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**FINAL EXAMINATION**

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**Lawyers and Literature | Spring, 2016 | James R. Elkins**

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For your first “reading” in Lawyers and Literature you were assigned Franz Kafka’s parable, “Before the Law.” Your instructor contends that “Before the Law” should be required reading for every first year law student. What support or opposition would you present to bolster or undermine your teacher’s claim?

If you want to avoid taking sides on the particular question whether 1<sup>st</sup> year law students should be required to tackle the Kafka parable (perhaps fearing that the parable might have unintended consequences for new law school initiates), you are invited to respond to a replacement question: What place does Kafka’s parable, “Before the Law” (and other parables) have in a law student’s education?