

**SUNY BUFFALO LAW SCHOOL**  
**SPRING 2016**  
**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

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\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL EXTERNSHIPS, CLINICS AND PRACTICA HAVE SEPARATE COURSE DESCRIPTION PACKETS AND ONLINE APPLICATIONS

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**L-501 CIVIL PROCEDURE** – Matthew Steilen  
4 credits

The law and practice of pre-trial procedure in the courts of the United States--pleadings, motions, discovery and summary judgment--together with an introduction to evidence, remedies, subject matter and personal jurisdiction, finality and complex litigation. Value and policy choices implicit in the American civil adversary system and corresponding personal, professional, and ethical dilemmas will be emphasized.

**L-501 CIVIL PROCEDURE**– Anya Bernstein  
4 credits

This course introduces students to the rules, principles and practices governing the adjudication of civil disputes in the federal trial courts. The course takes a modern approach. It tracks the progress of a case through the civil litigation process and introduces jurisdiction and other more intricate doctrines only after students understand the pre-trial process (pleadings, motions, discovery, and summary judgment). Value and policy choices implicit in the American civil adversary system and corresponding professional and ethical dilemmas will be emphasized.

**L-503 CONTRACTS** – Mateo Taussig-Rubbo  
4 credits

The general scope and purpose of the legal protection accorded contracts: interpretation, formation, warranties, covenants, conditions, breach and remedies. Emphasis will be placed on the way that these scraps of doctrine get translated into, or avoided by, formal contract documents used in contemporary commercial practice.

**L-505 CRIMINAL LAW** – Guyora Binder, Michael Boucai  
4 credits

Introduction to substantive criminal law, emphasizing the purposes, sources and limits of criminal law, the elements of criminal conduct, criminal responsibility, justification and excuse, criminal combinations, and the application of general principles to specific crimes. Introduction to selected aspects of the criminal justice system essential to an understanding of substantive criminal law.

**L-507 PROPERTY** – Jessica Owley  
4 credits

This course examines the legal arrangements with which American society controls valuable resources. It is designed both to provide a critical understanding of important features of modern society and to serve as background for advanced courses dealing with land transactions and financing, environmental regulation, public land development, corporations, intellectual property, wealth transfers, and taxation. Modern institutions are presented in the context of the evolution of property law from the gradual break-up of the feudal system through the development of finance capitalism.

**L-509 TORTS** - Todd Brown, Lucinda Finley  
4 credits

A basic introduction to the tort law system, covering such topics as causation in fact, negligence, proximate cause, emotional harm, comparative fault, assumption of risk, intentional harms, and strict liability. Attention will be given to the role of tort law in its broader social context and to proposals for "reform" of the tort law system.

**L-511 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW** - Matthew Steilen

4 credits

An introduction to the allocation of governmental power under, and the limitations on that power established by, the Constitution of the United States. The course will focus on judicial interpretation of the Constitution, the scope and division of federal power, the relationship between the federal government and the states, issues concerning the extent of state authority, and the rights of individuals guaranteed by the due process and equal protection clauses of the Constitution.

**L-516 LEGAL ANALYSIS, WRITING & RESEARCH II** - Johanna Oreskovic, Christine Bartholomew, Patrick Long, Laura Reilly, Stephen Paskey

3 credits

This is the second semester of a full-year required course designed to introduce students to legal analysis, legal research and legal communication (course actually begins during bridge period on 1/12). Students learn to construct legal arguments using the analytical skills acquired during their first semester. They also build on the research skills that they learned in their first semester to independently research the law needed to support their arguments. They then communicate their arguments by writing a trial level brief for their instructors, and by arguing their cases before legal professionals from the local bar who act as judges. Course runs from 1/12 to 2/3 and then switches to the Spring Schedule on 2/4.

**L-517 ADVANCED LEGAL ANALYSIS, WRITING & RESEARCH** –Bernadette Gargano, Nan Haynes, Monica Wallace

3 credits

LAWR III is an advanced legal writing course in which students will have multiple opportunities to practice and refine their legal analysis, writing, and research skills. In this simulated civil litigation course, students will be expected to perform assignments similar in nature and complexity to the assignments performed by attorneys in practice. Students will take a hypothetical case from the beginning of the litigation to the end. Students will interview the hypothetical client, research the merits of potential claims, draft a complaint, draft pretrial briefs, and draft a final appellate brief. Students also may be required to present an oral argument and prepare for mediation. The course will help students understand the substantive and procedural issues that arise in the litigation and make decisions regarding litigation strategy.

