people to respond to x amount of peers and have a back and forth, etc.

UW Madison Resource Page

- On our home Canvas page, I have a link to UW Madison Student Resources
- You are all entitled to these services at students enrolled in a UW Madison course
- I continually update this page and will do so through the summer if needed.