

Fall 2017 - Course Descriptions

General Law

LAW L705 Torts I

(LAW L705 & L710 Torts I/Torts II)

3 hrs./2 hrs.

These courses together cover intentional torts and privileges, negligence and theories of causation in fact and proximate cause, contributory negligence and assumption of risk, owners and occupiers of land, vicarious liability, automobile accident reparation systems, nuisance, misrepresentation, products liability (survey), damages, and immunities.

LAW L715 Lawyering I

3 hrs.

Students receive instruction in legal research, legal analysis, and legal writing. Throughout the semester, students research the law relevant to hypothetical client cases, apply that law to those cases, and draft memoranda setting forth law, analysis, and predictions as to the outcome of the cases. Students are exposed to both library research and computer research.

LAW L725 Civil Procedure I

(LAW L725 & L730 Civil Procedure I/Civil Procedure II)

3hrs. each

These courses treat problems related to civil litigation ranging from considerations about the choice of the proper forum through the pretrial, trial, and appellate stages. Specifically the material will include: personal jurisdiction, subject matter jurisdiction, choice of applicable law (exclusive of conflict problems), pleading, joinder of claims and parties, discovery, pretrial conference, adjudication without trial (judgment on the pleadings, summary judgment, and alternative dispute resolution), functions of the judge and jury including judgments as a matter of law, appellate review (principle of finality, timeliness, scope of review, review of factual determination), the binding effect of judgments (res judicata, collateral estoppel, law of the case), and extraordinary devices (interpleader, class actions, intervention).

LAW L735 Criminal Law

3 hrs.

This course deals with the principles underlying the administration of criminal justice as embodied in a modern code including the aims of criminal law, the theory of criminal conduct, and elements of some specific crimes and offenses. The model is the Louisiana Criminal Code or the A.L.I.'s Model Penal Code.

LAW L746 Business Organizations I

3 hrs.

This course is an introduction to the fundamental legal principles governing agency and fiduciary relationships, unincorporated business associations, and corporations. Among the topics covered are: 1) the formation, operation, and dissolution of partnerships, limited liability companies and corporations (both privately-held and publicly-held); 2) the distribution of powers among the owners and managers of such organizations; and 3) the relative advantages of various organizational forms.

LAW L750 Constitutional Law**4 hrs.**

This course is an introduction to problems arising under the Constitution of the United States, including the distribution of powers among the federal branches of government, the distribution of powers between federal and state governments, and the protection of individual rights.

LAW L760 Evidence**3 hrs.**

This course involves a treatment of the rules of evidence, the qualifications and impeachment of witnesses, the opinion rule, admissions and confessions, rules relating to writings, the hearsay rule and its exceptions, privileged relations, burden of proof, presumptions, and judicial notice.

LAW L767 Consolidated Legal Analysis**3 hrs.**

Revisits fundamental principles of legal analysis in a systematic manner, building and consolidating skills needed to master the details of varied areas of law, to analyze the relationship between facts and legal rules, to identify legal issues, and to make persuasive written arguments in support of legal conclusions. Frequent written exercises and in-class examinations will be given.

LAW L770 Lawyering III**3 hrs.**

This course concerns the professional and ethical activities and duties of the lawyer. The course includes a study of the history and traditions of the legal profession, including the concept of self-discipline and the model rules of professional responsibility. It also examines the impact of ethics and tradition on the practice of the lawyer. Prerequisite: None

*This course can be taken out of the Lawyering I, II, III sequence.

LAW L781 Law and Poverty**2 hrs.**

This course provides an introduction to the detrimental effects of poverty on society and poor people. It includes a treatment of the history of institutional response to the needs of the economically disadvantaged in the western world. It involves a critical examination of the legal system's response to the economic, social, and human problems of poverty, particularly in the fields of social security, welfare, unemployment, and worker's compensation. Special treatment is given to legislative and judicial initiatives in alleviating poverty as it burdens the family, women, and minorities.

General Law Electives (LAW)

LAW L805 Law of the European Union I

3 hrs.

