

**SYLLABUS  
LAW 1388  
LEGAL PROFESSION  
Fall Semester 2007  
Professor Victor Streib  
Ohio Northern University**

**Course Description**

This course is required for graduation at ONU and at all other law schools in the United States. Legal Profession is the only substantive course required by the ABA law school accreditation process, which states: *A law school shall require of all students in the J.D. degree program instruction in the history, goals, structure, duties, values, and responsibilities of the legal profession and its members, including instruction in the Model Rules of Professional Conduct of the American Bar Association.* In addition, all but three states (MD, WA, & WI) require the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) as part of being admitted to the bar and receiving a license to practice law. Finally, this course investigates the law of lawyering, a fascinating example of self-regulation in a major profession. Therefore, this course is designed to satisfy a graduation requirement, to acquaint you with materials tested on the MPRE, and to teach you about the legal profession which you seek to join. A complete list of the topics covered can be found on pages 2 and 3 of this syllabus.

**Course Textual Materials**

DEBORAH L. RHODE & DAVID LUBAN, LEGAL ETHICS (Foundation Press; 4th ed.; 2004)

VICTOR L. STREIB, ABA MODEL RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT and ABA MODEL CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT (2006-2007 edition) (course handout; pick up from Barb Roberts (office #192) or download from [www.law.onu.edu/faculty/streib/streib.htm](http://www.law.onu.edu/faculty/streib/streib.htm))

**Course Instructor**

The instructor for this course is Professor Victor Streib, who began teaching law courses in 1971 and legal profession courses in 1981. Professor Streib is a former prosecuting attorney and a former defense attorney, and he currently serves as an expert witness and as an appellate lawyer in death penalty cases. He has represented clients before trial courts, appellate courts, state supreme courts, and the United States Supreme Court. Professor Streib's office is in room #178, his office telephone is (419) 772-2207, his home telephone is (419) 634-5241, and his email address is [v-streib@law.onu.edu](mailto:v-streib@law.onu.edu). His regular office hours for Fall Semester are Wednesdays and Thursdays at 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Other times by chance or appointment.

## Course Grade

The final grade for this two credit course will be derived by combining the final examination grade and the class participation grade. Ninety percent (90%) of the final course grade will be based upon the final examination score, and ten percent (10%) of the final course grade will be based upon class attendance and participation. Extra term papers, additional reading and similar efforts, while encouraged, will not be considered in computing the final course grade. The final examination is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 13, 2007, and will be a closed book examination, including in part short essay questions and in part multiple choice questions similar to those on the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination. Professor Streib will discuss the final examination for this course and his expectations concerning it during several class sessions.

## Course Schedule and Attendance

This class normally meets on Thursday afternoons, 4:00-5:40 p.m. Students are expected to have studied the reading assignment thoroughly prior to each class meeting and to attend class prepared to discuss the reading and concepts therein. All students are expected to attend all class meetings. Any and all absences from class will have a negative effect on your grade. Absence from more than three class meetings will result in the student being administratively withdrawn from the course unless the law college's withdrawal deadline has passed, in which case the instructor reserves the right to enter a failing grade for the course. No excused (uncounted) absences are permitted, and no "unprepared" claims will be honored.

Class topics and readings assignments are as listed below:

<u>READING ASSIGNMENT</u>			
<u>DATE</u>	<u>CLASS TOPIC</u>	<u>CASEBOOK</u>	<u>MODEL RULES</u>
08-23-2007	American Legal Profession	pp. 51-102	1.0, 1.1, 8.1, 8.3, 8.4
08-30-2007	Lawyers as Advocates	pp. 136-174	1.2, 1.3, 3.1 to 3.4
09-06-2007	Alternative Advocacy Roles Client Confidentiality	pp. 174-208 pp. 234-247	3.5, 4.2 1.6, 1.16, 3.3
09-13-2007	Client Confidentiality & Attorney-Client Privilege	pp. 247-299	1.2, 1.6, 1.13, 3.3
09-20-2007	Criminal Prosecutors & Defense Attorneys	pp. 300-333 pp. 341-356	3.1 to 3.8

<b>DATE</b>	<b>CLASS TOPIC</b>	<b>READING ASSIGNMENT</b>	
		<b>CASEBOOK</b>	<b>MODEL RULES</b>
09-27-2007	In-House Counsel & Large Firms	pp. 391-438	1.13, 5.1 to 5.7
10-04-2007	Negotiation, Mediation, & Counseling	pp. 458-515	1.12, 2.1, 2.4, 4.1 to 4.4, 8.4
10-11-2007	Counseling Roles; Conflicts	pp. 515-568	1.7 to 1.10; 3.1, 8.4
<b>Wednesday 10-17- 2007</b>	Conflicts of Interest	pp. 568-602; pp. 609-618; pp. 662-671	1.7 to 1.11; 3.7
<b>10-18-2007 to 10-21-2007: No Classes; Fall Break</b>			
10-25-2007	Lawyer-Client Decision Making	pp. 672-700; pp. 708-727	1.2, 1.14, 3.1
11-01-2007	Advertising & Solicitation	pp. 728-771	7.1 to 7.6
11-08-2007	Unauthorized Practice; Attorneys' Fees Access to Lawyers	pp. 771-809 pp. 815-830	1.5, 5.5, 6.1 to 6.5
11-15-2007	Disciplinary Procedures	pp. 937-973	8.3
<b>10-22-2007: No Classes; Thanksgiving</b>			
11-29-2007	Substance Abuse	pp. 973-977; + handouts	8.3

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2007 – FINAL EXAMINATION**