



Bethesda University

730 North Euclid Street, Anaheim, California 92801 Tel: (714)517-1945, Fax: (714)683-1440

LA 306 TORT LAW Fall 2015

| Professor R. Sachdev | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Class Hour: Thursdays 9:30am-12:00pm | Classroom: TBD |
| Office: 307 | Phone: 714-683-1401 |
| Office Hours/ Consultation: Available by appointment | E-mail: rajeev.sachdev@buc.edu |
| TA: TBD | Credit Unit: 3 |

A. Bethesda University Mission Statement

Bethesda University is a Christ-centered community of higher education preparing Korean/English speaking men and women with professional competence, academic excellence, and spiritual integrity to be servant leaders in the Church, community, and global society.

B. Relationship of Course to Bethesda University's Mission

This course is designed to provide knowledge and understanding of the substantive criminal law along with the ethical and legal issues relating to criminal law confronting legal professionals in the modern world.

C. Course Description

This course explores the various obligations relating to civil wrongs. This includes negligence, personal injury claims, liability arising from product defects, defamation and others. Questions covered will include who owes what kind of duty under what types of circumstances and what damages can be claimed by those harmed. Principles of liability, including the efficiency of resource allocation and the spreading of losses will be discussed. Paralegal and legal professional skills will be taught. An overview of tort related legal documents will be made along with ethical concepts.



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D. Course Objectives & Student Outcomes

By the end of the course, each student is expected to be able to demonstrate the following:

Expected Student Outcomes

Outcome 1) Understand the basics of how tort law works (Spiritual, Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 2) Apply elements of and defenses to Torts, for common tort law scenarios (Intellectual, Vocational)

Outcome 3) Apply ethical rules in tort law to common tort law scenarios; discuss Christian ethics (Spiritual, Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 4) Examine and interpret applicable tort law, including case law, for various common scenarios (Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 5) Understand the role of tort law including case law as well the importance of secondary sources in tort law (Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 6) Debate some common tort legal situations and take a legal position (Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 7) Understand how to recognize and identify certain tort law issues (Intellectual, Socio-Emotive, Vocational)

Outcome 8) Prepare certain basic tort law related legal documents forms, and paperwork (Vocational)

Assessments tied to above Objectives

| <u>Assessment Method</u> | <u>Outcomes Covered</u> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Class Discussions | Outcomes 1)2)3)4)5)6)7) |
| Assignments | Outcomes: 1)2)3)4)5)6)7)8) |
| Criminal Law Debate | Outcomes 2)3)4)6)7)8) |
| Tests and Quizzes | Outcomes: 1)2)3)4)5)6)7) |
| Final Exam | Outcomes: 1)2)3)4)5)6)7) |



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H. Course Calendar/Schedule, include the following (subject to revision)

(Please be sure to read the chapter being discussed, ahead of the class in which it will be covered)

| N | Date | Theme | Reading | Assignments (Tentative schedule only) |
|---|-------------------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| 1 | 8/27/15 | Introduction to Tort Law | Intro and Ch 1 | -Ice Breaker: One minute Networking Introductions -Resolutions -Pass the Marker |
| Last Day to Request Add/Drop is Friday of First Week | | | | |
| 2 | 9/3/15 | Overview of a Tort Case | Ch 2 | |
| 3 | 9/10/15 | Intentional Torts | Ch 3 | Quiz 1 (5%) |
| 4 | 9/17/15 | Negligence: Duty and Breach of Duty | Ch 4, 5 | Assignment 1 Due (10%) |
| 5 | 9/24/15 | Negligence: Causation and Damages | Ch 6, 7 | |
| 6 | 10/1/15 | Negligence: Defenses | Ch 8 | Quiz 2 (5%) |
| 7 | 10/8/15 | Malpractice | Ch 9 | Real Life in the Classroom |
| 8 | 10/15/15 | Project Work | | |
| Last Day to Request Grade Withdrawal "W" is Friday of 8 th Week | | | | |
| 9 | 10/22/15 | Misrepresentation, Nuisance and Other Torts | Ch 10 | Tort Project (20%) |
| 10 | 10/29/15 | Strict Liability and Product Liability | Ch 11, 12 | |
| 11 | 11/5/15 | Defamation and Related Torts | Ch 13 | |
| 12 | 11/12/15 | Vicarious and Joint Liability | Ch 14, 15 | Test (15%) |
| 13 | 11/19/15 | Special Topics | Ch 16-19 selected | |
| 14 | 11/26/15 | THANKSGIVING BREAK | | |
| 15 | 12/3/15 | Review | | Assignment 2 (10%) Outcomes discussion |
| Last Day to Request Grade Incomplete "I" is Friday of 15 th Week | | | | |
| 16 | 12/7/15- 12/11/15 (tbd) | Final (25%) | | |