This course introduces the basic principles of the European Community Law and the institutional structure of the communities with particular reference to the case law of the Court of Justice of the European Community.

LAW L806 Corporate Finance

3 hrs.

This course considers the legal problems arising in connection with financing decisions of publicly held corporations, including valuation of the enterprise and its securities, determination of securities structure and dividend policy, and decisions on investment opportunities, whether by internal expansion or by merger or takeover. Consideration will be given to the application of federal securities regulation, as well as state law, to the corporate decisions and to the import of the legal requirements for investors.

Prerequisite: LAW L746

LAW L807 Introduction to Health Law

3 hrs.

This course introduces and explores areas of law dealing with the creation and maintenance of "health." It covers the major mechanisms for ensuring quality in health care and the ethical dilemmas that may result from medical treatment or other scientific interventions. Three main topics are covered: 1) the treatment relationship, 2) public health and access to care, and 3) issues of bioethics generally.

LAW L815 Federal Criminal Law

2 hrs.

This course surveys federal criminal law with emphasis on white collar crime, political corruption, and offenses affecting the administration of justice. Selected statutes such as the mail and wire fraud statutes, banking laws, RICO and Hobbs, as well as perjury and obstruction of justice laws will be examined.

LAW L818 Labor Law

3 hrs.

This course deals with the legal problems of concerted action by employees, including the common law obstacles to the objects of labor combinations, picketing and the boycott, the construction and administration of the National Labor Relations Act, the collective bargaining agreement, and the union-member relationship.

LAW L819 Construction Industry Law Seminar

2 hrs.

This is a seminar course covering construction industry law in all phases. A review will be made of pertinent statutes affecting all branches of the industry from design through construction. Litigation and tribunals, both state and federal, will be discussed. There will be complete coverage of the contracts issued by the American Institute of Architects, the National Society of Professional Engineers, and Associated General Contractors. Documents covering the financing of construction will be examined. Finally, there will be a discussion of trial practice in this type of litigation.

LAW L820 Employment Discrimination**3 hrs.**

This course surveys the various kinds of employment discrimination and the statutes, constitutional provisions, and Executive Orders which govern the rights and remedies available to employees who are subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age and disability.

LAW L821 Computer Law**2 hrs.**

This course focuses primarily on intellectual property issues relating to the creation, sale, use, and misappropriation of computer hardware and software. Patent law, copyright law, trademark law, and related state-law doctrines affecting computer technology will be considered. The course will also address selected criminal law, antitrust, and personal privacy issues. No knowledge of computers, programming, or intellectual property law is required.

LAW L829 Financial Institutions Law**3 hrs.**

The course covers principally the areas of bank formation and bank regulation. Additional topics include antitrust aspects of banking, the role of the F.D.I.C. and the Federal Reserve, and international banking.

LAW L834 Environmental Justice Seminar**2 hrs.**

This seminar examines the distribution of benefits and burdens in environmental protection, particularly as related to race and poverty. We will discuss facility permitting, risk assessment, community lawyering, civil rights law, as well as environmental issues of concern to Native Americans. Readings will include judicial opinions, law review articles, interdisciplinary materials, and situational case studies. Because southern Louisiana is a national center of environmental justice activity, the seminar will also highlight local issues and encourage students to research those issues as part of their studies.

LAW L837 Land Use**3 hrs.**

This course explores the variety of ways in which the law attempts to resolve conflicts among land uses, as well as plan and regulate the impacts of different land use patterns. Topics include common law; state, regional, and local planning; zoning; environmental controls; growth management; historic preservation; restrictions relating to residential development; and constitutional limits on land use regulation. Throughout the course, we will explore how land-use decisions affect environmental quality and how land-use decision making addresses environmental concerns.

LAW L839 Civil Rights Actions Under Section 1983**2 – 3 hrs.**

This course covers the history of the interpretations of § 1983, immunities, governmental liability, nature of wrongs redressed, relationship to state law (e.g., res judicata, borrowing state law, exhaustion), attorney's fees, abstention, and sovereign immunity.

