

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Professor Peter Wright

2 Credits

Fall

Eligibility: Open to all but first year students

Prerequisites: None

Grading: Individual written work product including a complaint and memo of law, plus class participation.

This course will expose students to an overview of consumer protection doctrines, such as Unfair Trade Practice Acts, Federal Truth in Lending, Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Fair Credit Reporting, as well as important procedural devices for enforcing these protections, such as class actions, arbitration, private rights of action, the FTC Holder Rule and civil RICO. With the emphasis on federal and state statutes, principles of statutory construction will be covered in some depth. We will also focus on theory building, case analysis and production of effective court pleadings.

COPYRIGHT IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Professor Glen Secor

1 Credit

Fall

Eligibility: Open to all but first year students

Prerequisites: Copyright Law, may be taken concurrently

Grading: Based on a term paper and class participation, the latter of which will likely also include participation in online forums and discussion boards via the course website.

This course deals with the new law and technology of copyright. Topics such as digital rights management, peer-to-peer file-sharing, and the trend towards licensing of digital products will be discussed in the context of their impact on traditional copyright doctrines (such as fair use and the first sale doctrine) and on information policy generally. We will examine prominent cases and some of the leading thinking regarding the future of copyright. The course will be taught seminar-style, meaning that we will devote most of our in-class time to discussion and debate of the issues raised in the course readings.

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DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Professor Peter Wolfe

3 Credits

Fall

Eligibility: Open to all but first year students

Prerequisites:

Grading: Quality of class participation, and the quality of written work including a journal of mediation observations, short written assignments and paper discussing a policy aspect of Dispute Resolution.

This course surveys the variety of process choices in dispute resolution. It recognizes that litigation may not be appropriate in many cases. The course examines alternatives, including negotiation, mini-trial, mediation, neural evaluation, summary jury trial, private judging, voluntary arbitration, court-annexed arbitration, and the use of special masters. These processes, which are now being used in state and federal courts, administrative agencies, public and private organizations, and community dispute resolution programs, are studied through descriptive readings, observation, simulation exercises, and discussion. Grades are based on the quality of class participation, and the quality of written work including a journal of mediation observations, short written assignments and paper discussing a policy aspect of Dispute Resolution.

GAME THEORY

Professor Jeff Roy

3 Credits

Fall

Eligibility: Open to all but first year students

Prerequisites: None

Grading: TBA

Game theory is the study of strategic behavior, which arises when people interact and each person's decision depends on what he expects the others to do. A familiar example is the problem of overgrazing on public lands: It's in everyone's joint best interest to reduce the number of cattle grazing on common lands, but each person, acting only for himself, will try to graze as many of his own cattle as possible.

We will learn how to use game theory to analyze situations in which law can be used to correct problems caused by strategic behavior. If time permits, we will also discuss strategies for negotiation and political bargaining. The course will be a mixture of theory and practice, learning analytical tools and applying them to specific case studies.

INTERNATIONAL SALES LAW

Professor Dickinson

2 Credits

Spring 2004

Eligibility: All but first year students.

Prerequisites: U.C.C.

Grading: TBA

The Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG) regulates the sale of goods between the United States and 55 other signatory countries including Canada and Mexico. This course is built around a series of problems which systematically examine the various provisions of CISG. The course materials present a systematic examination of the difficult issues that arise out of the International sale transaction analyzing the usual litigation situations and presenting issues concerning lawyers as problem-solvers - planning and structuring transactions so as to allocate risks and avoid litigation.

SOFTWARE, PUBLISHING & INTERNET LICENSING

Professor Glen Secor

2 Credits

Spring, Summer

Eligibility: Open to all but first year students

Prerequisites: Contracts

Grading: Based on a portfolio and on class participation.

This hands-on course focuses on the deal-making and licensing practices of various “soft IP” industries. We will examine various sorts of deals, including software and web development agreements, publishing contracts, software and information licenses, website IP audits, and certain aspects of e-commerce transactions. Students will participate in negotiating and drafting exercises and will build up licensing portfolios based on output from these exercises.