

# CECELIA NEIHUSER HARPER, J.D.

[cneihaus@purdue.edu](mailto:cneihaus@purdue.edu)

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## **EDUCATION AND LICENSURE**

*License to Practice Law, Indiana State Bar & Northern and Southern Federal Districts in Indiana* October 2016  
License in good standing, no disciplinary or malpractice claims; current Continuing Legal Education requirements.

*Valparaiso University Law School, Valparaiso, Indiana* GPA: 3.823/4.0  
Juris Doctor, *summa cum laude*, May 2016 Rank: 3/146

*Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana*  
Bachelor of Arts, Law and Society, May 2013 GPA: 3.35/4.0  
Sociology Department Honors, Liberal Arts Honors & Minor in Forensic Science

## **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

*Purdue University* West Lafayette, Indiana  
Lecturer of Business Law for Daniels School of Business Fall 2023 – Current  
Contract Lecturer of Business Law for Daniels School of Business Spring 2021 – Spring 2023

## **COURSES TAUGHT AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY**

- MGMT 254 – Legal Foundations of Business I
  - Fall 2021 (2 sections); Spring 2022; Spring 2022; Fall 2022; Fall 2023; Spring 2024 (3 sections)
- MGMT 375 – Real Estate Law (created this course)
  - Spring 2023; Fall 2023; Spring 2024
- AGECE 330 – Management Methods for Agriculture Business
  - Spring 2022
- AGECE 425 – Estate Planning and Property Transfer
  - Fall 2021
- MGMT 455 – Legal Background for Business I (generally non-DSB students)
  - Fall 2023
- MGMT 456 – Legal Foundations of Business II (only offered in Spring)
  - Spring 2021; Spring 2022; Spring 2023; Spring 2024
- MGMT 634 – Business Law for Accountants
  - Fall 2023

## **EVIDENCE OF TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS, SELECT STUDENT COMMENTS FROM STUDENT EVALUATIONS**

- MGMT 254 – Legal Foundations of Business I
  - Explaining the terms with examples like grandmas car to help us understand the concepts.
  - Group work as it allowed me to collaborate with my peers and most classes are just lectures and prevent people from making more friends.
  - I really enjoyed the class, Prof harper is a great teacher!
  - I think the professor did a good job at making an organized class where we had the assignment due at the same time every week. She also made informative powerpoint slides that helped me learn.
  - Group project, I learned a lot through these activites
  - What the instructor does very well is that she engages everyone by going over the content of the class and allowing us time to complete our portfolio for the class.
  - The instructor explains certain topics very well and encourages participation in class. I hope that the instructor continues to try to get people to participate and learn from this class, because it is important for many people to learn.
  - Very helpful with any questions and very fair grader
  - I think the instructor does a good job at answering students questions and she clearly cares about her students.
  - Lectured well.
  - Love how she gives real life examples/experiences to really help us understand the meaning of the topics.

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- She cares about her students and in explaining well the topic
- I think she did a great job when it came to planning and communicating with us across the board.
- The learning environment in the class is very engaging and she creates a very inclusive learning environment.
- She is really passionate about bus law
- I liked having a weekly quiz instead of assignments. This helped me learn more about the material through studying rather than busywork. I really enjoyed this class!
  
- MGMT 375 – Real Estate Law (created this course)
  - Cecelia does a great job of giving real-life examples of situations. She simplifies language to help us understand.
  - Cecelia is amazing at teaching and her stories really help me remember my stuff! I hope she continues to teach like that.
  - Very interesting class I like how you explain everything
  
