LGST 101-301
Fall 2016
INTRODUCTION TO LAW AND THE LEGAL PROCESS
honors section

Professor: Nichols
Office: 655 Huntsman Hall
Office Hours: Tuesdays
Office Phone: 898-9369

Assigned Reading: You must obtain a course pack through study.net/Wharton Reprographics. Please do the assigned reading before class, and please bring the bulk pack to class with you. This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Grading: Class preparation, participation and attendance will count 30% of your grade. Class participation includes attending class, on time. Class participation also includes evidence of preparation, and thoughtful contribution to the class discussion. A class presentation and the accompanying short paper will count for 30% of your grade. There will be one midterm exam counting 20% of your grade and a final exam counting 20% of your grade.

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE CURRENT SYLLABUS.

TOPICAL ASSIGNMENTS

I. AN INTRODUCTION TO LAW AND LEGAL SYSTEMS

Aug. 31; Class 1: Introduction: What is Law?

Readings: 1. Introduction to Law
2. There are No Secret Books

Sept. 7; Class 2: What is International Law?

Readings: 3. Sources of International Law
4. Is There International Law?

Sept. 12; Class 3: Legal Reasoning

Readings: 5. An Introductory Note on Jurisprudence
6. The Case of the Speluncean Explorer

II. AREAS OF LAW

Sept 14; Class 4: Property: Personal Property

Readings: 7. You are What You Own
8. Popov v. Hayashi
9. Swift v. Gifford
Sept. 19; Class 5: Property: Intellectual Property

Readings:
10. Four Kinds of Intellectual Property in the United States
11. DuPont deNemours v. Christopher
12. Alice Corp. v. CLS Banking International

Sept. 21; Class 6: Property: Does Property Constrain Growth and Innovation

Readings:
13. Free Culture
14. The Strategist’s Dream

Sept. 26; Class 7: Constitution: And Constitutionalism

Readings:
15. Constitutional Law
16. Constitutionalism

Sept. 28; Class 8: Privacy: And the Fourth Amendment

Readings:
17. When Can the Police Conduct a Search and Seizure?
18. Dow Chemical v. United States
19. Kyllo v. United States

Oct. 3; Class 9: Privacy: In the Current World

Readings:
20. Privacy and the Patriot Act
21. Privacy and Data

Oct. 5; Class 10: Crime: Duties to the State

Reading:
22. Criminal Law

Oct. 10; Class 11: Tort: Duties to One Another

Readings:
23. Intentional Torts
23. Negligence and Strict Liability

Oct. 12; Class 12: Duties: Enforcement

Readings:
24. Legal Myths: The McDonalds Hot Coffee Case
25. Death Penalty Worldwide

Oct. 17; Class 13: Enforcement

Reading:
26. Sue First, Ask Questions Later
27. The Adversarial System

Oct. 19; Class 14: Review

Readings: everything so far

Oct. 24; Class 15: MIDTERM EXAMINATION
II. PRIVATE LAW: ENFORCING VOLUNTARY RELATIONSHIPS

Oct. 26; Class 16: Contract: What is a Contract

Readings:  
28. Introduction to Contracts  
29. Steinberg v. Chicago Medical School  
30. Contracts in Writing

Oct. 31; Class 17: The Bargain Theory – Consideration

Reading:  
31. Consideration – The Basic Concept

Nov. 2; Class 18: The Bargain Theory – Offer

Reading:  
32. Intent to Contract: Offer and Acceptance

Nov. 7; Class 19: The Bargain Theory – Termination of Power of Acceptance

Readings:  
33. Termination of the Power of Acceptance  
34. Lyon v. Adgraphic

Nov. 9; Class 20: The Bargain Theory – Remedies

Readings:  
35. Remedies  
36. A Note on Limitations to Remedies  
37. Hawkins v. McGee  
38. Ericson v. Playgirl

Nov. 14; Class 21: Contract: Unconscionablity and Good Faith

Readings:  
39. A Note on Unconscionability  
40. Walker v. Thompson Furniture  
41. Bhasin v. Hyrnew

Nov. 16; Class 22: Agency

Readings:  
42. The Fiduciary Relationship: A Legal Perspective  
43. The Uses and Abuses of Agency Theory

Nov. 21; Class 23: Business Forms

Readings:  
44. The Three Basic Business Forms  
45. Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission

Nov. 28; Class 24: Insider Trading

Readings:  
46. The Conceptual Problems with the Law of Insider and Outsider Trading  
47. Hedge Fund Billionaire Is Guilty of Insider Trading: A Circle of Tipsters Who Shared Illicit Secrets
Nov. 30; Class 25: B Corporations and Shareholder Primacy

    Readings: 48. The B Corporation
                49. Two Extreme Views

Dec. 5; Class 26: class presentations

Dec. 7; Class 27: class presentations

Dec. 12; Class 28: Review Session

    Readings: everything

The examination schedule posted by the Registrar currently states that the final examination for this course will be held on Thursday December 22, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Please continue to check the final examination schedule for the correct time and date.