LAW L844 Administrative Law**3 hrs.**

This course focuses on the law and procedures relating to federal agencies. Federal and state administrative agencies affect virtually every aspect of our daily life. Indeed, the administrative state is sometimes called the "fourth branch" of government. Often invisible to the public, these agencies are responsible for regulating and enforcing laws regarding the environment, national security, food and drugs, labor relations, international trade, telecommunications, intellectual property, zoning, and immigration (to name but a few). Knowledge of regulations - and how they are enacted - is essential for practicing attorneys in almost any field.

This course does not focus on the law of any one agency, but instead analyzes the procedures and principles common to all federal agencies. Accordingly we will examine the sources of agencies' authority (both statutory and constitutional), the limits of their powers, the procedures they must follow in rulemaking and adjudication, and judicial review of agency actions.

LAW L849 Patent Law**2 hrs.**

This course focuses on the means for obtaining legal protection for patentable and unpatentable inventions and for technical knowledge. Licensing and aspects of litigation affecting these rights also will be discussed.

LAW L850 Copyright Law**3 hrs.**

This course consists of a detailed exploration of the protection of creative expression— literature, music, visual art, and motion pictures. While focusing primarily on the copyright act, the course also will consider those areas of patent and trademark law that overlap with copyright or form the boundaries. The challenges created by new technology, such as computers, home video recorders, and cable television will receive particular attention. Additionally, some attention will be given to related doctrines in other countries.

LAW L853 Family Law Seminar**2 hrs.**

This seminar permits students to conduct an intensive study of one or more issues in family law. The students will investigate marriage, the parent-child relationship, and other contemporary family topics in a comparative format. Each student will be responsible for a class presentation and a written paper on a specific topic in the area.

LAW L856 State and Local Government Law**2 hrs.**

This course studies the legal aspects of intergovernmental relationships including the distribution of power among the federal, state, and local governments. Organization of local governmental entities, home rule, metropolitan government, financing of the local government, financing of state entities and offices, public procurement policies, open meetings law, and public records laws are among the subjects covered. The legal issues are related to the greatest extent possible to contemporary American urban developments, including federal involvement in local and state issues, such as police conduct, housing, education, and prison policies.

LAW L858 Environmental Law Seminar**3 hrs.**

This is a survey course in environmental law and regulatory policy. The course considers the special character of environmental disputes and the problems that arise in developing legal rules for their resolution. The course covers several different federal environmental statutes, including laws relating to hazardous wastes, toxic substances, and air pollution. Our goal in studying these issues will be to gain a better understanding not only of particular environmental laws and policies, but also of the processes by which the government can regulate potentially harmful activities. We will look not only at traditional regulatory mechanisms, but also at the opportunities for market and consensus solutions. The course will make frequent use of situational case studies, which will require you to think strategically about how you would solve real world problems that have confronted lawyers and policymakers.

LAW L862 Criminal Law Seminar**2 hrs.**

This seminar is designed for students with a strong interest in pursuing a career in criminal law. Each week we will examine an area of criminal law through readings, class discussions, and guest speakers. The overall goal of the course is to educate future criminal law attorneys on the various aspects of the criminal justice system, including but not limited to the players involved. The course is also designed to encourage students to think critically about systematic issues in the system that can be solved by creative litigation and/or zealous representation.

LAW L864 Admiralty I**3 hrs.**

This course reviews the principles of admiralty and maritime law, including statutory modifications, in the following areas: jurisdiction, the nature of in rem and in personam jurisdiction, maritime liens, the contract of affreightment and COGSA, limitation of liability, general average, the law of collision, the tug and tow relationship, and salvage.

LAW L867 Business Planning**2 hrs.**

This course combines advanced work in corporations, corporate financing, and federal taxation in the context of business planning and counseling. The course will be based upon a series of problems involving common business transactions, which present corporate and tax issues for analysis and resolution. The problems will cover such topics as the formation and financing of corporations, both closely held and publicly owned, stock redemption, the sale and purchase of businesses, mergers and other forms of acquisition and recapitalization, division and dissolution of corporations.