- AGEC 330 – Management Methods for Agriculture Business
  - I like that she encourages attendance through activities and opportunities for extra credit in the class. It helped motivate me to show up and learn every day.
  - The interactive reviews in class really help students engage! It is fun for everyone and a great learning opportunity.
  - Review sessions after every chapter are very helpful.
  - Very interactive class and good communicator
  - Awesome awesome professor. I love the layout of the class and how we always know exactly what we are going to be doing. I feel like I am learning a lot and the book is an easy read, so I actually read it. Keep it up.
  - Reviews were very helpful as well as good communication
  - Very enthusiastic and engages with students. She doesn't just stand up and read straight from the powerpoint like some professor's.
  - I enjoyed the simplicity in the organization of the class. It was very easy to know what and when to study. You didn't try to make it super complicated or do too much at once like some other classes.
  - I hope you would continue to lecture just like you do, everything you say is articulated so well it is very easy to keep up with the course.
  - Professor Harper is more than fair in the way she tests students on the material and the way she delivers it. I love the extra credit attendance points system you have too.
  - Cecelia Harper is so kind to students and treats them like real human beings. I love the way she organizes the class and gives participation to help boost our grade. I love that she cares for those students still if they happen to miss class for some reason or another.
  - Thank you for making this class one of my more laid back restful classes of the day! I was really nervous heading into the semester. I had gone into my freshman year first semester in the exploratory studies and then decided to major in Turf Management my second semester. I was scared when I saw AGEC 330 on my schedule knowing that it was an upper level course for most students and I wasn't sure how I would do. Overall, I think I have done alright. If I could go back and change anything on my part, it would be to not miss class for any reason and to also be disciplined and read the book. I realized that I really struggled opening the book and reading the assigned chapters. I hope I can do alright in this class as we end the semester, my grade I don't think has been much of a concern. If I ever had to go back and change anything, it would be to definitely read the chapters and feel more comfortable with the material. Thanks for a great semester! I enjoyed this class!
  - She did very well in teaching her lessons. I really liked that she would do a review over the chapter and encouraged students to participate in answering the questions. She was very organized and you could tell she cared about how students performed in class.
  - I like how there is a paper for us to get some security in our grades beside tests only. I like how we have a review after each chapter, and it is very inclusive and helpful.
  - Professor Harper engages with the class like I have never seen before. She does a great job at engaging with the students

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- I like the review sessions she has at the end of each chapter. It helps me get some of the main takeaways from the chapter and also helps me understand more of the complicated topics.
  - Loved this class!
  - Sets out the class where its fun and easy to learn.
  - Loved this class definitely one of my favorites so far!
  - I like how she interacts with the class a lot.
  - I enjoyed this class a lot, it was easy to follow and Professor Harper was very easy and entertaining to listen too. You can tell she is passionate about the content.
  - Loved this course!! Instructor was amazing and always there to help with material.
  - She is very energetic and keeps class entertaining.
  - She clearly explains each topic that we lean about. She also gives clear directions for all of our assignments.
  - She made the class interesting and explained everything very well. I hope she continually teaches and stays as interesting as she was for AGEC 330.
- AGEC 425 – Estate Planning and Property Transfer
    - Engages class and provides a lot of examples
    - I appreciate that Cecilia goes over content from the book and reviews each chapter before moving on to the next.
    - She is a good professor and knows how to teach.
    - Explains a lot and is very passionate about subject
    - This has been one of my favorite classes i have taken at Purdue. She keeps the class involved and kept the class up at 8:30 in the morning.
    - I love how she uses examples that she has come across with her work. It helps to make the concepts make more sense and easier to understand. I enjoyed doing the quiz questions in class after finishing a chapter. This helped me to see what topics I needed to go back over.
    - Great class
- MGMT 455 – Legal Background for Business I (generally non-DSB students)
    - Professor Harper was very educated in the topics that she taught and came to class with enthusiasm.
    - I think you did a great job making 730 tolerable. Thanks for all the energy that early in the morning.
    - She keeps the class very involved, which is nice.
    - I have really enjoyed Professor Harper as an instructor for this course! I enjoy how passionate she is about what she is teaching, and she makes it fun to learn. I really like how she provides plenty of real world examples that are easy to understand when we are learning a new topic or definition. She makes sure to answer questions not only with a simple, easy to understand explanation, but makes sure to provide detail to cover the entire question that was asked. I also really enjoyed the in class assignments, as they helped you to make sure you understood what we learned in class from that given day.
    - She does well in giving us direction about what to expect on our weekly quizzes.
    - She relates the in class material to real life cases.
    - Professor Harper is very well versed in business law and makes for a great professor for the topic because she knows every in and out of anything law related. She makes sure to give relevant examples of cases to help students better understand the topics being covered.
    - The lectures are clear, organized and interesting
    - Prof Harper does a really good job at explaining these really difficult concepts.
    - I really liked this class. It was extremely educational. I had a hard time understanding if I was performing well in the class quizzes. They are pretty tough.
    - I hope you continue to use your real life examples. It makes the class very engaging.
    - Teach the lectures well.
    - I liked how she was always willing to answer questions during class time regardless of the topic.
    - I think you do a fantastic job of discussing what needs to be discussed in lectures, and you do a great job of answering whatever questions people may have.