**L-531 CIVIL RIGHTS** - Anjana Malhotra

3 credits

This is a survey course intended to review both the causal and remedial relationship of law to racial and other forms of discrimination. It will begin with framework questions concerning discrimination and other practices that enforce inequality, analyzing equal protection and related bodies of substantive constitutional law; and then surveying federal employment discrimination law, with occasional consideration of related bodies of civil rights legislation. The course examine competing theories of equality in the areas of race, gender, and sexuality; concepts of dignity that connect liberty and equality claims; and special problems associated with regulating public and private actors. To help students explore the roles of attorneys in shaping and applying legal doctrine, this course will also provide an overview of how litigants vindicate federal constitutional rights in the courts and include a realistic law practice simulation.

**L-545 ENVIRONMENTAL LAW – NATURAL RESOURCES** - Jessica Owley

3 credits

This course provides an overview of the laws aimed at managing and preserving natural resources and biodiversity through a variety of private, regulatory, informational, and public land-management mechanisms. Students will examine statutes, regulations, and other mechanisms governing the management of the federal lands and their resources. Students will consider the historical, political, and ecological influences on the law and management of these resources. This course will introduce the agencies with jurisdiction over the components of the federal estate and environmental regulation. Through this lens, students will strengthen their understanding of administrative law, constitutional law, and statutory interpretation. The course also covers regulation of natural resources—including land, water, and biodiversity—on state, tribal, and private land. **This a required course for the Environmental Law Program. This course satisfies the skills requirement.**

**L- 564 LEGAL ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY** - James Milles

3 credits

This course examines the ethical standards and legal obligations of lawyers and the contextual factors that lead to ethical failures. We will discuss real life problems using the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct, the Restatement (Third) of the Law Governing Lawyers, statutes, case law, and ethics opinions that govern lawyer behavior and the lawyer's duties to the client, third parties, the courts and the public. This course will focus not just on learning the rules, but understanding and recognizing the circumstances in which lawyers violate the rules. An understanding of the rules accompanied by critical self-awareness helps the lawyer recognize pitfalls before

they become serious and gives students the analytical tools they need to make good decisions. **The course fulfills the 3-credit ethics requirement and must be taken in second year.**

**L-587 NATIONAL SECURITY AND THE CONSTITUTION** - George Kannar

3 credits

This course will explore the Constitution's treatment of issues relating to war and peace, national defense, and foreign relations. Consideration will extend to certain federal statutes, Executive Orders, and international treaties as well. The primary focus will be on separation of powers issues and on tensions between national security and individual liberty. **Seminar credit may be made available.**

**L-602 BANKRUPTCY** – S. Todd Brown

3 credits

This course focuses on the United States Bankruptcy Code and how it alters the rights and obligations of debtors, creditors, and other parties in interest. During the semester, we will address liquidation and reorganization cases in both the personal and business bankruptcy contexts, with an emphasis on how the Code's distinct provisions serve the basic policies and goals of bankruptcy law. Specific topics to be discussed may include voluntary and involuntary bankruptcy commencement, eligibility, property of the estate, the automatic stay, avoidance powers, discharge of debts, executory contracts, means testing, and plan confirmation.

**L-605 CONFLICT OF LAWS** - Stephanie Phillips

3 credits

Within our nation, there are hundreds of law-generating entities -- national, state, and local. Frequently, two or more governmental bodies have promulgated legal rules that arguably apply to a single transaction or dispute. Often the laws conflict. Which law will govern? How is this to be decided? The course examines doctrinal, practical, and jurisprudential answers to those two questions. While the primary focus of the course is upon resolving conflicts between the laws of sister states, certain problems of conflicts between federal and state laws are also considered.

