

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 (415) 703-5538	
SCHEDULE:	Two-semester class: Spring 2016, Thursdays 6:30-9:30pm, Room # 211 And Summer 2016, Thursdays 6:30-9:30pm, Room # 211	
PREREQUISITES:	Completion of LAW I401– Introduction to Law and LAW I402– Legal Research and Writing, or equivalent	
TEXTS AND MATERIALS:	<u>Required:</u> Prosser Wade Schwartz <i>Torts, Cases & Materials, 13th Edition</i> ; West/Foundation Press, ISBN-13: 978-1-60930-407-2.	
COURSE DESCRIPTION:	Covers prevailing common law and statutory torts, defenses, and the public policy objectives of these civil actions. General topics include intentional wrongs to person and property; 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 economic relations, and tort alternatives.	
COURSE OBJECTIVES / ANTICIPATED LEARNING OUTCOMES:	<p>Students will learn the essential elements of the various torts as well as their interrelationship. Fact patterns will be analyzed in light of the different theories of tort liability. Students will be expected to demonstrate their knowledge through classroom case presentation and discussion and 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 objective is for students to develop and demonstrate a level of competency in this core subject and in the skills of legal analysis that will enable them to practice law.</p>	
FORMAT OVERVIEW / METHOD OF INSTRUCTION	Course material will be presented in a lecture-discussion format. Students will be expected to participate in class by briefing and	

	presenting cases cases.
EXAMS:	<p>The course grade will be the sum score 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> <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>
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> <p>The grade will be comprised of the results of a: Three-hour Midterm exam (25%) and a Three-hour cumulative Final exam (75%).</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. Make-up classes to be scheduled if needed.</p>
ASSIGNMENTS: Spring 2016	
Week 1:	"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:	"Intentional Interference with Person or Property". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 25 - 58.
Week 3:	"Intentional Interference with Person or Property" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 59 - 97.
Week 4:	"Privileges". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion--Text pages 98 – 137.
Week 5:	"Negligence". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 139 - 185.
Week 6:	"Negligence". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 185 - 229.
Week 7:	"Negligence" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion--Text pages 229 - 272.
Week 8:	"Causation in Fact" and "Proximate or Legal Cause". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion--Text pages 273 - 320.
Week 9:	"Proximate or Legal Cause". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 320 - 366.
Week 10:	"Proximate Causation" and "Joint Tortfeasors". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 366 - 412.
Week 11:	"Joint Tortfeasors" and "Duty of Care" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 412 - 457.
Week 12:	"Duty of Care" and "Owners and Occupiers of Land". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 457 - 506.
Week 13:	"Owners and Occupiers of Land" and "Damages". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 506 - 569.
Week 14:	Semester review and exam preparation
Week 15: Midterm date TBA	Midterm exam – 3 hour exam with 2 essay questions and MBEs
ASSIGNMENTS: Summer 2016	
Week 1:	"Damages, continued" and "Wrongful Death & Survival" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 569 - 619.
Week 2:	"Defenses". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion—Text pages 619 - 677.
Week 3:	"Defenses" and "Vicarious Liability" . Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 677 - 732.
Week 4:	"Strict Liability" and "Products Liability". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 733 - 780.
Week 5:	"Products Liability". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 781 - 830.
Week 6:	"Products Liability" and "Nuisance" . Read and prepare cases and problems for

	classroom discussion-- Text pages 831 - 878.
Week 7:	"Defamation". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 879 - 934.
Week 8:	"Defamation" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 934 - 999.
Week 9:	"Privacy" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 1001 - 1052.
Week 10:	"Civil Rights", "Misuse of Legal Procedure" and "Misrepresentation". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text, pages 1053 - 1106.
Week 11:	"Misrepresentation". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion, Text pages 1107 - 1154.
Week 12:	"Interference with Advantageous Relationships" Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion, Text pages 1155 – 1214
Week 13:	"Torts in the Age of Statutes". Read and prepare cases and problems for classroom discussion-- Text pages 1215 - 1255.
Week 14:	Cumulative review and exam preparation
Week 15: 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