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- Class was organized very simply which made it really nice and enjoyable
  - I always loved the energy in this class. Even though it was at 7:30am, she was always positive and excited to teach us. The organization of this class is very consistent making it easy to stay on top of all the work.
  - Dr. Harper is always ready for lecture. She has great energy.
  - Communicates well with deadlines and with the class in lectures.
  - Cecilia is very well versed in her field and knows what she is talking about. She is clearly passionate about law
  - You can tell how passionate she is about it. She makes the content really relevant.
  - The lecturing is pretty good it was just hard at such an early time, really what made this course not as enjoyable for me.
  - I appreciate the energy in such an early class, sometimes we as students don't bring that energy at 7 am.
  - I like how you related tv shows to class. It enhanced my comprehension.
  - Very energetic and knowledgeable
  - The instructor is good at taking the time to answer students' questions in class.
  - The instructor communicates well.
  - She effectively answers students' questions with great detail and makes sure the student is confident in the topic afterwards.
  - She is passionate and energetic during lectures and answers questions well.
  - Really enjoyed your class, and feel as though I've learnt a lot! Thank you for the fun semester.
  - The instructor communicates and teaches the class which is a good thing. There are some concepts that are taught which I would like to see in class for the future.
  - Ms. Harper does a great job at clearly articulating the material, but also explains the real world applications of them. This is helpful to understand as it pertains to so many different scenarios. In addition, Ms. Harper has made the online resources easy to follow and the quizzes are really helpful to highlight what we know and need to learn more about.
  - All is well. Awesome professor
- MGMT 456 – Legal Foundations of Business II (only offered in Spring)
    - She is so nice. She always has so much energy and I love it. She cares about her job and her students and it's obvious.
    - Our instructor does a great job explaining the material!
    - great instructor. very helpful in accommodating my schedule and lectures were very useful
    - I believe that Cecelia is very enthusiastic about teaching us and although it is a subject in which we are not very excited for she is understanding and makes the class not feel boring.
    - Professor Harper loves everything about law which made the class interesting. She showed us different resources that we can take advantage of outside of the classroom and was very approachable with questions.
    - She explains material very well and has great examples. The way she speaks is engaging and is approachable. I HATED how attendance was required but damn it helped me show up to class and do better than I would have
    - Found the PowerPoints to be pretty helpful
    - This instructor was very kind and open to our questions, she cared about every student and created good activities which helped us learn the material.
    - Prof. Harper takes time to understand where students are getting confused and tackling the issue. She genuinely cares that students are learning and she takes the time every class to answer questions.
    - I liked the discussions and how they had to be relevant to what we learned in class to give us a real world example of what we are learning.
    - Reviewing examples in class was very helpful and the exam reviews were great preparation for the exam. I thoroughly enjoyed this class and this professor is amazing and so engaging! I felt like I was well prepared and had all the resources needed to do well.
    - I hope the class remains interactive because when the professor acts like they have a pulse, it helps students stay engaged and makes the material more fun to learn.
    - I think the instructor shows that she cares about her students and is very welcoming of questions.
    - She brings high energy into the classroom that helps keep the class engaged.

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- MGMT 634 – Business Law for Accountants
  - The instructor is very passionate and works through all the problems with the students in an engaging and discussion based approach that works really well.
  - Professor Harper is extremely engaging with the content and seems to care deeply for her students and their understanding. She is always eager to answer questions.
  - I like the questions we use for discussion at the end of each class along with the outline you made for us.
  - Cecelia always has very good energy in class. Seems to be very passionate about law and does a good job covering the important course concepts that will be necessary to know for the CPA exam.
  - I liked how the exams were designed as a way to help us prepared to the CPA exam. The outlines before the exam were very helpful in preparing for the exam.
  - I appreciate the enthusiasm that Cecilia brings to the classroom. She works hard to make students feel comfortable while answering and asking questions. She also does a great job on the outlines she provides for exams.
  - Professor Harper is a great instructor that is energetic. She is knowledgeable about course material. She makes material understandable and is always willing to help students.
  - I love the questions at the end. It helps understand what will be asked of me. The energy is great!
  - It's very clear she wants her students to succeed, not just in class, but post-graduation, too. I like that she's doing the best she can to prepare us for the business law portion of the CPA exams. It makes the class feel more beneficial. Her real world examples make it easier to understand and remember the different concepts. She obviously has a lot of knowledge and at least appears to know what she's talking about. She's easy to hear and pay attention to. All around a great teacher.
  - Love the energy while teaching. Also like that the professor makes guides for the exam, was very helpful for studying.
  - The lectures are engaging and the questions are helpful.
  - I had Professor Harper in undergrad and I have really appreciated her teachings the both times I have now taken her class. She is very passionate about what she does and it comes across when she teaches. She is also always our biggest supporter and wants to see us all succeed. I think all the content we are taught is relevant to the CPA or just good general knowledge to have has business people
  - I really enjoyed the questions at the end of every class. They got me to apply the principles that we learned each course.
  - Dr. Harper is always enthusiastic and happy to teach in class, which makes class much more fun and easy to pay attention to.
  - Our professor brought great energy to the classroom which was great because it was a later class. She also provides outlines and practice questions which help study for the exams. She also cares about people and is welcoming to any questions and concerns. She also is great at providing examples, and her strong knowledge shines through when she teaches - it's awesome!

