This course is an introduction to law and the legal process. It will help you understand how legal systems work, how lawyers and judges think, how social values impact the way laws are interpreted, and how legal rules evolve to cover new situations. The first part of the course surveys the ways judges think about the law using a variety of topics across the landscape of the law. The second part of the course focuses in depth on contract law so you can understand how the legal doctrine develops in a specific area that is critical to business. The final classes treat a subject that will be selected by your instructor based on the instructor’s special expertise and interests.

The readings are contained in a Course Pack (CP) you can obtain online from study.net. The reading materials for this course have recently been extensively revised; therefore the purchase of used copies of bulk-packs from previous semesters is not recommended!

Grading will be based on a mid-term and a final exam.

CLASS TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

January 14 Class 1 Course Introduction  
CP: 1  
21-26 Class 2 Jurisprudence: How Do Judges Decide Cases?  
CP: 2-6  
28 Class 3 The Law of Personal Property: What is Possession?  
CP: 7-13

February 2 Class 4 Intellectual Property  
CP: 14-20  
4 Class 5 Real Property: Rights and Constitutional Constraints  
CP: 21-26
February
9  Class 6 Privacy and the Fourth Amendment
   CP: 27-32
11  Class 7 Privacy and the Law in Daily Life
    CP: 33-39
16  Class 8 Torts
    CP: 40-42
18  Class 9 Civil Procedure
    CP: 43-47
23  Class 10 The Jury System
    CP: 48-52
25  MID-TERM EXAM

March
2  Class 11 Contract Law – Introduction and the Need for a Writing
   CP: 53-57
4  Class 12 The Bargain Theory: Consideration
   CP: 58
16  Class 13 The Bargain Theory: Offer
    CP: 59
18  Class 14 The Bargain Theory: Acceptance
    CP: 60
23  Class 15 The Bargain Theory: Termination of the Power of Acceptance (Option
    Contracts)
    CP: 61-62
25  Class 16 Remedies for Breach of Contract: Specific Performance
    CP: 63-65
30  Class 17 Remedies for Breach of Contract: Expectation Damages
    CP: 66-67

April
1  Class 18 Remedies for Breach of Contract: Reliance and Restitution
    CP: 68-71
6  Class 19 Limitations on Remedies for Breach of Contract
    CP: 72-75
8  Class 20 Promissory Liability Outside the Bargain Model
    CP: 76-79
13  Class 21 Third-Party Beneficiaries I
    CP: 80
| April 15 | Class 22 Third-Party Beneficiaries II  
CP: 80 |
| April 20 | Class 23 Agency Law I  
CP: 81 |
| April 22 | Class 24 Agency Law II  
CP: 81 |
| April 27 | Class 25 Agency Law III  
CP: 81 |
| April 29 | Review of Course |

| May 6 | (Wednesday) 9 – 11 AM Final Examination  
(Location to be announced) |