

Professor Spencer

Election Law

LAW 7703

Section 1

Fall 2019

Overall law school
response rate: 70%

Total enrollment: 18
Number of responses: 16
Response rate: 89%

1. What is your overall impression of the instructor?

	Poor				Excellent
n = 16	0	0	0	0	16
	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Mode: 5.0 Median: 5.0 Mean: 5.0 SD: 0.0 Law school mean: 4.5					

2. What is your overall impression of the course?

	Poor				Excellent
n = 16	0	0	1	2	13
	0.0%	0.0%	6.3%	12.5%	81.3%
Mode: 5.0 Median: 5.0 Mean: 4.8 SD: 0.6 Law school mean: 4.2					

3. Please compare the workload for this course to the workload in other courses.

	Very light			Very heavy	
n = 20	2	1	10	5	2
	10.0%	5.0%	50.0%	25.0%	10.0%
Mode: 3.0 Median: 3.0 Mean: 3.3 SD: 0.9 Law school mean: 3.4					

4. What were the best features of this course?

The class discussion is excellent. The course assignments were great too and felt like I was doing something relevant to what we read.

Real world application to current events

Spencer is amazing! Great job connecting course material to recent events *side eye emoji* and fantastic balance between lecture and discussion.

The class discussions were great and Professor Spencers lectures were thought provoking and simple enough to understand complex topics.

Everything was great, including the assignments which actually helped apply legal skills to the information being learned.

Very relevant, current content.

The course allowed for fascinating discussions about the subject of election law, as well as how the subjects apply to current events. Professor Spencer was a fantastic professor and really created interesting discussions

Professor Spencer is extremely intelligent and engaging

Professor Spencer's knowledge in the field and his genuine love of this topic. Also, I really liked the informal discussion setup of the class. While we talked about and referred to the readings, particularly cases, I enjoyed that we always went above and beyond just the text to really look at the policy ramifications and the greater theoretical, and even economical, ideas.

Election law was one of the best classes I've taken throughout law school. I particularly liked how Professor Spencer spent the first ten or so minutes of class talking about election law issues that have been in the news. I also liked that students were afforded the option to choose between a research paper and two shorter, more practice-oriented papers.

Overall, this was a fantastic course. The topics discussed each class were interesting and relevant. The professor encouraged class discussion and provided meaningful feedback on the class assignments. I also think it is important to continue keeping the class size small/as a seminar.

The best features of the course were the lively class discussions, the discussion on current events, and positive facilitation of class discussions by the professor. I also appreciated the passion in the material from the professor.

I enjoyed writing the complaint - made me feel like a real attorney!

Connecting the course material to what was going on in the current political atmosphere and watching news/video clips

The best feature of this course was the Professor's lectures. He explains the material in a very engaging way. I especially like his use of graphs and charts to parse out the material. This really helped me understand things better when things were confusing.

Discussing current issues.

5. What were the least successful features of the course?

It is a lot of reading and you aren't really punished on not doing it. You can easily do well in class even if you didn't do the reading.

Sometimes the readings were long, but this goes with the topic.

N/A

More planning for the final assignment.

Occasionally, discussions would become slightly too meandering for my taste - I would have preferred slightly more structure.

At times the reading was heavy and we didn't necessarily discuss it some weeks. But I think the reading is still necessary to assign even if we don't necessarily get to it.

I think sometimes the amount of reading got lengthy, but I'm thankful that the syllabus stated how many pages of reading would be assigned for each class in a chart.

The least successful feature of this course was the long reading assignments. I understood the reason for this and had no problem doing the reading assignments, but we did not always discuss all the material, so it could be frustrating. In the future, I would prefer that the professor more clearly designate "required" versus "supplementary" readings or perhaps just a note of which readings to prioritize.

The readings were long and sometimes we did not discuss what we read. I don't mind long readings, but I do mind not discussing everything we were asked to read because otherwise it just feels like a waste of my time.

For the complaint, the boundaries of the universe we can use should be more clearly defined. What are the assumptions we should use? I'd prefer Professor Spencer to tell us what we should assume rather than make it up ourselves.

It would have been helpful to go over the assignments a little more. For the class paper, we only discussed it once and we got the assignment after the syllabus said we would, giving us a lot less time to complete the assignment and coordinate with other groups.

Sometimes the readings were too long but I know that is something that is hard to avoid.

6. Further comments that might be helpful to the instructor.

Cut down on the reading and call on more people during the class time.

Please teach more UConn classes!

The first paper was a fair assignment that required me to learn a lot about a current topic. I really enjoyed the assignment

I like the two-assignments + participation setup. It helped make this class enjoyable and less stressful compared to other electives/seminars. Also, Professor Spencer is hands-down one of the best and most engaging Professors at our law school who cares about his students' success.

N/A

Please keep teaching this!

Thanks for a great semester! It was definitely my favorite course of the semester, and hope Professor Spencer will be teaching it again to future students at uconn law.

Making notes/diagrams on the board was very helpful in understanding the material.

I wish more Professors taught their material the way Professor Spencer does! UConn Law is so lucky to have him.

7. Additional comments on the work required for this class.

N/A

There's kind of a lot of reading, but it is helpful that the only part of it we generally need to know in much detail is the cases.

Considering it was only a 2 credit class, the readings were sometimes a bit too long. However, the readings were necessary and important