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**MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL OF LAW at ANDOVER**

**SYLLABUS for FAMILY LAW**

**FALL 2022**

**INSTRUCTORS:**

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**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 packet of reading materials for the Family Law course is available on MSL’s website and at** [**https://www.mslaw.edu/family-law/**](https://www.mslaw.edu/family-law/)**. Please be sure that you take the weekly quiz at Socrative.com where the room is FAMILYLAWBOOTCAMP.**

**You must respond to these quizzes promptly as your grade is based upon your weekly quiz scores from Socrative, midterm questions, the final examination as well as any assigned written problems, pleadings, and financial statements or worksheets that you may be asked to complete during the course of the term.**

**After you do the section’s reading you should come to class prepared to fully discuss the cases and issues surrounding that topic. Immediately after the class you should take the Socrative quiz as the Socrative quizzes are only open from that class on Monday until midnight the following Sunday. 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.**

**Think about the issues raised by these cases and how you would deal with similar issues when you begin practicing law. Family law problems and the ethical and moral issues raised by these matters occur in abundance and are too often exhaustively litigated. For better or worse, it is a lucrative practice area where skilled attorneys are desperately needed.**

SECTION 1

8.22.2022 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

8.29.2022 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

9.12.2022 Relationships, Families, Privileges, and the Constitution

 *Braschi v. Stahl*

 *Penobscot v. Brewer*

 *Griswold*

 *Eisenstadt v. Baird*

 *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*

 *Ayotte v. Planned Parenthood*

 *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*

 *Get Dobbs at* [*https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/19-1392\_6j37.pdf*](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/19-1392_6j37.pdf)

 *Trammel v. U.S.*

SECTION 4

9.19.2022 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

9.26.2022 Separation and Marital Dissolution—Divorce, Annulment and Distribution Separation Is not Divorce

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

 *Sosna v. Iowa*

 *Innerbichler*

 *Ferguson*

 *Postema*

 *Elkus*

 *Laing*

 *Niroo*

SECTION 6

10.03.2022 Separation & Marital Dissolution continued

 Marital Property, Alimony, and Child Support

 *Hoffman*

 *Massar*

 *Schmidt*

 *Clapp v. Clapp*

 *In re Marriage of Bush*

 *Solomon*

 *Little*

 Midterm Questions

SECTION 7

10.17.2022 Custody Standard, Lifestyle, Visitation, and Money Issues

 *Hollon*

 *Jones*

 *Kendall*

 *McMillen*

 *Garska*

 *Squires*

 *Young v. Hector*

SECTION 8

10.24.2022 Economic Issues and Entanglements

 *Edwardson*

 Uniform Premarital Agreement Act

 *DeMatteo*

 *Austin II*

 *Vaughn v. Lawrenceburg Power*

 *Farmer*

 *Siegel*

 *Lalli*

SECTION 9

10.31.2022 Jurisdiction + Recognition

 *Kulko*

 *US v. Bongiorno*

 *Chaddick v. Monopoli*

 *Thompson*

 *Silverman*

 *Vanderbilt*

 *CSE v. Brenckle*

SECTION 10

11.7.2022 Court Orders, Modification + Contempt

 *In re Marriage of Carney*

 *Hassenstab*

 *Wetch*

 *Baures*

 *Henderickson*

 *D’Ascanio*

 *Ainsworth*

 *Edgar v. Edgar*

SECTION 11

11.14.2022 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

11.21.2022 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

11.28.2022 Ethical Issues in Divorce, Custody & Cohabitation Matters

 *Jones*

 *Aflalo*

 *Palmore v. Sidotti*

 *Schult*

 *Wolf*

 *Matter of Petrie*

SECTION 14

12.05.2022 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.*

Final Examination Discussion

SECTION 15

Recorded and Available beginning November 14.

 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)

FamilyLawSyllabusFall2022/Condurelli/FamilyLaw