ASSIGNMENT: "Law in Culture" Review (f/k/a "Book Review") (5% of course grade).

The purpose of this assignment is to examine a portrayal of the practice of law in a cultural source, such as a book, film, or television series, and analyze connections between that portrayal and the real-life practice of law.
Gen Ed Student Learning Outcome: Knowledge—value knowledge and learning; show curiosity and desire to learn.

This assignment has 4 parts:

1. **Choose your cultural source.** Select a book, film, television series, or other cultural medium that addresses a legal theme, that no one else in the class has chosen. Examples are infinite! They include murder mysteries, true crime stories, political commentary on current events and issues, and many, many more. If you choose a book, please read at least 150 pages. If you choose a film, please watch the whole thing (generally 1.5 to 3 hours). If you choose a television series, it should be an ongoing story like "How to Get Away With Murder," not stand-alone episodes like "Law & Order"; please watch at least four consecutive episodes. I will be happy to help you choose a cultural source!

2. **Identify your cultural source.** By <u>Thursday, September 30, 2021</u>, write a post on OpenLab identifying your cultural source, with "Law in Culture review" as the category. Include the type of source (book, film, or television), its title, author if appropriate, approximate year it was published, released, etc., and a general description of the story or topic, as far as you can tell without having read or watched it yet. In your description, please state what makes it law-themed—for example, it is about a murder. This post counts as a homework assignment! PLEASE NOTE: If you use online or other publicly-available summaries or reviews as sources for this post, whether you quote them or not, you <u>must</u> cite them, and if you do quote them, put quotation marks around any quoted language. **If I conclude that, for any part of this assignment, you have copied ideas or information from an outside source without citing and quoting it properly, or you have committed any other form of plagiarism or academic integrity violation, you will receive a zero for this entire assignment and you may be reported to the College Academic Integrity Committee.** Please see the Academic Integrity policies posted on OpenLab, under "Class notes & materials."

3. **Experience your cultural source!** Over the course of the semester, read the book or watch the movie or series, and think about how it relates to various topics we learn in this course and in Civil Law and Procedure.

4. **Review your cultural source!** By the end of <u>Thursday, December 9, 2021</u>, post a review of your source on OpenLab. The review will be graded according to the rubric below, and it should include the following information:
   ➤ Title, author (if appropriate), approximate year of publication, release, etc., and any other information you think is useful about your cultural source.
   ➤ Summary of the story (at least 100 words).
   ➤ How the story portrayed legal concepts addressed in this course and/or Civil Procedure, such as ethical practice of law, or how the government or court system works, or other concepts (at least 100 words).
   ➤ Your reaction to the cultural source, such as whether you think it accurately portrayed the legal field and why, or whether you would recommend it and why, or how it has affected your view of the law or your interest in a legal profession and why, etc. (at least 100 words). Note that "why" is the key part of this discussion!

Rubric: "Law in Culture" Review Assignment	Good	Passable	Poor
<u>Identification of source</u>: Includes all requested information.	1	.50	0
<u>Summary</u>: Shows that you read or watched the source attentively and thoughtfully; provides a clear, thorough understanding of the story of the source.	1	.50	0
<u>Course concepts</u>: Identifies concepts from this course or Civil Procedure that were portrayed in the source and explains how the source portrayed them.	1	.50	0
<u>Reaction</u>: Thoroughly explains your personal response, with supporting examples from the source and reasons for your reaction.	1	.50	0
<u>Overall quality</u>: Sufficient length and detail; reflects your original thoughts and ideas; shows careful analysis; well-written; makes sense; organized into complete sentences and paragraphs; proper grammar and spelling.	1	.50	0