



ACADEMIC COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE	TORTS	
COURSE NUMBER	LAW 502A	Torts- 1st semester of two-semester course*
	LAW 502B	Torts - 2nd semester of two-semester course*
	LAW 502A/B*	Torts
	* Denotes all non-severable, two semester courses. Both semesters must be successfully completed to receive final A/B course grade.	
UNITS	3 Units/Semester (must complete both semesters to earn 6-Unit final grade at the end of both semesters)	
COURSE TYPE	Required	
PROFESSOR(S) NAME	Professor Dave Carr	
PROFESSOR CONTACT INFO	david.carr@doj.ca.gov or ph # 415/703-5538	
SCHEDULE	Two-semester class: Spring 2014, Thursdays 6:30-9:30 pm and Room # 209 Summer 2014, Thursdays 6:30-9:30 pm Room # 209	
PREREQUISITES	Successful completion of Introduction to Law and Legal Research and Writing or approved equivalent.	
TEXTS AND MATERIALS	<u>Required:</u> Prosser Wade & Schwartz <i>Torts, Cases & Materials, 12th Edition</i> ; West/Foundation Press, ISBN-13 # 9781599417042. (Loose leaf edition available and acceptable.)	
COURSE DESCRIPTION	Intentional wrongs to persons and property; negligence; duty of persons in control of property; tort liability arising from contractual relationships; liability for defective products; strict liability; deceit; defamation; malicious prosecution; interference with legally protected relations, tort alternatives.	
COURSE OBJECTIVES / ANTICIPATED LEARNING OUTCOMES	<p>Students will learn the essential elements for the various torts, as well as their interrelationships. Fact patterns will be analyzed to ascertain the different theories of tort liability which may be applied.</p> <p>Students will be expected to demonstrate their knowledge through classroom case briefing, discussion, and performance on essay and multiple choice exams.</p> <p>While goals of the course include introduction of the common law of torts, consideration of the evolution of tort law, and how tort law fits into the larger social fabric, the principle goal of the course is to foster the students' ability to apply legal analysis to facts utilizing the appropriate rules of law as a necessary requisite to the competent and ethical practice of law.</p> <p>Students should expect to spend a <u>minimum</u> of two hours/per hour of instruction time on assigned readings and briefing cases; e.g., a 3-hour class would require at least 6 hours of outside preparation.</p>	

FORMAT OVERVIEW / METHOD OF INSTRUCTION	Course material will be presented in a lecture-discussion format. Students will be expected to participate in briefing and class discussions.
EXAMS	<p>The grade will be entirely based on the results of a three hour midterm exam (25% of final grade) and a three hour final exam (75% of final grade).</p> <p>Two essay questions and a series of multi-state/multiple choice questions will be given for both the midterm and final exams. For the essay questions, students will be expected to identify the legal issues raised in the fact patterns, apply the appropriate rules of law, and arrive at a well-reasoned conclusion.</p> <p>For the multi-state/multiple choice questions, students will be expected to choose the best of alternative answers, according to generally accepted common law views.</p>
GRADING / ASSESSMENT CRITERIA/CLASS POLICIES:	<p>Empire College uses the following grading system:</p> <p><u>Numerically graded classes:</u></p> <p>90 – 100 A Outstanding 80 - 89 B Superior 70 - 79 C Satisfactory 65 - 69 D Unsatisfactory 64 and Below Failing/No Credit</p> <p>Only numeric grades in required courses are used to calculate grade point average.</p>
ATTENDANCE:	<p>Regular and punctual attendance is essential for the successful completion of law school. Students should plan to attend every class. Students must attend a minimum of 80% (36 hours — 12 of 15 classes) of the class sessions during each semester. Roll will be taken at each class.</p> <p>Make-up classes to be scheduled if needed.</p>
ASSIGNMENTS: SPRING 2014	
Week 1:	"Development of Liability Based Upon Fault" and "Intentional Interference with Person or Property". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 1 - 37.
Week 2:	"Intentional Interference with Person or Property". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 37 - 68.
Week 3:	"Intentional Interference with Person or Property" and "Privileges". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 68 - 114.
Week 4:	"Privileges" and "Negligence". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 114 – 150.
Week 5:	"Negligence". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text

	pages 150 - 187.
Week 6:	"Negligence". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 187 - 238.
Week 7:	"Negligence" and "Causation in Fact". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 238 - 267.
Week 8:	"Causation in Fact" and "Proximate or Legal Cause". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 267 - 319.
Week 9:	"Proximate or Legal Cause". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 319 - 373.
Week 10:	"Joint Tortfeasors". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 374 - 405.
Week 11:	"Joint Tortfeasors" and "Duty of Care" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text, pages 405 - 452.
Week 12:	"Duty of Care" and "Owners and Occupiers of Land". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 452 - 509.
Week 13:	"Owners and Occupiers of Land" and "Damages". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 509 - 585.
Week 14:	Class review and exam prep.
Week 15: Midterm date TBA	Midterm exam – 3 hour exam with 2 essay questions and MBEs

ASSIGNMENTS: SUMMER 2014	
Week 1:	"Wrongful Death & Survival" and "Defenses". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 586 - 625.
Week 2:	"Defenses". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 625 - 662.
Week 3:	"Defenses" and "Vicarious Liability". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 662 - 712.
Week 4:	"Strict Liability" and "Products Liability". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 712 - 768.
Week 5:	"Products Liability". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion, Text pages 768 - 832.
Week 6:	"Nuisance" and "Defamation". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 833 - 869.
Week 7:	"Defamation". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 869 - 938.
Week 8:	"Defamation" and "Privacy". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 938 - 1008.
Week 9:	"Privacy" and "Civil Right". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 1008 - 1040.
Week 10:	"Misuse of Legal Procedure" and "Misrepresentation". Read and prepare cases and

	problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 1041 - 1079.
Week 11:	"Misrepresentation". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: pages 1079 - 1116.
Week 12:	"Interference with Advantageous Relationships" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 1117 – 1177
Week 13:	"Torts in the Age of Statutes" and "Compensation Systems as Substitutes for Tort Law". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion: Text pages 1178 - 1236.
Week 14:	Cumulative review and exam prep.
Week 15: Final Exam date TBA	Final Examination – The final exam will be cumulative, covering all course material from both semesters. 3 hour exam with 2 Essay questions and MBEs