**L-607 TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION MANAGEMENT** – Staff

3 credits (cross listed mgs607)

The focus of this course will be on technology management and developing an Internet-based business or extension to an existing business. The course will integrate concepts from economics, organizational strategy, entrepreneurship, and Web design. Topics to be covered in the course include: aligning technology and strategy; models of diffusion and innovation; characteristics of information and digital goods, identifying potential Web-applications and information products for solving a problem and/or identifying a business opportunity; intellectual property rights; pricing issues related to information goods; developing a business plan for a venture capital proposal; launching the e-business; designing Web-based applications for usability; and strategies for successfully implementing systems. Case studies, lectures, guest speakers, and an integrated E-business project will be used to understand the complexities of the current business environment. **This course fulfills the professional skills requirement.**

**L-608 FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION I** – Stuart Lazar

3 credits

An introduction to the basic principles of the federal personal income tax. This course will be taught through a series of web-based and in-class lectures, as well as in-class review of hypothetical problems designed to encourage independent thought and critical analysis of the law and policy of federal income taxation. The course emphasizes a critical examination of the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code and the Treasury Regulations so that students may become proficient in the use of these basic tax tools. Topics analyzed will include history of the federal income tax, federal tax law authorities, federal tax procedure, the definition of gross income, exclusions and deductions from gross income, and tax rates. The course is designed to equip students to handle common personal income tax problems likely to arise in general practice. **As a result of the fact that this course meets both online and in-class, we will be meeting only approximately seventeen times over the course of the semester (generally, at the beginning of the term). A schedule of classes will be distributed at or prior to the first in-class session.**

**L-610 CRIMINAL PROCEDURE I** - John Nucheren

3 credits

This course will deal with selected topics involved in the investigatory and adjudicatory phases of the criminal process, including the right to counsel, search and seizure, the exclusionary rule, confession, line-ups and retroactivity. We will explore these topics utilizing traditional classroom discussion. Emphasis will also be placed upon the distinction between federal constitutional standards and the more stringent standards enunciated by the New York Court of Appeals.

**L-611 CORPORATIONS** – Michael Halberstam

3 credits

This course introduces students to the rules and laws governing the organization and management of business corporations. Drawing on current events and examples from legal practice, the course covers the special legal, financial, and ownership structures of corporations, and provides students with a first introduction to concepts of agency, risk, business valuation, financial markets, and tax structure. Other business entities (such as partnerships, sole proprietorships, and LLCs) are studied mainly to contrast the benefits and costs of operating a business as a corporation and to make students aware of the context in which corporations and groups of businesses operate. The fiduciary duties of corporate directors and officers, and their enforcement through private litigation, are an important theme of the course.

**L-612 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW II – FREE SPEECH** - George Kannar

3 credits

This course will examine the constitutional principles surrounding the rights of individual expression and association. Topics will include: protest and the limitations upon protest; obscenity, pornography, and sexually explicit speech; libel and defamation; coerced expression or association; freedom of the press and other media; speech and association rights of public employees; speech in public schools; and commercial speech. If time permits, campaign finance and regulation may also be discussed.

**L-613 EVIDENCE** – Charles Ewing

3 credits

Evidence rules govern the construction of courtroom “truth” by defining the admissibility, exclusion, and presentation of evidence in civil and criminal trials. This is a foundational course for every lawyer, taught for practical application. Among the topics covered are: relevancy; witness examination and competency; the hearsay rule and its exceptions; opinions, expertise, and experts; privileged communications; judicial notice, proof, and presumptions; objections; authentication; and the use of demonstrative and scientific evidence. The course is taught through a casebook, problem sets, and close readings of the relevant rules.

**PREREQUISITE or CO-REQUISITE for Trial Technique.**

**L-614 ESTATE PLANNING** – Tammie Schultz

3 credits

Planning for the financial security of the family and preservation of wealth. Federal and State laws relevant to dispositions of wealth during lifetime or at death and/or divorce, with New York emphasis: Intestate descent and distribution; the concept, formalities and anatomy of the will with drafting issues; the “trust” concept and use of various types of trusts; will substitutes; life insurance and powers of appointment; the durable power of attorney, health care declaration and the “living will” in New York. Form of transfer concepts, including split interests, joint tenancy, revocable and irrevocable gifts, with emphasis on marshalling our client’s probate and non-probate estate to provide for the contingencies of living and effectively attend to the transitions at death or disability. Comparison of the property rights of the spouse, with analysis regarding marital deduction planning and the surviving spouse’s right of election; considering the “community property” client; equitable distribution under NY’s Domestic Relations Law.

Special planning considerations: Practical planning overview of the 2001 Federal Tax Act’s “phase-out/reanimation” of the federal estate tax, with gift tax, estate tax and generation skipping taxes considered. Business plans to preserve value and family succession to business interests, considering the cross purchase and the stock redemption agreement, red-flag problems in connection with carrying out family business planning. Practical insight regarding the use and structure of charitable gifts; meeting the cost of higher education; Elder law overview; retirement income tax planning; and that ultimate planning issue, VALUATION.

