



Some Information About the Exam

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Exam Information

- Because of concerns over covid and other things going on at the administrative level, I couldn't pin down specifics about the exam at the beginning of the semester.
- But I am now providing some 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 two hours in duration and will consist of multiple-choice questions – approximately 50 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.

Exam Information

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.

Exam Information

Repeating 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/
 - 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.
- If you haven't already, 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.)

Exam Information

Repeating some more key 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*.