Prerequisite: LAW L746

LAW L868 Workers' Compensation**2 hrs.**

This course considers the Louisiana law relative to tort liability of master and servant and the Louisiana workers' compensation law.

LAW L878 International Law**3 hrs.**

This introductory course acquaints students with the theory and practice of a distinct legal system. The sources and mode of discourse of the international legal system are studied in sufficient detail to allow the student to undertake further work in the discipline. Detailed examination will be undertaken of several substantive areas of international law. These areas will be selected from topics such as jurisdiction of states, international criminal law, law of the sea, international protection of human rights, law of war, and regulation of resort to force by states.

LAW L879 Admiralty Seminar: Marine Insurance**3 hrs.**

The course will cover common concepts of insurance and relevant provisions of the Hull, Protection & Indemnity, Pollution and Pleasure Craft policies. No prior knowledge of maritime law is required.

LAW L886 Environmental Law Seminar: Enforcement**2 hrs.**

This seminar is devoted to an in-depth treatment of one or more topics of current interest in the field, e.g., Superfund, Toxic Torts, Wetlands, or Clean Air. The exact subjects will be chosen by the instructor(s).

LAW L896051 Professional Seminar: Privacy Law**2 hrs.**

Privacy issues now take center stage in corporate America with many companies now maintaining a CPO- Chief Privacy Officer. Compliance requires knowledge of several federal and many state statutes, and regulatory regimes as well as knowledge of privacy issues imposed from across the Atlantic by the EU. This seminar will address the following topics: Big Data, financial privacy, FCRA, GLBA, FTC privacy and security regulation; Identity theft, online behavioral advertising; First Amendment limitations on privacy regulation; Data breaches, data breach notification statutes; Privacy of video watching and media consumptions; CFAA, enforcement of privacy policies, marketing use of data, and more.

LAW L902 Elder and Disabled Law 2 hrs

This seminar is devoted to the introduction of a variety of topics that impact the elderly, the disabled, and their families. The course will cover topics such as power of attorney, interdiction, capacity, elder abuse, geriatric care management, nursing home rights, end of life care, and successions.

LAW L906 Advanced Legal Research**3 hrs**

This practical, skills-based course is designed to help prepare students for practice or future study by building on the research techniques presented in Lawyering I. Advanced Legal Research focuses on the effective use of electronic and print legal research tools and examines existing sources for both legal and non-legal information of interest to lawyers. Students will receive advanced training on comprehensive proprietary online research systems (Westlaw, Lexis, and Bloomberg Law), and be introduced to specialized online systems (ProQuest, BNA, and CCH Intelliconnect). This course will provide coverage of selected research subjects, including statutory research, legislative history, administrative and regulatory research, practice

LAW L933 Asylum and Refugee Law**3 hrs.**

This course surveys the law of asylum and related protection for those fleeing danger in their home countries through a case simulation and a set of practice-oriented exercises that include preparation of an asylum hearing memorandum. Students examine asylum and refugee law and policy in the United States, and under international law, and the legal grounds for barring individuals from asylum. Students completing the course earn three experiential learning credits. There is no prerequisite for the course.

LAW L935 Social Security Disability Law**2 hrs.**

In this course students will develop a working knowledge of the following: What Is Social Security Disability; Applying for Disability Benefits; Disability Benefits for Children; Getting Benefits During the Application Process (SSI); Proving You Are Disabled; Who Decides Your Claim; How Claims Are Decided; Whether You Can Do Some Work: Your RFC; How Age, Education, and Work Experience Matter; When Benefits Begin; Reasons You May Be Denied Benefits; Appealing If Your Claim Is Denied; Once You Are Approved; Continuing Disability Review; Your Right to Representation; and, the duties and responsibilities of Administrative Law Judges (ALJs).

LAW L955 Advanced Constitutional Law—14th Amendment**3 hrs.**

This course focuses on the protection afforded individuals by the 14th amendment due process and equal protection clauses, state action, and Congress' power to enforce the 14th amendment. Students are strongly encouraged to take this course, as well as the first amendment course.