**L-617 GRATUITOUS TRANSFERS** – Heidi Forman

3 credits

This course will cover various aspects of family wealth transmission and the attendant problems that can occur. Topics include trusts, wills, powers of appointment, intestacy, class gifts, restrictions on testamentary dispositions, will contests, the surviving spouse’s elective share, and other administrative issues arising in wealth succession.

**L-621 SPORTS LAW 2: THE SPORTS INDUSTRY IN CONTEXT: THE ANATOMY OF A FRANCHISE TRANSACTION** -

Helen Drew

3 credits

This course will examine the legal and business issues central to the operation of professional sports leagues and franchises in the context of a major franchise transaction. The many different and frequently conflicting legal and financial concerns of the leagues, teams, prospective investors, and various governmental constituencies will be considered in connection with a host of interrelated transactions. The course will provide significant hands-on experience in application of a variety of legal principles, including fundamental corporate law concepts, broadcast regulation, and trademark and copyright law. Market selection, arena construction and management, concessions, merchandising and licensing, media rights, marketing and public relations will also be incorporated. **NOTE: This course is intended as a sequel to "Sports and the Law", however the fall course is NOT a prerequisite to this course.**

**L-625 PRACTICE APPLICATIONS IN LEGAL REASONING & WRITING** - Barbara A. Sherk

3 credits

This course provides a comprehensive reinforcement of strategy and analysis for bar examination preparation using study and review of selected common law required subjects and statutes that address the UBE. Students will develop preparation techniques and skills in critical legal analysis and writing to assist them in various legal writing methods, which are applied to all state bar examinations, including New York. Students will be expected to practice and articulate the legal method, as it applies to analytical reading and writing skills. Students will practice test taking skills and preparation for the Multistate Performance Test, Multistate Bar Examination and the Multistate Essay Examination. Students will use in-class writing practice and assigned statutes and case law for preparation, interactive course discussion and completion of graded assignments. Regular attendance and participation are required.

**This course fulfills the professional skills requirement.**

**LAW 625 is limited to students graduating in June 2016, September 2016 or February 2017.**

**L-626 PROBLEMS IN NEW YORK CIVIL PRACTICE** - James Gresens, Jodyann Galvin, Catherine Cooley, and Gary Muldoon

3 credits

A very practical course on the rules of civil procedure in New York based on the real-life experiences of a member of the local bar. The major portions of the Civil Practice Law and Rules and other practice statutes are covered in a series of interesting lectures. As a hands-on experience, the class will be divided into groups assigned to represent a party in a hypothetical personal injury/property damage lawsuit. The groups will prepare and serve pleadings and make appropriate preliminary motions, etc. Major subjects covered are jurisdiction, conditions precedent, statutes of limitation, venue, service, pleadings, parties, discovery, motion practice and special proceedings. **ONLY THIRD YEAR STUDENTS MAY REGISTER FOR THIS COURSE. This course fulfills the professional skills requirement.**

**L-631 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW** - Anya Bernstein

3 credits

Administrative agencies are not mentioned by the Constitution, but today they make more legal rules than legislatures and do more adjudicating than courts. This class explains how agencies are governed as well as how they govern us. We will address the legal regime to which agencies are subject and how President, Congress, courts, and affected parties influence (or dictate) agency action. We will cover the decision-making tools agencies use, such as cost-benefit analysis, risk analysis, and inter-agency review. And we will walk through the steps of creating regulations and adjudicating disputes.

Students will learn to wade through statutes and regulations and understand not just what they mean, but how they were created, what purposes they can serve, how they might be altered, and what legal issues they are likely to raise. Throughout, we will grapple with a question that continues to confound the administrative state: How do we make agencies accountable, yet effective?

**L-634 SECURED TRANSACTIONS** - Garry Graber

3 credits

This course will cover Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code, which governs security interests in commercial and consumer contexts. We will examine the formation, attachment, perfection and enforcement of security interests under state law and the manner in which federal bankruptcy law incorporates and alters the rights of secured parties. Special emphasis will be given to techniques of statutory analysis and problem solving.

