

Spring 2026 Special Topics

LAW 795.514 (Edelman)

Special Topics, Law and Policy of Sports Betting (1 credit)

This course will explore the regulation of sports betting in the U.S. and related legal issues and will consider the ethical considerations involved in setting sports betting policy.

LAW 795.550 (Tenne)

Special Topics, Drone Law (3 credits)

Unmanned systems, especially Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) is one of the most rapidly expanding and emerging areas within transportation. This course will provide a foundation in administrative law, regulatory policy, and processes.

LAW 795.551 (Green)

Special Topics, Lawyers as Leaders (2 credits)

This course will consider the role of lawyers as leaders in various settings, including law firms; non-profit and for-profit corporations; legislatures; government agencies; bar associations; civic groups; and social movements. Drawing on case studies, including UB law alumni, the class will explore the attributes of successful leaders in the law and seek to identify the tangible and intangible skills law students should seek to develop as they prepare to assume leadership roles in the legal profession. Pre-requisites: First year day courses

LAW 895.511 (Tejtel)

Special Topics (Experimental), International Business Negotiations (3 credits)

This workshop will equip the students with the specific knowledge and skills required to successfully negotiate international business contracts - an area where there is a growing demand for lawyers. The workshop will be based on three simulated negotiations of increasing difficulty: a negotiation focused on the international licensing of a medical technology; a negotiation focused on the formation of an international joint-venture to produce green hydrogen based upon a new technology; and a negotiation focused on an investment by a firm from a developed country, into an oil-rich developing country, to eliminate, using an innovative technology, a major source of pollution. These simulated negotiations will be based upon case studies created by the instructor, drawing upon his professional experience. After each negotiation, each student will draft a summary of what has been agreed between the parties.

LAW 895.512 (Wiseman, Schaeffer)

Special Topics (Experimental), Criminal Prosecution (3 credits)

Through interactive work, students will learn the practical trial skills, advanced criminal law doctrine and procedure, theory, context, and ethical considerations unique to the prosecutor's role in the administration of justice. Students interested in both prosecution and defense careers will benefit from this course, which will cover, among other possible topics, issues under the Fourth and Fifth Amendments. The course will have a special focus on the ethical and systemic justice considerations inherent to a prosecutor's work. Assignments with feedback and reflection may include, for example, writing and arguing pretrial motions; crafting and conducting opening statements, direct examinations, cross-examinations, and closing arguments; and engaging in sentencing hearings and post-conviction proceedings.

LAW 896.511 (Grossman)

Special Topics (Seminar), The Organization of American States and the Inter-American Judicial Committee (3 credits)

This course provides students with the opportunity to learn about and critically assess the contributions of the Organization of American States, as well as the Inter-American Juridical Committee, to the development of international law in the Americas region and globally. Students will engage in advanced international and comparative law research and writing on topics relevant to the OAS and the Inter-American Juridical Committee, and they will gain exposure to the norms, institutions, and practice of international law more generally. Students are expected to be active participants in this course, completing several mini-research assignments, as well as final papers.

LAW 896.513 (Zelinsky/Delaney)

Special Topics (Seminar), White Collar Investigations & Prosecution Seminar (2 credits)

We will explore some of the many legal and practical challenges that await an attorney conducting white collar investigations and prosecutions. We will begin by discussing the reasons for investigations and the Justice Department policies for prosecutions. We will discuss how prosecutors obtain information, including use of the Grand Jury and electronic evidence gathering techniques. We will also examine parallel proceedings and corporate criminal liability. We will close with several case studies of major white-collar investigations and prosecutions, applying the framework we have established to real-life examples.

LAW 896.522 (Pierre)**Special Topics (Seminar), Reproductive Rights& Justice (3 credits)**

This course will focus not only on the right to not have a child but also the right to have a child, and to raise a child. This focus is through the lens of Reproductive Justice, which is a concept developed by Black Women activists in the 1990s to provide a different framework from Reproductive Rights, to explore how systemic oppression impacts reproductive decision-making. Reproductive Justice activists acknowledge that abortion and contraception were often not the primary reproductive concerns of many marginalized women, including young women, women with disabilities, undocumented women, and queer women. Thus, they adopted a framework that considers the context in which reproductive decisions are made. This approach centers social, racial, and economic justice, and focuses as much on the right to have and raise children as it does on the right to safe and legal abortion care and contraceptive access. Prerequisite Requirements for this Topic: First year required courses (day, and the equivalent for evening students).