IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU READ ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY. IGNORANCE OF PAPER/COURSE REQUIREMENTS WILL NOT BE TREATED AS AN EXCUSE!

This site is for students who have registered to work on a one-hour pass/D/fail independent study based on the symposium, “The Punitive Imagination,” which will be held on Friday, September 28 at the Law School. The symposium will feature a number of distinguished presenters.

In the space to the left of this text, you will notice several links to other sections of this website. The first of these is the "Assignment Drop Box" which is the exclusive mode of submitting assignments for this course. Please do not submit assignments via email or hard copy.

Subsequent links contain the symposium agenda, which includes a tentative schedule for the event and abstracts of the papers that will be eventually submitted. Next is a set of background readings intended to help acquaint you with each presenter’s work and provide some context for the paper he or she will present. Next, the symposium papers themselves will be added to the website as they become available.

Please read all of these documents before attending the symposium.

Please be sure that when you registered for this website you provided an email address that you check regularly, and please make sure you have entered it correctly, as I will be using the email function of the TWEN site in the future to communicate with you about the course.

Please note that you must attend all sessions of the symposium.

If you are enrolled in a class that meets on Fridays, you may not take this class unless your professor has agreed in advance to excuse your absence.
on September 28. The following professors have already agreed to do so: Lee, O'Dell, Sullivan, Wible.

The course requires a paper, the topic of which you should choose after you attend the symposium. For the subject of the paper, you should choose one or two important themes that were woven through most of the presentations. In discussing the theme you should draw from the background readings, the presentations of the speakers at the symposium, other legal literature, and/or material you discussed in other law school classes. You should offer your own perspective on the theme(s).

After the symposium is over you should submit the topic you intend to write about. Paper topic proposals are due not later than 5:00 pm Friday October 12. The proposal should be 50-100 words long and provide the topic and the main issues you expect to cover. You can assume the topic is acceptable if you don’t hear anything within five days of submitting it. After the symposium is over, but not later than 5:00 pm October 12, you should also confirm that you attended all sessions of the symposium. Submission of paper topics and attendance confirmation should be accomplished exclusively through the “Assignment Drop Box” feature of the course home page on TWEN.

The papers themselves are due no later than 5:00 pm on Tuesday December 18. Submissions should be made in electronic form exclusively through the Assignment Drop Box. Again, please do not submit papers by email or in hard copy.

Papers should be double-spaced and formatted with one-inch margins and double spaced. Please use a traditional Progront like Times New Roman. The paper should use 12 point font. Papers should be 2500-3000 words and should include footnotes in law-review style. (Microsoft Word has a word count function that you can use to verify word count. The length guidelines above work out to roughly 10-12 pages, depending on font styles, sizes and margins.)

Because papers will be graded on a Pass/D/Fail basis, and because I may need to discuss paper topics with individual students, please identify yourself on all submissions. There is no need to use your anonymous number.
Please feel free to get in touch with me if you have any questions. You can see me in my office (Room 256), or contact me at wbrewbak@law.ua.edu or at 348-1132. I’m looking forward to being with you on September 28.

Bill Brewbaker