LGST 101-001 Syllabus
Fall 2010
INTRODUCTION TO LAW AND THE LEGAL PROCESS

Professor: Nichols
Office: 600 Huntsman Hall
Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. to noon
Office Phone: 898-9369

Assigned Reading: You must obtain a course pack through study.net/Wharton Reprographics. This service is new to the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and we will figure out how to use it together. Please do the assigned reading before class, and please bring the bulk pack to class with you.

Grading: Class preparation, participation and attendance will count 30% of your grade. There will be one midterm exam counting 35% of your grade and a final exam counting 35% of your grade.

TOPICAL ASSIGNMENTS

I. AN INTRODUCTION TO LAW AND LEGAL SYSTEMS

Sept. 8; Class 1: Introduction: What is Law?

Readings: 1. Law and Language: A Preliminary Note
2. Introduction to Law

Sept. 13; Class 2: What is International Law?

Reading: 3. Methods and Principles for Creating International Law

Sept. 15; Class 3: Legal Reasoning

Readings: 4. There are No Secret Books
5. The Case of the Speluncean Explorers
6. An Introductory Note on Jurisprudence

Sept 20; Class 4: Property: Personal Property

Readings: 7. You are What You Own
8. Popov v. Hayashi
9. Swift v. Gifford
10. Koron v. Cashman

Sept. 22; Class 5: Property: Intellectual Property

Readings: 11. The Strategist’s Dream
12. Four Kinds of Intellectual Property in the United States
13. Company Isn’t Afraid to Take Copycats to Court
15. DuPont deNemours v. Christopher

Sept. 27; Class 6: What is law like?

Readings: 34. Your Day in Court – The Litigation Process
35. Sue First, Ask Questions Later
36. The Court System
37. The Adversarial System

Sept. 29; Class 7: Property: Real Property

17. Borton v. Forest Hills
18. Nome 2000 v. Fagerstrom
19. Constitutional Law

Oct. 4; Class 8: Privacy and the Fourth Amendment

Readings: 21. When Can the Police Conduct a Search and Seizure?
22. Search and Seizure
23. Dow Chemical v. United States
24. Kyllo v. United States
25. Bond v. United States

Oct. 6; Class 9: Privacy in Daily Life

27. McLain v. Boise Cascade
29. Reno v. Condon
30. Barriers to the Constitutional Right to Privacy: Patriot Act – Forgoing Liberty for Safety?

Oct. 13; Class 10: Crime

Reading: 31. Criminal Law

Oct. 18; Class 11: Intentional Torts

Reading: 32. Intentional Torts

Oct. 20; Class 12: Negligence

Readings: 33. Negligence and Strict Liability

Oct. 25; Class 13: Review
Readings: everything so far

Oct. 27; Class 14: MIDTERM EXAMINATION

II. PRIVATE LAW: ENFORCING VOLUNTARY AGREEMENTS

Nov. 1; Class 15: Contract Law: Introduction and Need for Writing

Readings: 38. Introduction to Contracts
          39. Steinberg v. Chicago Medical School
          40. Contracts in Writing
          41. Iacono v. Lyons

Nov. 3; Class 16: The Bargain Theory – Consideration

Reading: 42. Consideration – The Basic Concept

Nov. 8; Class 17: The Bargain Theory – Offer

Reading: 43. Intent to Contract: Offer and Acceptance

Nov. 10; Class 18: The Bargain Theory – Acceptance

Reading: 44. Acceptance

Nov. 15; Class 19: TBA

Reading: TBA

Nov. 17; Class 20: The Bargain Theory – Termination of Power of Acceptance

Readings: 45. Termination of the Power of Acceptance
          46. Lyon v. Adgraphic

Nov. 22; Class 21: Remedies for Breach of Contract

Readings: 47. Remedies (From Contracts in a Nutshell)
          48. McAllister v. Patton
          49. Equitable Remedies

Nov. 24; Class 22: analyzing contracts

Reading: as needed

Nov. 29; Class 23: Remedies for Breach of Contract

Readings: 50. Remedies
          51. Damages Under the Uniform Commercial Code
          52. Laredo Hides v. H & H Meat Products
          53. Seller’s Damages – Trading v. Teledyne
Dec. 1; Class 24: Limitations on Remedies for Breach of Contract

Readings: 54. A Note on Limitations to Contract Remedies
55. Ericson v. Playgirl
57. Parker v. Twentieth Century Fox

Dec. 6; Class 25: Wrinkles in Contract Law

Readings: 58. A Note on Promissory Liability Outside the Bargain Model
59. Gorham v. Benson Optical
60. Hoffman v. Red Owl Stores
61. Drennan v. Star Paving
62. A Note on Unconscionability, Duress and Illegality
63. Austin Instruments v. Loral Group

Dec. 8; Class 26: Review Session

Probable FINAL EXAMINATION – Monday, December 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00
(This is a tentative schedule. Please check registrar's official postings at the end of the
semester.)