

Constitutional Law: Structure

LAW 508

Constitutional Law: Structure considers the delineation of spheres of responsibility between the judiciary and legislature, the national government and the states, and the government and the individual.

Unit Value: 3

Grading Options: Numeric

Exam: In-class Exam

Contracts

LAW 503

Contracts is a course on the law of consensual arrangements. It concerns such questions as what promises the state does and should enforce and what remedies are available when enforceable promises are breached.

Unit Value: 4

Grading Options: Numeric

Exam: In-class Exam

Criminal Law

LAW 504

Criminal Law studies issues relating to the decision, by legislature or court, to designate behavior as a "crime." Significant attention is given to the moral, psychological and philosophical issues involved in ascribing criminal responsibility.

Unit Value: 3

Grading Options: Numeric

Exam: In-class Exam

Fundamental Business Principles (optional course in fall)

LAW 530

Business Fundamentals introduces students who lack a business background to the basic vocabulary, concepts, and modes of analysis relevant to the organization, financing, and governance of corporations and other enterprises.

Unit Value: 1

Grading Options: CR/D/F

Exam: In-class Exam

Legal Profession

LAW 505

Legal Profession or Ethical Issues for Public Interest, Government and Criminal Lawyers offer a traditional or specialized examination of the role of the lawyer in society; the history and organization of the legal profession; the adversary system and access to justice; and ethical rules on fulfilling professional duties in a variety of practice settings.

Unit Value: 3

Grading Options: Numeric

Exam: In-class Exam

Ethical Issues for Public Interest, Government and Criminal Lawyers

LAW 531

Legal Profession or Ethical Issues for Public Interest, Government and Criminal Lawyers offer a traditional or specialized examination of the role of the lawyer in society; the history and organization of the legal profession; the adversary system and access to justice; and ethical rules on fulfilling professional duties in a variety of practice settings.

Unit Value: 3

Grading Options: Numeric

Exam: In-class Exam

Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy I

LAW 515

To be effective, lawyers must analyze legal principles incisively and apply them to facts carefully and creatively, and then communicate the results articulately—both in writing and orally. Therefore, all students must complete a two-semester course, Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy (3 units in the fall semester, 2 units in the spring semester), which focuses on developing their analytic and communication skills.

Unit Value: 3

Grading Options: Numeric

Exam: In-class Exam

Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy II

LAW 516

To be effective, lawyers must analyze legal principles incisively and apply them to facts carefully and creatively, and then communicate the results articulately—both in writing and orally. Therefore, all students must complete a two-semester course, Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy (3 units in the fall semester, 2 units in the spring semester), which focuses on developing their analytic and communication skills.

Unit Value: 2

Grading Options: Numeric

Exam: In-class Exam

Procedure I

LAW 502

Procedure introduces students to the issue of what constitutes fair, adequate, and efficient procedures in resolving legal disputes.

Unit Value: 4

Grading Options: Numeric

Exam: In-class Exam

Property

LAW 507

Property analyzes the development of rules dealing with land, water, and other natural resources, frequently from historical and economic perspectives.

Unit Value: 4

Grading Options: Numeric

Exam: In-class Exam

Race and the Law (optional, two-part course in fall and spring)

LAW 535a, LAW535b

This modular course will examine the role of law and lawyers in the creation of race and racism as ideologies, structures, and practices, and the role of race and racism in shaping legal institutions, processes, and outcomes. It will also explore the role of law and lawyers in antiracist movements, from abolitionism through Black Lives Matter, and the role of anti-racism in expanding civil rights and remedying legal inequality.

By taking this modular course in the first year, students with a strong interest in the topic will receive an introduction to key issues in the study of race, racism, and law without having to wait until their second year. For those students, this optional course will also enrich their understanding of the context of some of their 1L courses as well as allow them to better function in a society that continues to be structured along racial lines in important ways.

Note: This is a two-semester course. To earn one unit of credit, students must successfully complete at least four modules in each semester. In the fall, the first module is required during Orientation. Students must complete LAW 535a in the fall to enroll in LAW 535b in the spring.

Unit Value: 0.5 (fall), 0.5 (spring)

Grading Options: Credit/No Credit

Exam: Exam after each module

Torts I

LAW 509

Torts explores the obligation to refrain from harming others and studies the bases for compensating persons who suffer injuries, either by holding responsible whomever is at fault for the harm, or by invoking other principles of liability, including the efficiency of resource allocation and the spreading of losses to those best able to bear them.

Unit Value: 4

Grading Options: Numeric

Exam: In-class Exam