LAW L961 Trial Advocacy**3 hrs.**

This course uses experiential learning exercises to develop skills in ADR and trial advocacy, oral persuasion and nonverbal communication. In a simulated trial setting, class participants perform opening statements, closing arguments, witness examinations and lay evidentiary foundations. Faculty lectures and demonstrations supplement these exercises.

LAW L980 Income Taxation**3 hrs.**

This course is an introduction to the principles of the federal taxation of income as it relates to individuals. It will focus on a number of concepts usually involving tax policy, gross income, property transactions, including gains, losses, non-recognition transactions, tax status, timing issues, deductions, credits, exemptions, and tax procedure. This subject is a bar requirement in many common law jurisdictions.

Civil Law (LCIV)

LCIV L706 Civil Law Property I

3 hrs.

This course introduces the civil law generally and the law of property in particular. It provides an introduction to the philosophy, structure, and methodology of the Louisiana Civil Code, as both a source of substantive law and as an embodiment of civilian legal method in the mixed jurisdiction of Louisiana. The course also serves as the introduction to basic civilian concepts of property, such as common, public, and private things, movables and immovables, ownership, and accession.

LCIV L707 Civil Law Property II

3 hrs.

This course builds on an introduction to the Civil Code in Civil Law Property I and covers more advanced but essential civil law property topics such as personal servitudes (including usufruct, rights of use and habitation), predial servitudes (including legal, natural, and conventional predial servitudes), boundaries, building restrictions, occupancy, possession, acquisitive prescription of movables and immovables, and dedication to public use.

LCIV L710 Conventional Obligations I

3 hrs.

This course treats the general provisions of the Louisiana Civil Code applicable to all contracts in Louisiana, the formation and effect of agreements, various categories of obligations and the means of their extinction.

LCIV L715 Successions

3 hrs.

This course deals essentially with intestate successions. Subjects covered include the rules of distribution, the spousal usufruct, rights of children, absent persons, the opening of successions, capacity, acceptance, renunciation, and collation.

LCIV L810 Title Examination

1 hr.

This course covers the substantive law and the technique used in the examination of titles to Louisiana immovable property. Practical problems will be presented in the description of property, the derivation of titles, and the drafting of documents conveying or encumbering immovable property.

LCIV L930 Community Property

3 hrs.

This course concerns matrimonial regimes governing ownership and management of property of married persons in Louisiana. Characterization of property, creditors' rights, and rights between the spouses are considered in relation to the nature and background of community property systems.

LCIV L935 Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure**3 hrs.**

This course examines the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure: Book I—Courts, Actions, and Parties; Book II—Ordinary Proceedings; Book III—Proceedings in Appellate Courts; Book IV—Execution of Judgments; Book V—Summary and Executory Proceedings; Book VI—Probate Procedure; Book VII—Special Proceedings (e.g., Attachment, Sequestration, and Injunction); Book VIII—Trial Courts of Limited Jurisdiction; and Book IX—Miscellaneous Provision and Definitions.

LCIV L940 Security Rights**3 hrs.**

This course includes those sections of the Civil Code dedicated to security rights, including the contracts of suretyship, pledge, mortgages on immovables, privileges, deposit, and sequestration. Chapter 9 of Title 10 of the Revised Statutes also is given attention.

Common Law (LCOM)**LCOM L700 Contracts I****3 hrs.**

This course provides an introduction to contract law in the United States. Its coverage usually includes contract formation, enforceability of promises, and remedies, among other topics.

LCOM L715 Trusts and Estates**3 hrs.**

This course covers public policy and estate planning, intestacy, wills, probate and non-probate transfers, protection of spouses and children, trust administration and fiduciary duty, future interests, the rule against perpetuities, and briefly federal estate tax.

LCOM L920 Commercial Transactions**3 hrs.**

This course investigates the laws that affect the rights and obligations of parties engaged in the sale and distribution of goods. The sales contract, its formation, interpretation and performance, the risk of loss, and the remedies of the parties are emphasized. Uniform Commercial Code Article 2 receives intense scrutiny.