



## **Social Security**

### **Course Description**

This course provides a comprehensive overview of social security and of the system under which it is administered. It focuses on how social security taxes are collected and on the retirement and disability benefits it provides. The course also discusses benefits for family members and how and when adverse social security findings can be challenged or appealed.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

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

- Explain the importance of Social Security to the United States;
- Discuss the retirement benefits program provided by Social Security;
- Describe how Social Security provides financial benefits to those who are unable to work due to a physical injury or mental disability;
- List and explain the benefits available to the family members of social security beneficiaries;
- Discuss the process of appealing a Social Security Administration decision on benefits and describe the four levels of appeal available to applicants.

### **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

## 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.

### **NASL Resources on Social Security**

<https://www.nasi.org/learn/socialsecurity/overview>

### **CPBB, Policy Basics: Top Ten Facts About Social Security**

<https://www.cbpp.org/research/social-security/top-ten-facts-about-social-security>

### **Social Security Administration, Retirement Benefits**

<https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10035.pdf>

### **Social Security Administration, Understanding Supplemental Security Income SSI**

<https://www.ssa.gov/ssi/text-understanding-ssi.htm>

## **Video Course Modules**

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

### **Social Security Course Overview**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursescontentview/social-security->

### **Overview of Social Security - Module 1 of 5**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/overview-of-social-security--module-1-of-5>

### **Social Security Retirement Benefits - Module 2 of 5**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/social-security-retirement-benefits--module-2-of-5>

### **Social Security and Disability Benefits - Module 3 of 5**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/social-security-and-disability-benefits--module-3-of-5>

### **Families and Social Security Benefits - Module 4 of 5**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/families-and-social-security-benefits--module-4-of-5>

### **Appealing a Social Security Benefits Decision - Module 5 of 5**

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/appealing-a-social-security-benefits-decision--module-5-of-5>