**MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL OF LAW at ANDOVER**

**SYLLABUS for FAMILY LAW**

**SPRING 2021**

**INSTRUCTORS:**

**Professors Jeanne Condurelli & Michael Coyne**
978.681.0800 condurelli@mslaw.edu; coyne@mslaw.edu

Professor’s Webpage: <http://mslaw.edu/mcoyne/>

**Course Requirements & Class Participation:**

**General Family Law is tested on the Multistate Essay Examination and Massachusetts also tests issues of Massachusetts’ Family Law on its online examination. So, we will be examining family law generally as well as specific practice issues in Massachusetts.**

**The audio and materials for the Family Law course are available on MSL’s website an d at** [**https://www.mslaw.edu/family-law/**](https://www.mslaw.edu/family-law/)**. Please be sure that you respond by e-mail to any questions posted for the section and take the weekly quiz at Socrative.com where the room is FamilyLaw2021.**

**You must respond to these questions promptly as your grade is based upon your answers to those questions, your weekly quiz scores from Socrative, the final examination as well as assigned pleadings, financial statements and motions that you will complete.**

**After you do the section’s reading and listen to the class discussion you should take the quiz and answer any questions by email to** **condurelli@mslaw.edu****. The Socrative quizzes are only open for one week. When the next quiz is posted, previous quizzes are unavailable to take. You will receive a zero for all quizzes you did not take timely.**

**Please immediately email us and acknowledge your participation in this class.**

SECTION 1

1.25.2021 Family Law Overview

 NCBEX Overview and Modern Approach

 Getting Married, Limitations, and State Law

 *Obergefell v. Hodges*

 *Families*, Marriage, Divorce, and Children—The Basics

 *Singh v. Singh*

 *Sanderson v. Tryon*

 *Bronson v. Swenson*

SECTION 2

2.1.2021 Marital Relationships and Family Issues

 Common Law Marriages, Rights and Responsibility of Spouses and Dissolution of Marriages

 Family Privacy and Reproductive Choices

 *Goodridge v. DPH*

Lester

 Johnston

 In Re Estate of Love

 McGuire

SECTION 3

2.8.2021 Relationships, Families, Privileges and the Constitution

 *Braschi v. Stahl*

 *Penobscot v. Brewer*

 *Griswold*

 *Eisenstadt v. Baird*

 *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*

 *Ayotte v. Planned Parenthood*

 *Trammel v. U.S.*

SECTION 4

2.15.2021 Domestic Violence Issues & Remedies

 Abuse/Violence Defined/Battering and its effects

 M.G.L. c.209A

 *C.O. v. M.M.*

 *Mitchell v. Mitchell*

 *KJB v. CMB*

 *People v. Humphrey*

 *Giovine*

 *Twyman*

SECTION 5

2.22.2021 Separation and Marital Dissolution—Divorce, Annulment and Distribution Separation Isn’t Divorce

 *In the marriage of* *Dennis D. Kenik*

 *Sosna v. Iowa*

 *Innerbichler*

 *Ferguson*

 *Postema*

 *Elkus*

 *Laing*

 *Niroo*

SECTION 6

3.1.2021 Separation & Marital Dissolution continued

 Marital Property, Alimony, and Child Support

 *Hoffman*

 *Massar*

 *Schmidt*

 *Clapp v. Clapp*

 *In re Marriage of Bush*

 *Solomon*

 *Little*

SECTION 7

3.8.2021 Custody Standard, Lifestyle, Visitation, and Money Issues

 *Hollon*

 *Jones*

 *Kendall*

 *McMillen*

 *Garska*

 *Squires*

 *Young v. Hector*

SECTION 8

3.15.2021 Economic Issues and Entanglements

 *Edwardson*

 Uniform Premarital Agreement Act

 *DeMatteo*

 *Austin II*

 *Vaughn v. Lawrenceburg Power*

 *Farmer*

 *Siegel*

 *Lalli*

SECTION 9

3.22.2021 Jurisdiction + Recognition

 *Kulko*

 *US v. Bongiorno*

 *Chaddick v. Monopoli*

 *Thompson*

 *Silverman*

 *Vanderbilt*

 *CSE v. Brenckle*

SECTION 10

3.29.2021 Court Orders, Modification + Contempt

 *In re Marriage of Carney*

 *Hassenstab*

 *Wetch*

 *Baures*

 *Henderickson*

 *D’Ascanio*

 *Ainsworth*

 *Edgar v. Edgar*

SECTION 11

4.5.2021 Rights and Responsibilities of unmarried partners, stepparents and others—paternity by blood or otherwise

 *Marvin*

 *Michael H. v. Gerald D.*

 *Troxel v. Granville*

 *Kinnard*

 *Simons*

 *Lehr*

 *V.C. v. M.J.B.*

 *Miller*

 *Quinn v. Mouw-Quinn*

SECTION 12

4.12.2021 Parent, Child, and the State

 *Kelley*

 *NV Dept. of Health v. Hibbs*

 *Knussman v. MD*

 *Santosky v. Kramer*

 *State v. McNight*

 *Curran v. Bosze*

SECTION 13

4.19.2021 Ethical Issues in Divorce, Custody & Cohabitation Matters

 *Jones*

 *Aflalo*

 *Palmore v. Sidotti*

 *Schult*

 *Wolf*

 *Matter of Petrie*

SECTION 14

4.26.2021 Adoption and Procreative Parents

 Agency, private adoption, artificial insemination,

 surrogacy and children born after divorce/death

 *In re Marriage of Witbeck-Wiidhagen*

 *K.M.v. E.G.*

 *In Re C.K.G.*

 *Vela v. Marywood*

 *Adoption of CDM*

 *J.B. v. M.B.*

SECTION 15

5.3.2021 Alternatives to scorched earth pots and pans litigation

 Mediation, arbitration, collaborative law and cost-effective resolution strategies

 *Toni*

 *Kelm*

 *Crupi*

 *Bixler v. Masterson/Scientology*

 Uniform Collaborative Law Act Prefatory Note

FamilyLawSyllabusSPRING2021/Coyne/FamilyLaw