



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL *of* LAW

CIVIL EXTERNSHIP COURSE

FALL 2021

SECTION 01

LAW: 908-1/932

THURSDAYS

ROOM 203

5:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.

ATTORNEY T. M. DUBOSE
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE PROFESSOR.....	
Course Books & Materials.....	
Course Description & Objective.....	
Teaching Methods.....	
Student Learning Outcomes.....	
Grading.....	
Accommodations.....	
Participation, Attendance & Professionalism	
Academic Calendar.....	
Policies and Procedures.....	
Reading Assignments.....	
Assumptions.....	

CONCEALED HANDGUN POLICY

The State of Texas has recently passed legislation permitting you to carry a concealed firearm on campus if you have a concealed license permit recognized by the State of Texas, subject to the rules and regulations of Texas Southern University's ("TSU's) Campus Carry Policy. Under TSU's Campus Carry Policy, I have the right to designate my office as a gun-free zone. I have elected to make my office a firearm-free space. Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with a concealed handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun. For a complete list of the gun-free zones on this campus and the rules governing campus carry at our institution, please visit Texas Southern University's website at <http://www.tsu.edu/>. Please note that entering a gun-free zone on campus with a firearm, including inside my office, could not only lead to criminal prosecution but suspension or expulsion from school.



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL of LAW

THE PROFESSOR

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LOCATION OF OFFICE: Virtual

OFFICE HOURS: (Available by phone, Blackboard, email and text by appointment only)

Biography:

Professor T.M. Dubose is the sole owner and lead attorney for the Law Office of Thalia M. Dubose and partner of Haughton, Dubose, and Nezami, PLLC Parole Solutions Law Group. She is a native of Fairfield, Alabama and 2001 graduate of Fairfield Preparatory High School. She obtained her Bachelor's degree, cum laude, from Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University with a major in Political Science and minor in Business Administration. She then obtained her Juris Doctor from Thurgood Marshall School of Law and became a licensed attorney for the State of Texas in 2014. Before and during her law school career she worked for Haughton and Associates doing Death Penalty-Post Capital Convictions and Appeals, and interned for Senator Rodney Ellis at the Texas Indigent Defense Commission in Austin, Texas.

She predominately practices criminal defense in Houston, Texas as well as civil litigation, landlord/tenant, and personal injury law. She handles misdemeanors and felonies in Harris and surrounding counties throughout Texas. Recently, she has been nominated as a Rising Star in Criminal Law by the American Institute of Legal Advocates. She has sat on various political and legal panels discussing and advocating for justice reform for the youth and indigent people.

COURSE BOOKS & MATERIALS

Recommended:

1. Texas Rules of Civil Procedure (ISBN: 9781539209027)
2. Texas Causes of Action (O'Connor's ISBN: 9781539209010)
3. Texas Civil Forms (ISBN: 9781539208860)
4. Texas Causes of Action Pleadings (ISBN: 9781539209102)

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVE

DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVE:

Description

The American Bar Association Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools, 2017-2018, 301 (a) states that a law school shall maintain a rigorous program of legal education that prepares its students, upon graduation, for:

- 1) admission to the bar; and
- 2) for effective, ethical, and responsible participation as members of the legal profession.

Objective

The objective of this course is to continue the transformation of law student to “whole lawyer”, by introducing the basics of practicing civil law. This course is to give students the opportunity to engage in the civil law practice and strategies in order to become familiar with Texas Civil Practice.

This course is a learning environment to provide guidance and direction as you navigate through your individual civil law placement/externship.

The purpose of the Civil Externship Course is to oversee students that have successfully found placement in a civil law practice firm or the like and to provide knowledge of substantive law plus effective application of that law through practical techniques immersed in social and professional responsibility.



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL *of* LAW

Teaching Method

Lecture: Room 203

At 5:30-7:10

**Professor reserves the right to change the teaching platform,
however, weekly classes will be held in real time.*



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL *of* LAW

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND PROPOSED SCHEDULE

1-2	
a. What is Civil Law	Students will learn: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Exploring what civil law is and what it is not.2. Registering with the Harris County District Court Website3. Course Overview/Expectations4. Process of Civil Litigation
3-5	
b. What is the Practice of Civil Law	Students will learn: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify why there is civil law2. Who practices civil law3. Notable cases of civil law4. How to practice civil law *Guest Speaker
6-7	
c. Uncontested and Contested Cases: An Importance Difference	Students will learn: Drafting Petition/Pleadings *Instructions on assignment
8-9	
d. Phases of Civil Litigation	Students will learn: Phase 1: Pre-Trial Phase 2: Trial Phase 3: Post-Trial
10-12	
e. Discovery	Texas Rules of Civil Procedure , Rules 192.1 and 192.2 Students will learn:



