



# Some Information About the Exam

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## Exam Information

- It's been another semester where – because of covid and other things going on at the administrative level – I couldn't pin down specifics about the exam until late in the semester.
- But things have firmed up enough I can provide specifics in these slides.
- And very soon, I will provide an “exam prospectus,” a document with full details on how the exam will be structured and how I recommend studying.

#### Exam Information

### Format

- Part I of the exam (worth 1/2 of the exam grade) will be 90 minutes in duration and will consist of multiple choice questions – approximately 37 or so. This Part I portion of the exam will be totally closed-book, with no materials allowed and no scratch paper.
- Part II of the exam (worth 1/2 of the exam grade) will be essay. It will have a total duration of two hours, divided up as follows: (1) a Reading Outlining Period of 30 minutes, and (2) an Exam Writing Period of 90 minutes. This Part II portion of the exam will be open-book with materials limited to paper-based notes and books. You can use a computer (tablet, laptop) locked down with exam software to type your response. No ebooks, no accessing electronic files, no accessing web, internet, etc.

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### Regarding Details on What You Are Allowed

- *Can you use headphones?*
- *Can you have food?*
- *Can you have a watch?*
- *Can you have tabs and binders for your paper-based notes for the open-book Part II essay portion?*
- **All of these questions and more are already answered in Syllabus § 10-5(b). Please look there.**
- If you still have questions after looking at that, I'd be grateful to get those questions now by email so I can answer them in writing in the exam prospectus.

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### Some Pitfalls to Avoid

- Make sure you comply with all exam instructions!
- That includes allowed materials, obeying time limits, not disassembling exam booklets, etc.
- Do not omit to put your exam ID number everywhere it is required, and make sure you use the number you've been assigned for this semester.
- Do not omit turn back in the exam booklets, answer sheets, scratch paper, etc. exactly as instructed and when instructed.
- I am very strict about all that stuff.

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### Some Study Tips

- Use my Exam Archive! It is very extensive. Doing old essays and released multiple-choice questions is likely your best bang-for-the-study-hour.
  - [http://ericejohnson.com/exam\\_archive/](http://ericejohnson.com/exam_archive/)
  - You can outline the old essays you don't have time to do fully.
  - This is great study-group stuff: Compare your results with others to see what they got.
- Read my tip sheets on exam technique! I've written two on essays, one on multiple-choice. They give you detailed advice on how to succeed.
  - (Look in the Exam Archive. They're at the top.)

## Some More Study Tips

- For multiple-choice, don't "go with your gut" and finish early. Be diligent and analytical. Note that I try hard to avoid tricky questions. If you know the law, I *want* you to get the right answer. Work the questions with that in mind.
- For the essay, I don't give points for mere recitation of law. I also don't give points for reciting facts. Rather, I reward *legal analysis*. That means mixing **law** and **facts** to create **legal conclusions**. Say "because" and/or "therefore" a lot to ensure you're showing your reasoning. See my "**making purple**" analogy in my *Tip Sheet on How to Write a Law School Essay Exam*.
- I strongly suggest you make and use a "menu outline" – a concise list of what you've learned this semester that you can bring to bear on the essay. I say more about this in the *Tip Sheet on How to Write a Law School Essay Exam*.