

**Monday, October 19, 2020** (Intro class 14 of 30!)

**Today:**

- Review for midterm exams?
- Sources of law!

**Wed. Oct. 21** (Intro) & **Fri. Oct. 23** (CP): **MIDTERM EXAMS!**

- Both 10am-6pm, any two-hour period. Questions by phone anytime, or on Zoom Wed. 10am-2pm.

**Wed. Oct. 21** (Intro):

- Email me (a) your English Unit 2 research topic and (b) three time to meet, Oct. 23-30. *Details on OL!*

**For Mon. Oct. 26** (Intro):

- Answer M&M ch. 5 pp. 142-143 Q for Review #1 & Practice Q #2, email by 10am. *Details on OL!*

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**Sources of law!! ... *What does that term mean?!***

**Law** = body of rules created and enforced by a government.

- Establishes rights, duties, & privileges.

**Categories of Legal Sources** (sources of law)

- Primary & Secondary → *yes! on the midterm exam*
- Mandatory (Binding) & Persuasive → *not on the midterm exam; we'll discuss them Oct. 26!*

**Primary source** = "The Law" (see definition of "law" above!)

- *include* constitutions, statutes, cases (court decisions), administrative rules & regulations.
- *such as* the CPLR!! (**C**ivil **P**ractice **L**aw and **R**ules → *a statute!*)

***Some examples of primary sources of law!!***

**Constitutional law** = law addressing the text of a constitution *and* court decisions interpreting constitutions.

- e.g., U.S. Constitution, NYS Constitution
- *including* amendments → such as the Bill of Rights!

**Statutory law** = written laws created by a legislative body

- *such as* Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), Voting Rights Act (by U.S. Congress)
- *also* CPLR (by New York State Legislature)

**Common law** = law set forth in decisions made by judges in cases that come before courts

- a/k/a "case law"

**Administrative law** = rules, orders, decisions of administrative agencies

- "agencies" = government bodies that perform specific functions
- *such as* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- NYC Department of Buildings (DOB), Department of Education (DOE)

*Continued on next page!*

**Secondary source** = "About the Law"

- books and articles that summarize, **interpret**, or index (help you find) the law
- helpful in researching and understanding primary sources
- *such as* C&W!! ("Civil Practice for Paralegals in NYS: Practical **Interpretation** of the Crucial Elements" by Coleman & Williams)

***Some other examples of secondary sources of law!***

- **legal encyclopedia** = compilation of summaries of legal rules on various topics
- **digest** = compilation of short summaries of court decisions
- **law reviews** (or law journals) = periodicals containing articles that comment on the law