

*Professor E.R. Lanier  
Georgia State University  
College of Law  
Spring Semester 2010*

## **GEORGIA PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE: SYLLABUS**

### ***I. General***

This Semester's course in Georgia Practice and Procedure will accomplish two separate but interrelated objectives: it is my intention (1) to extend and expand your knowledge of Civil Procedure into our local jurisdictional adaptation of those principles and, at the same time (2) to deepen your appreciation –using Georgia civil procedure as a model– of court organization, structure, and practice.

### ***II. Course Content***

The objectives of this course will be accomplished through our collective review and consideration of a series of major substantive modules. These units will address the following general subjects in the area of Georgia Practice and Procedure:

- +subject matter jurisdiction in Georgia courts;
- +principles of personal jurisdiction in Georgia;
- +venue principles in Georgia;
- +process and service of process in Georgia;
- +basic principles of remedies in Georgia law; and
- +principles of liability for abusive litigation

To the extent that time at the end of the Semester might allow, we will consider additional subjects to include a review of the Georgia Civil Practice Act, particularly emphasizing those aspects where it differs either in its terms or in its application from the analogous provisions of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure upon which it was based when it was adopted in 1966.

The instructional materials for each of these units consist of original sources drawn from the Georgia Constitution, statutory law in this State, uniform court rules, and, of course, case decisions construing each of the above. These materials will be grouped in independent and individual packages for each of the instructional units; these will be made available to you by electronic means.

### ***III. Administration of the Course***

#### ***A. Class Meetings***

This class will meet each Monday and Wednesday afternoon of the Semester beginning promptly

at 2:45 P.M., at a place to be announced by the Administration of the College of Law.

B. Office Hours

I am available to you by appointment at *all* reasonable times, and any scheduled office hours are not a limitation on this availability. In addition, I expect to be at my desk at the College (Room 416B; 404 413 9185) each Monday and Wednesday afternoon from 1:00 PM until 2:00 PM for purposes of meeting with you as any need arises. I ask that you try to avoid meetings in the hour before class on these days for obvious reasons: we both will need that time for last minute preparation. In truth, my preference is that you always schedule an appointment with me as the need may arise for the simple reason that this approach ensures that we can have uninterrupted time together to address your interests; nonetheless, I encourage you to drop by as the opportunity may come up. I expect that any appointments will be scheduled primarily in the day hours when you will be more available.

C. Grading/Evaluation: Final Examination

I will administer a mandatory final examination in this course at the end of the Semester at a time and place to be determined and announced by the Administration of the College of Law . Your performance on this examination will account for 100% of your final grade in this course. The examination will be comprehensive and will address the substantive material encompassed within the parameters of the substantive modules which form the central focus of the course. The format will be traditional in approach and will include both subjective (essay) and portions together with objective components (*i.e.*, true/false questions; multiple choice questions and other such testing methodologies). My intent in the use of these objective forms of questions is to achieve a certain degree of breadth of coverage in the final examination which is not possible through the use of the essay format alone. I will address the specific content and format of the final examination at a point a little later in the Semester.

D. Class Attendance

Attendance at class is expected and required. I will deduct one point from your final grade for each absence (even those which may be excused) beyond the first two. Three unexcused absences (documented medical emergencies excepted, and these are the only grounds for absence from class) will result in your ineligibility to stand for the final examination. An absence from class may, however, be compensated for by attendance at the corresponding class in the other section of Georgia Practice & Procedure offered by the College of Law this semester.

E. Contact Information

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