**L-638 TRIAL TECHNIQUE** - Various Instructors

3 credits

The purpose of this course is to offer an opportunity to gain some experience in the actual trial of a lawsuit. Each student will engage in activities such as making an opening statement, conducting direct and cross examination of witnesses, and giving a closing argument. Both criminal and civil cases are used. The instructors in charge of each section are practicing attorneys or judges, who are also part time members of the faculty. The class sections meet for a minimum period of ten weeks. The eleventh session is a mock trial. Judges and trial attorneys from the area preside, law students and assistant DA's are the court assistants, high school and college students serve as jurors, and stenographers are available for most trials. The jurors hear the evidence, receive instructions from the judge, deliberate and return a verdict. Students in the course are responsible for selecting and preparing witnesses. **PREREQUISITE or COREQUISITE:** Evidence. **This course fulfills the professional skills requirement.**

**L-643 WHITE COLLAR CRIME** – Marc Gromis

3 credits

What is meant by the term “white collar” crime? Which statutes are used by federal and state prosecutors to pursue white collar criminals? What tools, such as search warrants and grand jury subpoenas, are used to investigate white collar crimes? What strategies are used by defense attorneys to defend white collar criminals before and after charges are filed? Can in-house or private defense counsel ethically represent a corporation and individual employees? What issues arise if a corporation is paying the attorneys for its employees during a criminal investigation? Is the BP disaster in the Gulf a civil and/or a criminal matter? What criminal statutes could be examined? These are the types of issues that will be discussed during this course.

This is a practice-driven class that will focus on how these types of cases are investigated, prosecuted and defended. The course material and lectures will be largely drawn from the instructor’s extensive experience as a judicial law clerk, a federal prosecutor and a criminal defense attorney. Various investigative techniques and strategies used by the prosecution will be highlighted, including the use of the grand jury, search warrants, interviews of witnesses by special agents and the use of informants.

We will examine and discuss white collar crimes committed against individuals, corporations and the government such as mail and wire fraud, tax evasion and bribery. Case law regarding issues in white collar prosecutions, such as evidentiary and other trial issues, will be discussed. Students will be asked to participate extensively in class discussions regarding hypothetical issues and case law.

**L-647 PRODUCTS LIABILITY** – David Engel

3 credits

This course will cover the basic principles of products liability law, beginning with negligence and warranty and the initial emergence of strict liability principles. It will examine the current treatment of manufacturing defects, design defects, and warning defects, as well as limitations on defectiveness arising from user choice (obvious and inherent dangers) and the passage of time (state of the art). It will address the standard defenses of contributory negligence, comparative fault, and assumption of the risk, as well as product misuse. The course will also consider the interaction of tort law and agency regulation. Students will gain familiarity with the treatment of products liability in the highly influential Second Restatement of Torts as well as the more recent Restatement of the Law Third, Torts: Products Liability. There will be a final examination at the conclusion of the course.

**L-650 EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION LAW** – Lise Gelemter

3 credits

Many people have experienced discrimination on the job, but do you know what legal rights you have? Are you aware of which types of employment discrimination Title VII of the Civil Rights of Act 1964 and other laws prohibit and the laws’ limitations? Do you know if you are protected against discrimination on the basis of your gender identity, your race, your age, your friends, your political party? How would you bring a successful discrimination claim? Learn the answers to all these questions, and more, in this course. You will also learn to apply the law you have learned to real scenarios by doing problems in most classes. Guest speakers will include practitioners and enforcement staff.

Students will write one short (5 to 8 pages) non-research paper in lieu of a midterm exam and there will be an open-book final examination at the end of the semester during the final exam period.

**L-651 TRIAL ADVOCACY** - Hon. Thomas Franczyk

3 credits

*Note: Students enrolled in this course will receive 3 credits. Students may be eligible for an additional 3 credits if they advance from a*

*Regional Competition to a National Competition during one semester or if they are selected to participate in two competitions in two semesters. In no event shall any student receive more than 6 credits for this course.*

In this intensive course, students will learn how to prepare and try a criminal or civil case with an eye toward participating as trial counsel in a national mock trial competition. This course picks up where basic Trial Technique leaves off. It is more in-depth and concentrated in its focus and time commitment.

The students will organize and analyze a complicated fact pattern by focusing on the elements of proof, defenses and by developing a theme of the case. In each session, students will, under the guidance of the instructor, guest judges and trial lawyers, work on a different aspect of a selected case. In the process they will sharpen their skills in the mechanics of trial lawyering: how to ask proper questions on direct and cross examination, impeachment with a prior inconsistent statement, introduction and use of objections. The student performances in each aspect of the trial will be critiqued on the spot so that they can identify their weak points and improve upon them for the next session.

