Welcome. Our first class is Monday, August 20th from 9:05-10:55 a.m. in Room 203.

- In our casebook (Hazard, Fletcher, Bundy & Bradt’s Pleading and Procedure: Cases and Materials, 11th edition, 2015), please read pages 1-13 (the structure of a lawsuit), 13-17 (the structure of the court system), 26-31 notes 7 & 8 (a brief history of the Federal Rules and how they are created), and 34 note 1 (remedies).

- In our Federal Rules book (West’s Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, 2018-2019 Educational Edition), please read Rules 1, 2, 3, & 4 (a)-(c) (on pages 55, 58, 58, & 59-60, respectively). Read only the short texts of the Rules themselves, and not the Advisory Committee Notes following each Rule.

- Be ready to discuss these questions in class:

1. What is this course about? Why is it called “Civil” Procedure? And what “Procedure” is referenced in the course title?

2. What is the difference between procedural law and substantive law?  
   (Hint: See casebook pages 6 note 4c and 34 note 1)

3. If you had to design a system to resolve civil disputes, what key goals or attributes would it have?

4. Do the federal and state trial courts differ? If yes, how?  
   (Hint: See casebook pages 14-16)

5. As you go through the semester, be sure to intentionally think about your thinking and consciously track how you learn. In other words: Strive to be metacognitive. For example, did you find this reading assignment to be difficult? Why? What will you do the next time you read a Civ Pro assignment to address these difficulties? Why?  
   (Hint: Keep asking yourself why and formulating a response to your self-questioning.)