

Draft of May 23, 2014

**LGST 101**  
**Syllabus**  
**Summer 2014**  
**Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00 to 10:30**  
**INTRODUCTION TO LAW AND THE LEGAL PROCESS**

Instructor: Gastón de los Reyes

Office: 600 Huntsman Hall

Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:30-4:30pm and Wednesdays after class

Office Phone: 898-9369

Assigned Reading: You must purchase the third edition of *Law 101: Everything You Need to Know About American Law*, by Jay Feinman (2010) available [here on Amazon](#). In addition, you will need to obtain a course pack through study.net/Wharton Reprographics (not yet ready for purchase). Please do the assigned reading before class, and please bring the book and bulk pack to class with you (as applicable). Additional readings will be posted on the Canvas site, which will become the final authority on course assignments after the first day of class.

Grading: Class preparation, participation and attendance will count for 15% of your grade. There will be one group exercise that will count for 10% of your grade. There will be four (45 to 60 minute) quizzes counting for 50% of your grade and a final paper counting for 35% of your grade. Papers will require you to identify a feature of the contemporary legal system that you feel may work less than optimally in terms of its impact on business. You will diagnose the problem and prescribe a solution in an 8-10 page paper (1 inch margins, double-spaced, Times New Roman). The final version paper is due on June 27. You will be required to meet with me to discuss your proposal and to submit a first draft by June 20 for comments (no grade).

## TOPICAL ASSIGNMENTS

### I. AN INTRODUCTION TO LAW AND THE U.S. LEGAL SYSTEM

May 28; Class 1: Introduction: What is Law?

- Readings:
1. Introduction to Law
  2. There are No Secret Books
  3. Articles on GM recall

May 30; Class 2: The Common Law and Legal Reasoning

- Reading:
4. The Case of the Speluncean Explorers
  5. [history of common law, incorporation]
  6. [on equity]

June 2; Class 3: What is law like?; Law in Business Strategy

- Readings:
7. Your Day in Court – The Litigation Process
  8. Sue First, Ask Questions Later

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- 9. The Court System
- 10. The Adversarial System

## **II. PRIVATE LAW: PROPERTY AND TORTS**

- June 4; Class 4: Property (and quiz on Part I of class)
- June 6; Class 5: Intellectual Property/Real Property
- June 9; Class 6: Intentional Torts & Negligence
- June 11; Class 7: Strict Liability & Products Liability

## **III. PRIVATE LAW: CONTRACTS**

- June 13; Class 8: Contracting as a Mode of Governance (and quiz on Part II of class)
- June 16; Class 9: Assumpsit, Consideration & the Construction of Contracts
- June 18; Class 10: Remedies for Breach of Contract
- June 20; Class 11: Offer & Acceptance; Parol Evidence Rule
- June 23; Class 12: Equitable Defenses; Drafting Agreements

## **IV. PUBLIC LAW: THE REGULATORY STATE AND THE CORPORATION**

- June 25; Class 13: Criminal Law (and quiz on Part III of class)
- June 27; Class 15: Constitutional Law
- June 30; Class 16: Securities Law and Corporate Law
- July 2; Class 17: Administrative Law (and quiz on Part IV of class)