

LGST 101-007 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
14. Suing Your Customers: A Winning Business Strategy?
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

- Readings:
16. Sturgis v. Bridgmen
 17. Borton v. Forest Hills
 18. Nome 2000 v. Fagerstrom
 19. Constitutional Law
 20. Constitutional Law for a Changing America (The Takings Clause: Penn Central v. New York)

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

- Readings:
26. Washington v. Chrisman
 27. McLain v. Boise Cascade
 28. Falvo v. Owasso Independent School District
 29. Reno v. Condon
 30. Barriers to the Constitutional Right to Privacy: Patriot Act – Foregoing 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

Readings: 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 – Wednesday, December 22 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.)