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What is it?2. When is it due?3. Why do we have it?4. What happens when we don't comply?
<i>12-13</i>	
f. Motions and Requests	Students will learn: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Drafting, Motions, Authority
<i>13-</i>	
g. Conclusion	Q&A Wrap-up *Assignment from week 6 due by email



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL *of* LAW

TMSL GRADING POLICY:

TMSL 2019-2020 Student Regulations:

Section 3. Grading System

A. Grade Definition and Structure Letter Grade = Honor Point: Definition

A 4.00 Excellent

A-

B- 3.67 Intermediate

B + 3.33 Intermediate

B 3.00 Good

C- 2.67 Intermediate

C + 2.33 Intermediate

C 2.00 Satisfactory

*C- 1.67 Intermediate *(Does Not Apply to 1L Substantive Courses)

D + 1.33 Intermediate

D 1.00 Marginal

D- 0.67 Intermediate

F 0.00 Failure

I Incomplete - A failure to demonstrate the required competence because:
15 1) Student has an excused failure to take exam, or 2) Student has been granted an extension of time by the professor in a seminar or other courses where the grade on the paper will constitute a significant percentage of the final grade.



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL *of* LAW

NOTE: (See Article III. Sec. 4 A 7 - Postponed Examination). See also Article III Section 7 for removal of Incomplete.

S =(Satisfactory) This grade can be given only upon the approval of the Academic Standing Committee and the Dean, and shall not be included for the purpose of measuring the cumulative average, but shall be included for the purpose of credit hour requirements.

W =(Withdrawal) An administrative decision by the professor of the course in conjunction with the Office of the Dean that the student has failed to satisfy either minimum or maximum course loads or minimum attendance requirements as specified herein at Article III Section 1 A, and B and Article III Section 4 A 1 attendance required. This grade must also be given where a student withdraws from a course in which withdrawal is permitted. Such withdrawal from a course, or courses, must comply with deadlines and procedures prescribed by law school and University Regulations.

B. Grade Guidelines

1. See student handbook.

TMSL 2019-2020 Student Regulations:

Section 3. Grading System



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL *of* LAW

The final grade for the course will be determined as follows:

- 1. Class Participation..... 15%**
- 2. Attendance/Externship Hours..... 40%**
- 3. Assignments..... 25%**
- 4. Final Examination..... 20%**



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL of LAW

PARTICIPATION, ATTENDANCE & PROFESSIONALISM

1. Generally	
a. Special Accommodations	All requests for any special accommodations must be first submitted to the Dean of Student Affairs.
b. Final Examination	There is NO Final Examination in this class.
2. Class Attendance	
a. Attendance Taken-	Daily. <i>“Attendance 1. Required A student is required to be present for all scheduled examinations at the time and place prescribed. Any student who has not withdrawn from a course (See Article III, Section 1A 3, for requisite procedures), or has not received an excused absence (See Article III, section 4, A 7, below for requisite procedures, and Article III, Section 3, A, for definition of Incomplete (I) evaluation), and who fails either to attend an examination or fails to submit an answer shall receive the grade of F” (2018-2019 TMSL Student Rules and Regulations).</i>
b. Tardiness-	Joining after calling attendance is considered an absence.
c. Allowable Number	Refer to The Student Rules of Matriculation.
3. Class Etiquette	
a. Cell Phones	Cell phones are not permitted to be used or seen, unless specifically asked to do so by the Professor. Please do not use cell phones in class. This includes but is not limited to MP3ing; texting; talking; videotaping; Youtubing; tweeting; Facebooking; internet searching, etc.



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

b. Tablets/Smart Phones/MP3

	If these tools are not being used to serve as direct class support; then please be respectful and set a professional example by not using them.
c. Professional Decorum	The classroom and the courtrooms are sacred in that they are the places where positive change is defined; discussed; effectuated; and shared with the others. Please act in a manner that brings dignity to you; your family and the legal profession.
d. Yielding the Floor	As in the courtroom, if a colleague, professor or speaker is engaged in presentation or inquiry, please yield the “floor” until you can intervene without disruption. As in a courtroom, only one person can be heard at a time.
e. Dismissal	Please do not prepare to leave class until class is dismissed; unless you have told me in advance that you need prior to the dismissal of class.
4. Class Preparation	
a. Student Responsibility	To be prepared to participate in each class session.



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL *of* LAW

<file:///C:/Users/thali/Downloads/Academic%20Calendar,%20Fall%202021.pdf>

ASSUMPTIONS

1. The student has some basic working knowledge of professionalism. (Dress, office etiquette, business and policy).
2. Students will act as licensed attorneys;
3. RESPECT;
4. All Questions are to be freely asked (email, through TWEN, or Blackboard);
5. Class Attendance (Online Instruction);
6. Honesty;
7. All issues with job placement be noticed to the professor immediately;
8. Job placement issues that may arise.