



Search and Seizure

Course Description

The Search and Seizure course looks at the Fourth Amendment's protection against unreasonable searches and seizures and its warrant requirement. It covers the Constitutional warrant requirement and the exceptions to the warrant requirement. The course also provides in-depth coverage of where a "reasonable expectation of privacy" applies, thereby implicating the Fourth Amendment.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe the search and seizure limitations under the Fourth Amendment, including selected case law;
- Determine where a reasonable expectation of privacy exists and whether it exists in a given case;
- Ensure that all of the prerequisites for a valid search warrant are satisfied;
- Determine whether an exception to the warrant requirement applies; and
- Apply the Fourth Amendment rules to digital information and digital searches.

Final Exam

Grades and credit recommendations are based solely on a final exam. When students are ready to take the final exam, they should register for a LawShelf account (or simply log in, for those with existing accounts). Go to the video-course page and click "Take the Final Exam" and pay the exam fee, where applicable. Students will be given instructions on how to take the exam. All exams are proctored by the Voice Proctor® proctoring system. An overview of the system is [provided here](#) and it requires no training or learning curve. Grades of 70% or above are considered passing grades and qualify for recommended transfer credit.

The final exam is based on the video course modules. Additional resources detailed in this syllabus are helpful for background and for building greater understanding of the course materials.

Inquiries can be made through the LawShelf Contact form on our website by clicking the "email us" button that appears at the bottom of most LawShelf pages. Transcripts can be ordered via Parchment, as detailed on our website.

Case Studies

Many LawShelf video courses include case studies. These do not necessarily teach new material but are meant to demonstrate how the materials covered in the course are applied by various courts. Concepts covered in the case studies are covered on the final exam; so watching the case studies is necessary before taking the exam. However, it is unnecessary to memorize the facts and details of the cases covered in these case studies.

Self-Quizzes

Video-course modules and case studies feature self-quizzes that consist of practice questions on the materials covered in the videos. These questions are presented for the benefit of the student and are **important to review before taking the final exam** because they are similar in style and substance to the questions on the final exam. These quizzes are not graded or monitored and there is no record of how students answer these questions. Students may answer these questions as many times as they like and are encouraged to keep re-taking the quizzes until they have mastered all the questions.

Study Guide

Introductory Videos

These videos provide background to help students better understand the main parts of the course, which are the video-course modules below.

Reasonable Expectation of Privacy

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/reasonable-expectation-of-privacy/>

The Fourth Amendment: The Requirement of Probable Cause

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/the-fourth-amendment-the-requirement-of-probable-cause/>

Fourth Amendment: Exceptions to the Warrant Requirement (Part I)

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/fourth-amendment-exceptions-to-the-warrant-requirement-part-i/>

Fourth Amendment: Exceptions to the Warrant Requirement (Part II)

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/fourth-amendment-warrant-requirement-exceptions-part-ii/>

Courseware Readings

These courseware readings provide background to help students better understand the main parts of the course, which are the video-course modules below.

The following sections of “Foundations of Law” courseware:

<https://lawshelf.com/coursewareview> --> Criminal Procedure, *Protection from Unreasonable Searches and Seizures*

[The Exclusionary Rule](#)

[What is a Search](#)

[Probable Cause](#)

[The Warrant Requirement](#)

[Exceptions to the Warrant Requirement](#)

Video Course Watching

These videos constitute the main part of the course and are they sources of the questions on the final exam.

Search and Seizure Introduction

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursescontentview/search-and-seizure>

The Fundamentals to the Fourth Amendment - Module 1 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/the-fundamentals-to-the-fourth-amendment-module-1-of-5>

The Warrant Requirement and the Exclusionary Rule - Module 2 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/the-warrant-requirement-and-the-exclusionary-rule-module-2-of-5>

Exceptions to the Warrant Requirement - Module 3 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/exceptions-to-the-warrant-requirement-module-3-of-5>

More Exceptions to the Warrant Requirement - Module 4 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/more-exceptions-to-the-warrant-requirement-module-4-of-5>

The Fourth Amendment in the Digital Age and Other Considerations - Module 5 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/the-fourth-amendment-in-the-digital-age-and-other-considerations-module-5-of-5>

Supplemental Suggested Readings

These materials enable students to achieve a deeper understanding of the course materials and in applying the course to real-life situations.

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<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GPO-CONAN-1992/pdf/GPO-CONAN-1992-10-5.pdf>

Administering the Fourth Amendment in the Digital Age

<https://constitutioncenter.org/digital-privacy/The-Fourth-Amendment-in-the-Digital-Age>