

LGST 101-301
Fall 2019
LAW AND SOCIAL VALUES

Professor: Nichols

Office: 600 Huntsman Hall

Office Hours: Thursdays 10:00 to 12:00 – we will switch these around sometimes to try to make them available to people who usually have schedule conflicts

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Welcome to the study of law. Law is really interesting, and touches on almost everything. This class focuses on the common law, mostly in the United States. If you have a question about international law or the laws of other countries, just ask. That is also interesting.

Assigned Reading: Whatever can be posted on Canvas will be, but you also need to obtain a course pack through study.net/Wharton Reprographics/Canvas. Please do the assigned reading before class, and please bring the printed-out readings to class with you (there are many places around campus to print for free, if you cannot find one just ask the instructor). This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor – in the event of a change you will be notified in class.

Grading: Class preparation, participation and attendance will count 25% of your grade. Class participation includes attending class, *on time*. Class participation also includes evidence of preparation, and thoughtful contribution to the class discussion. There will be two exams during the semester, each counting 25% of your grade. A final paper and presentation will count for 25% of your grade. If you have any questions about grading, exams, or the paper, please ask. Drop slips will not be signed after October 10.

Electronics Policy: Please do not have on or use any electronic devices during class.

Missing Class: You may miss two classes, for any reason, during the semester. To use this, please send an email to the instructor *before class* with the subject line “excused absence.” You do not need to include anything in the message or explain why you are missing class. These are yours to use; you do not have to use them but if you do, use them wisely. Each unexcused absence will reduce your grade a half step.

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE A CURRENT SYLLABUS.

and have fun

TOPICAL ASSIGNMENTS

Aug. 28; Class 1: Introduction: What is Law?

Sept. 4; Class 2: Legal Reasoning

Readings: An Introductory Note on Jurisprudence (canvas)

The Case of the Speluncean Explorers (canvas)

Sept. 9; Class 3: Property: Personal Property

Readings: You are What You Own (canvas)
Popov v. Hayashi (canvas)
Swift v. Gifford (canvas)

Sept. 11; Class 4: Property: Intellectual Property

Readings: Four Kinds of Intellectual Property in the United States (canvas)
DuPont deNemours v. Christopher (canvas)
Alice Corp. v. CLS Banking International (canvas)

Sept. 16; Class 5: Constitution and Constitutionalism

Readings: Constitutional Law (study.net)
Constitutionalism (canvas)

Sept. 18; Class 6: Privacy: And the Fourth Amendment

Readings: When Can the Police Conduct a Search and Seizure? (canvas)
Dow Chemical v. United States (canvas)
Kyllo v. United States (canvas)

Sept. 23; Class 7: Crime: Duties to the State

Readings: Criminal Law (study.net)
Baltimore: The Dehumanizing Gaze and Thug Life (canvas)
Excerpts from the Kerner Report (canvas)

Sept. 25; Class 8: Tort: Duties to One Another

Reading: Intentional Torts (study.net)

Sept. 30; Class 9: Tort: Duties to One Another

Readings: Negligence and Strict Liability (study.net)

Oct. 2; Class 10: review

Reading: everything so far

Oct. 7; Class 11: examination

Oct. 9; Class 12: What is a Contract

Readings: Introduction to Contracts (study.net)
Steinberg v. Chicago Medical School (canvas)

Oct. 14; Class 13: The Bargain Theory – Consideration

Reading: Consideration – The Basic Concept (study.net)

Oct. 16; Class 14: The Bargain Theory – Offer and Acceptance

Reading: Intent to Contract: Offer and Acceptance (study.net)

Oct. 21; Class 15: The Bargain Theory – Termination of Power of Acceptance

Readings: Termination of the Power of Acceptance (study.net)
Lyon v. Adgraphic (canvas)

Oct. 23; Class 16: The Bargain Theory – Remedies for Breach of Contract

Readings: Remedies
A Note on Limitation to Remedies (canvas)
Ericson v. Playgirl (canvas)

Oct. 28; Class 17: The Bargain Theory – Remedies for Breach of Contract

Readings: Remedies
A Note on Limitation to Remedies (canvas)
Ericson v. Playgirl (canvas)

Oct. 30; Class 18: Agency

Reading: 39. The Fiduciary Relationship: A Legal Perspective (canvas)

Nov. 4; Class 19: Business Forms

Reading: Types of Business Organizations (canvas)

Nov. 6; Class 20: Business Forms

Readings: Summary of Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission (canvas)

Nov. 11; Class 21: Insider Trading

Readings: The Conceptual Problems with the Law of Insider Trading (canvas)
Hedge Fund Billionaire Is Guilty of Insider Trading: A Circle of Tipsters
Who Shared Illicit Secrets (canvas)

Nov. 13; Class 22: Shareholder Primacy

Readings: Two Extreme Views (canvas)

Nov. 18; Class 23: review session

Reading: everything

Nov. 20; Class 24: examination

Nov. 25; Class 25: presentations

Dec. 2; Class 26: presentations

Dec. 4; Class 27: presentations

Dec. 9; Class 28: presentations