

July 23, 2014

Hello Dr. Madhok,

I hope you are having a good summer and the past year has treated you well. I have finished my first year of law school very much in tact. The whole experience is just how I imagined it would be, which is to say, very difficult and time consuming. That said, I have learned so much my first year and have been loving every minute of it.

I've found that the critical thinking skills instilled in me by everyone in the Philosophy department have been invaluable for my first year, particularly when learning how to discern the meanings behind the assigned readings at the outset. Also, all of the legal theories which you taught me in your Philosophical Issues in Law class were directly touched upon in my Criminal Law class this past semester. The class began with a distinction between retributivist and utilitarian ideals as they are applied in the criminal law system. Several of the cases we read in Philosophical Issues in Law (such as State v. Rusk) were also pivotal cases to the Criminal Law course as taught by my professor. Taking your Philosophical Issues in Law class helped my performance in Criminal Law immensely, since I was already familiar with the core material.

I would like to thank you and the Philosophy Department for all you have done for me during my time at Albion College. I know I owe my successes in Albion and at the University of Minnesota Law School to you all. I wish everyone in the Philosophy Department the best for the coming school year! Let's see if we can send another Albion Philosophy major my way for law school. I promise it isn't that cold once you get used to it (you may never get used to it).

Warmest Regards,

Chris Mantay