

INTRODUCTION TO LAW AND THE LEGAL PROCESS
LEGAL STUDIES 101-007 - Fall 2017
Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
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OVERVIEW: This course surveys the fundamentals of the U.S. legal system and process, its evolution and the social policy needs of our society. It will introduce several substantive areas of law, with a particular focus on contracts and applications of traditional legal concerns in emerging technology policy contexts, and will conclude with an introduction to America's place in the legal world order.

CLASS MEETS: Monday Wednesday 3:00-4:30 JMHH G50

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday 1:30-2:30, Wednesday 4:30-5:30, or send me an email (and it's not a bad idea to send me an email if you're thinking of coming by regardless – I'm open for business Wednesday afternoon, but capable of drifting off to the coffee machine). I'm happy to meet on most other days of the week.

MATERIALS: A set of readings customized for this course, available on Canvas. I will add occasional additional readings over the course of the semester.

SCHEDULE: We have approximately 28 classes, and, as you can see, XXX topics to cover. We may adjust the schedule as the semester continues. Nonetheless, you should plan to read the next assignment for the next class, even if we haven't exhausted all discussion of the current one.

NO DEVICE POLICY: The use of laptop computers, cellular/smart phones, text messaging devices, or other such digital devices is not permitted during class. Any lecture slides I use will be placed on Canvas.

COURSE FORMAT: The course combines lecture, Socratic dialogue, and group discussion. Active class participation is expected. Excellent class participation, as determined by the professor, in my sole discretion, may result in up to five additional points added to your final exam score. (Consequently, your final exam grade may improve by as much as a full letter grade.)

GRADING:

- Group Projects, plus accompanying short papers – 10%
- Midterm exam – 40%
- Final exam – 40%
- Class participation – 10%

Class Subjects:

- 1 **Vehicles in the Park**
9-12
- 2 **Introduction to the Legal System**
13-40
- 3 **Speluncean Explorers – The Judge**
41-84
- 4 **Civil Procedure – Litigation**
85-118
- 5 **Civil Procedure – The Jury**
119-156
- 6 **Property – Personal and Real**
157-202
- 8 **Contracts: Introduction**
203-254
- 9 **Contracts: Consideration and the Offer**
255-274
- 10 **Contracts: Acceptance**
275-306
- 11 **Contracts: Remedies I**
307-348
- 12 **Contracts: Remedies II**
349-362

- 13 **Contracts: Remedies III**
363-438
- 14 **In Class Midterm**
- 15 **Torts**
439-470
- 16 **Constitutional Law: Takings**
477-492 and The US Constitution, as amended
- 18 **Constitutional Law: Separation of Powers**
529-550
- 19 **Administrative Law**
551-562
- 20 **Statutory Interpretation**
563-602
- 21 **Public Law: The Law of Insider Trading**
603-628
- 17 **Public Law: The Law of Privacy**
493-528
- 22 **Intellectual Property**
628-662

All Papers Accompanying the Group Presentations Are Due One Week Before the First Presentation,

- 23 **International Law**
668-704
- 24 & 25 **The Law In Action - Group Presentations**