

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:	Joseph Stogner, Esq.	
PROFESSOR CONTACT INFO:	707/571-0110 or jlstogner@hotmail.com	
SCHEDULE:	Two-semester class: Spring 2018, Thursdays 6:30-9:30pm, Room # 209 and Summer 2018, Thursdays 6:30-9:30pm, Room # 209	
PREREQUISITES:	Completion of LAW I401– Introduction to Law and LAW I402– Legal Research and Writing, or equivalent	
COREQUISITES:	None	
TEXTS AND MATERIALS: (Identification of any texts, materials and references used throughout the course.)	<p><u>Required:</u> <i>Torts, Cases & Materials, 13th edition</i>; West/ Foundation Press, Prosser Wade Schwartz's ISBN-13 # 9781609304072.</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> <i>The Law of Torts</i>, Hornbook Dobbs, West Group, ISBN#9781628101478</p>	
COURSE DESCRIPTION:	Intentional wrongs to person and property; unintentional wrongs; negligence; duty of persons in control of property; tort liability arising from contractual relationships; liability for defective products; liability without fault; deceit; defamation; malicious prosecution; interference with contractual economic and other legally protectable relations, tort alternatives.	
COURSE OBJECTIVES / ANTICIPATED LEARNING OUTCOMES: (Description of what students will be expected to know and be able to do at the end of the course. What skills or knowledge will be gained by the end of the course.)	<p>This course will cover intentional wrongs to person and property; negligence; duty of persons in control of property; liability without fault; products liability; nuisance; defamation; privacy; misuse of legal process; misrepresentation; interference with contractual relations; and unclassified torts. 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 learn the elements of each tort and all potential defenses. They 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 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 cause students to develop and demonstrate a level of competency in this core subject that will allow them to practice tort law in the state of their choosing.</p>
<p>FORMAT OVERVIEW / METHOD OF INSTRUCTION (Description of how the course will be taught, including breakdown of lecture, practicum, etc.)</p>	<p>Course material will be presented in a lecture-discussion and Socratic method format. Students will be expected to participate in briefing and class discussions.</p>
<p>EXAMS:</p>	<p>The grade will be comprised of the results of a three hour midterm Exam (25%) and a three hour final exam (75%).</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. 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, without consideration of any statutes.</p> <p>General Policies: Exams begin promptly at 6 p.m. All students must take examinations as scheduled. It is recognized that in special circumstances and due to emergencies, it may be necessary to schedule delayed examinations. An emergency is defined as a serious illness or injury to the student or a member of his or her immediate family. Special Circumstances are defined as other situations that, in the opinion of the Dean, are sufficient to warrant delay in taking examinations. Any student taking delayed examinations <u>must have the prior written approval of the Dean.</u> No examination may be taken <u>prior</u> to the day of the regularly scheduled examination. If delayed examinations are approved by the Dean, <u>a fee of \$75 will be charged for each such exam taken.</u> Failure to complete an exam is not sufficient reason for a late or retake exam.</p>
<p>GRADING / ASSESSMENT CRITERIA/CLASS POLICIES:</p>	<p>Empire College uses the following grading system: <u>Numerically graded classes:</u> 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>

	The grade will be comprised of the results of a: Three-hour Midterm exam (25%) and a Three-hour cumulative Final exam (75%).
ATTENDANCE:	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. Make-up classes to be scheduled if needed.
ASSIGNMENTS: Spring 2018	
Week 1: 1/4/18	"Introduction", "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 - 25.
Week 2: 1/11/18	"Intentional Interference with Person or Property". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 25 - 58.
Week 3: 1/18/18	"Intentional Interference with Person or Property" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 59 - 97.
Week 4: 1/25/18	"Privileges". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion--Text pages 98 – 137.
Week 5: 2/1/18	"Negligence". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 139 - 185.
Week 6: 2/8/18	"Negligence". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 185 - 229.
Week 7: 2/15/18	"Negligence" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion--Text pages 229 - 272.
Week 8: 2/22/18	"Causation in Fact" and "Proximate or Legal Cause". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion--Text pages 273 - 320.
Week 9: 3/1/18	"Proximate or Legal Cause". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 320 - 366.
Week 10: 3/8/18	"Proximate Causation" and "Joint Tortfeasors". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 366 - 412.
Week 11: 3/15/18	"Joint Tortfeasors" and "Duty of Care" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 412 - 457.
Week 12: 3/22/18	"Duty of Care" and "Owners and Occupiers of Land". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 457 - 506.
Week 13: 3/29/18	"Owners and Occupiers of Land" and "Damages". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 506 - 569.
Week 14: 4/5/18	Catch-up, semester review, and exam preparation
Week 15: Midterm date TBA	Midterm exam – 3 hour exam with 2 Essay questions & MBEs. Date will be published during the semester to all students. Watch for Exam schedule. Exams period runs 4/9/18 to 4/19/18

ASSIGNMENTS: SUMMER 2018	
Week 1: 5/3/18	"Damages, continued" and "Wrongful Death & Survival" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 569 - 619.
Week 2: 5/10/18	"Defenses". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion—Text pages 619 - 677.
Week 3: 5/17/18	"Defenses" and "Vicarious Liability" . Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 677 - 732.
Week 4: 5/24/18	"Strict Liability" and "Products Liability". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 733 - 780.
Week 5: 5/31/18	"Products Liability". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 781 - 830.
Week 6: 6/7/18	"Products Liability" and "Nuisance" . Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 831 - 878.
Week 7: 6/14/18	"Defamation". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 879 - 934.
Week 8: 6/21/18	"Defamation" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 934 - 999.
Week 9: 6/28/18	"Privacy" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 1001 - 1052.
Week 10: 7/5/18	"Civil Rights", "Misuse of Legal Procedure" and "Misrepresentation". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text, pages 1053 - 1106.
Week 11: 7/12/18	"Misrepresentation". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion, Text pages 1107 - 1154.
Week 12: 7/19/18	"Interference with Advantageous Relationships" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion, Text pages 1155 – 1214
Week 13: 7/26/18	"Torts in the Age of Statutes". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 1215 - 1255.
Week 14: 8/2/18	Catch-up if needed, Cumulative Review and Exam Preparation
Week 16: Final Exam date TBA	3-hour Final Examination – The final exam will be cumulative, covering all course material from both semesters. 3 hour exam with 2 Essay questions and MBEs . Date will be published during the semester to all students. Watch for Exam schedule. Exam period runs 8/6 to 8/16/18

Syllabus subject to change.