I. Assignments

There will be various written assignments that will be given out during the semester. You must reference all sources you use in all work submitted. Use any acceptable referencing method. Ask for assistance should you need resources and examples of referencing.



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J. Evaluation/Assessment Rationale for Grade Determination

1. Grade Assessment

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Assignments/Debate | 40% |
| Quizzes/Tests | 25% |
| Class Participation/Attendance | 10% |
| Final | <u>25%</u> |
| Total Possible Points | 100 |

2. Grade definition

| | |
|---|--------------|
| A | Excellent |
| B | Good |
| C | Satisfactory |
| D | Poor |
| F | Failure |

3. Grade scale

| Letter Grade | Numeric Grade | Grade Points |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| A | 95-100 | 4.0 |
| A- | 90-94 | 3.7 |
| B+ | 87-89 | 3.3 |
| B | 84-86 | 3.0 |
| B- | 80-83 | 2.7 |
| C+ | 77-79 | 2.3 |
| C | 74-76 | 2.0 |
| C- | 70-73 | 1.7 |
| D+ | 67-69 | 1.3 |
| D | 64-66 | 1.0 |
| D- | 60-63 | 0.7 |
| F | 59 or below | 0 |

ASSESSMENT RATIONALE

In this course, learning is tied to learning outcomes. Students will be assessed based upon meeting course objectives. Students working hard to achieve higher grades will be expected to demonstrate a higher level of analysis and novel application within the assessment components of the course.



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K. Course Policies

1. Attendance, Preparation, and Participation:

All students are expected to attend class, read their assignments and be prepared to participate in class discussions and group work.

Ten percent (10%) of your grade is based on participation. This grade is based on your Attendance, participation in class, contributing to discussions, answering questions, raising questions, and positive participation as an individual and in groups.

Missing class work, quizzes and tests will affect your overall grade.

2. Deadlines:

Assignments are due as instructed. Late assignments are not acceptable unless special circumstances exist. If accepted, one week late assignments will be reduced by one letter grade. Quizzes and Tests can be made up only if approved and valid reason and documentation is provided. The final exam must be taken as scheduled at the end of the semester, without exception, unless approval is granted.

3. Advance Assistance and Accommodations:

If you need any assistance or accommodations, please check with the professor as soon as possible. It is important not to wait until it is too late. It is your duty to advise the Professor and School of any accommodations you require along with how you think any requested accommodations may be fulfilled.

4. Assignment Options:

See Professor

5. Make up work:

Only if pre-approved by professor.

6. Extra-credit work:

TBA, if applicable.

7. Emergency procedures:

Contact Professor, or School if professor is not available.



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8. Other policies on Withdrawal and Grade Permanence, Academic Integrity, and Appeals and Grievance procedures refer to the Student Handbooks and Catalog.

L. Support Services; No Legal Advice

Please check with school and professor for support services. PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO LEGAL ADVICE PROVIDED BY PROFESSOR OR THE SCHOOL IN THIS COURSE OR AT ANYTIME. Please ask for career help, although Professor and School are not your future employer and you need to ensure that you yourself check all requirements for your anticipated career path early on. Do not rely on statements made by anyone, rather check for yourself or take outside professional help.

M. Bibliography

J. Stanley Edwards, *Tort Law*, Cengage, 2016. Print.