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE AT THE SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY LEVEL**

- 2023 Winter Commencement College Marshall for DSB
  - BCOM Lecturers Search Committee
  - Purdue Lecturer Review Committee
- Winter 2023, Spring 2024  
Fall 2023 – Current  
Fall 2023 – Current

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## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- On-going Continuing Legal Education
  - 2023, FDCPA Dangers and Other Collection Pitfalls
  - 2023, Annual Banker Law Tax Seminar
  - 2022, Basics of Landlord/Tenant Law
  - 2022, Load and Make Ready: Understanding Indiana Firearms Law
  - 2022, Adult Guardianship Training
  - 2022, Planning for When the Circle of Life Begins
  - 2022, Title Law in Indiana
  - 2021, Collection Law from Start to Finish
  - 2020, Legal Aid CLE
  - 2020, Mastering Microsoft Word in the Law Office
  - 2020, COVID Roundtable and E-notary
  - 2019, Legal Aid CLE
  - 2019, GAL Training for Pro Bono Service
  - 2019, Ag Law Annual Meeting
  - 2018, Applied Professionalism Course
  - 2018, Ethical Issues for Trust Professionals
  - 2018, Commercial Courts Pilot Project
  - 2017, 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Agricultural Law Education Symposium
  - 2017, Retirement Benefits
  - 2017, Gun Trusts & Estate Planning for Firearms
  - 2017, The Section 2704 Valuation Rules and Their Impact on Advanced Estate Planning Techniques
  - 2016, Talk to a Lawyer Today Prep
  - 2016, Annual Banker Lawyer Tax Seminar
- Attend monthly DSB Teaching & Learning Luncheon

## **AWARDS**

- Indiana Super Lawyer Award 2023 and 2024
  - Link for 2023 Award and Article:  
<https://digital.superlawyers.com/superlawyers/inslrs23/MobilePagedReplica.action?pm=2&folio=8#pg8>

## **INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE**

<i>Bennett Boehning &amp; Clary LLP (BB&amp;C)</i>	Lafayette, Indiana
Business Law Attorney	August 2016 – Current
<i>Valparaiso University School of Law Mediation Clinic</i>	Valparaiso, Indiana
Student Mediator	August 2015 – May 2016
<i>Gutwein Law</i>	Lafayette, Indiana
Summer Associate	Summer 2015
<i>Porter County Superior Court Two, Hon. William E. Alexa</i>	Valparaiso, Indiana
Law Clerk Extern	Spring 2015
<i>United States Attorney's Office</i>	Hammond, Indiana
Certified Law Clerk	Summer 2014
<i>Flory and Smith, Attorneys at Law</i>	Lafayette, Indiana
Legal Assistant	May to August 2013
Legal Intern	September to December 2012

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Lafayette Urban Ministry Homeless Shelter  
Independent Contractor for Case Management  
Homeless Shelter Coordinator

Lafayette, Indiana  
July 2011 to July 2013  
Spring 2011 to Summer 2012

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Tippecanoe County Bar Association
- Indiana State Bar Association
- Leadership Lafayette, Class 48

## **PHILANTHROPIC ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- Former Board Member and Governance Committee Chair, NICHES Land Trust
- Former Board Member and Secretary, Roberts Ridge HOA

## **PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS**

- Cecelia M. Harper, Note, *How Do I Divorce My Gang? Modifying the Defense of Withdrawal for a Gang-Related Conspiracy*, 50 VAL. U. L. REV. (2016).
- Clifford D. Fisher & Cecelia M. Neihouser, *Women's Equality in the Workplace*, 4 INT'L. J. OF SCI. AND ENGINEER. RES. 17 (2013).
- Zach D. Briggs, Clifford D. Fisher & Cecelia M. Neihouser, *Mothers at Work*, 5 INT'L J. OF BUS. INSIGHTS AND TRANS. (2012).
- Cecelia M. Neihouser, Clifford D. Fisher & Zach D. Briggs, *Mothers at Work*, Presentation at MID-ATLANTIC LAW & SOCIETY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE, October 19-20, 2012, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.