

Introduction to Legal Studies

Spring 2007

Discussion Questions for Thursday, February 1st

What is Law?

Each week we will hand out discussion questions that you should use to help guide your reading for the following week. You have one week from the class (September February 8th) to turn in answers to these questions.

For Thursday's class we will be discussing what is law and how does it operate in society generally. What are the forms and functions of law? How do you recognize law? And how is law produced? Read these questions over before you begin reading the materials to help guide you during the reading process. Give them answers of a paragraph in length. If you need more space, flip the page.

1. What is meant by saying that law is a system of thought?
2. In what ways is law more than a list of rules controlling behavior?
3. What is the relationship between formal rules and social norms?
4. What is the connection between law and power? I.e. how is law made and whose interests does law serve?