The University of Connecticut Pre-College Summer Program: Pre-Law

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Course Description: Welcome to Pre-Law! This one-week course provides you with highlights from at least six of the courses we offer here at UCONN, including “Constitutional Law,” “Constitutional Rights and Liberties,” “The Politics of Crime and Justice,” “Law and Society,” “Law and Popular Culture,” and “International Law and Organization.” Most of the students who successfully complete these courses move on to law school, graduate programs in the field of Public Law, and careers in the legal field. The format for this course is multi-faceted. We complement our lectures with classroom discussions and simulations that place you in roles that provide you with a more realistic understanding of legal decision-making. The schedule below outlines the topics we will cover as well as the exercises that will reinforce their respective concepts. We have also included recommended readings that you may review after the class meetings so as to reinforce what we covered for that particular class meeting. More formal readings that typically appear on regular course syllabi may be furnished upon request. Finally, we will end our week with a Moot Court simulation. This is the one assignment for which you will prepare throughout the week.

Day 1 (July 23): “Introduction to Law and the American Dual Court System”

- Introductions and Distribution of Moot Court assignment
- What is Law? An Introduction to Legal Theory
  - Supplemental Reading (may be found on the Pre-College Summer Program site or go to http://web.nmsu.edu/~dscoccia/376web/376lpaust.pdf)
- Presentation on International Law by Hailey Greenhalgh
  - Classroom Discussion
  - Reading: Please read pages 216-231 in the 3rd edition of International Relations: Perspectives and Controversies. All other pages are supplemental or extra reading if you find the topic interesting. This reading is found on the Pre-College Summer Program site.
- Break
- American Law and Legal Systems
  - Sources of Substantive Law
  - Procedural Law: The U.S. Constitution
  - Introduction to the Dual Court System (in preparation for our visit to the courts in Rockville)
Day 2 (July 24): “Law School, Lawyers, and the Courts”
- Recommended Reading (to illustrate differences between civil and criminal justice systems): Go to http://open.lib.umn.edu/criminallaw/chapter/1-3-the-difference-between-civil-and-criminal-law/
- Trip to Rockville Courts (9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)
  - Observe jury selection; habeas corpus trials; visit “lock-up” area; visit with judge for “mock trial” (some experiences may change depending on caseload for this date)
- Trip to UCONN School of Law (12:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.)
  - Lunch
  - Law School Experience
  - Overview of admissions
  - Tour

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Pick up Location</th>
<th>Destination</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 24</td>
<td>8:15 AM</td>
<td>Garrigus Suites</td>
<td>Rockville Superior Court</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
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<td>UConn School of Law</td>
<td>Garrigus Suites</td>
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Day 3 (July 25): “The Civil Justice System” (we may be meeting in the Homer Babbidge Library - will confirm)
- Introduction to the Civil Justice System
- Break
- Simulation: A Civil Case

Day 4 (July 26): “The Criminal Justice System”
- Introduction to the American Criminal Justice System (with break as needed)
  - Law Enforcement
  - Prosecutors (Interactive Exercise)
  - Courts (Simulation)
  - Corrections
- Afternoon session: Work on Moot Court arguments

Day 5 (July 27): Moot Court is in Session
- Recommended Reading (to prepare for this simulation): “Tips for Successful Oral Advocacy” (posted on Pre-College Summer Program site and may be found at: https://www.law.uchicago.edu/files/files/Oral%20Advocacy%20Tips.pdf)
- Review this week’s lessons
- Conduct Moot Court simulations