In the trial competition, the students will try a case against top student trial lawyers from across the country. Competitions are either invitationals which involve trying both sides of a criminal or civil case at least twice, and up to 5 to 6 times depending on whether the team advances past the preliminary rounds. The competitions usually take 3 to 4 days. With the National Trial Competition and ATLA Competition, if the team wins the Regional, they advance to the Nationals and repeat the process. Actual trial judges and trial lawyers serve as judges and evaluators. Course schedule varies from semester to semester and ordinarily consists of frequent meetings during a 6-week period. The time commitment is generally 3 nights a week and Saturday or Sunday mornings with all sessions running about three hours. This course counts toward the maximum of 12 credits that a student is permitted to receive from independent studies, externships, and courses in other UB academic units. **This course fulfills the professional skills requirement. Practice schedules are Monday and Wednesday evenings and some weekend mornings.**

**Pre-Requisite: Basic Trial Technique but students who have not taken that course are still permitted to try out for the Trial Teams. Evidence is encouraged as a co or pre-requisite. Enrollment by permission of instructor only.**

**L-655 MASS MEDIA LAW** – Samantha Barbas  
3 credits

This course examines many of the legal issues faced by the mass media industries. Topics include defamation, privacy, prior restraints, public access to the media, reporters' privileges, media coverage of trials, the regulation of advertising, access to governmental information, obscene and indecent communications, legal controls over broadcasting, and problems posed by online media. A background in First Amendment law is helpful but not necessary.

**L-657 ELECTION LAW** - James Gardner  
3 credits

Democracy does not just happen by itself; it must be implemented and institutionalized by constitutional and legislative means. This course examines American election law, conceived in the broadest possible terms. Topics include the structure of republican government, the sources of state and federal power to regulate the electoral system, the right to vote, apportionment and representation, candidates' rights, the party system and the conduct of political campaigns. Throughout, we will try both to discern the philosophical assumptions that underlie contemporary election law, and to determine whether existing legal frameworks effectively institutionalize those assumptions.

**L-664 BUSINESS OF HEALTH CARE** – Lawrence Zielinski  
SEMINAR - 3 credits (cross listed mgh641)

**L-667 FEDERAL LEGAL RESEARCH** – Joseph Gerken  
3 credits

Most litigation, especially in Federal court, involves the interpretation of a statute. An attorney arguing for a particular reading of a statute has a repertoire of approaches to select from, including: analysis of the statute's text and structure; case law; legislative history; agency interpretation; policy arguments, often based on non-law expertise; and even dictionaries.

This course is intended to enable students to do research in support of each of these approaches, focusing on Federal statutory law. Its objectives are to help students to think strategically about research projects and critically evaluate sources and methods. Advanced

search techniques on Westlaw, Lexis and other on-line databases will also be covered. **Permission of the instructor is required. This course fulfills the professional skills requirement.**

**L-670 THE GLOBAL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT: CLOSING A DEAL ACROSS THE U.S.-CANADA BORDER** – Kathryn Friedman  
3 credits

This survey course will serve as a primer on legal and policy aspects of the Canada-US relationship for students interested in practicing in an international setting. By situating the business and trade relationship in a global context (“we make stuff together”), students will be exposed to legal issues in international trade (NAFTA and TPP, supply chain theory and practice, the automotive and agricultural-processing industries, etc.), border security (Beyond the Border Accord and the Regulatory Cooperation Council), infrastructure and transportation, labour mobility, energy, environmental (e.g., mineral resources, water resources), and human rights issues that are integral to the Canada-US relationship and the functioning of business and other interests in the global marketplace. Students will also understand why a focus on Canada and the United States will help in understanding economic transformations and transactions in other parts of the world (e.g., Asia and the Near East).

**L-676 INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH ECONOMICS** - Walter Ludwig  
3 credits (cross listed mgh633/eh539)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the skills necessary to understand economic analysis in all aspects of health and healthcare. It will examine the supply and demand for health services, and the economic analysis of healthcare systems and current healthcare policies. It will also examine the economic evaluation of healthcare technologies, the impact of HMO's and health insurance policies, and the effects of regulation on both private and public health programs. Where appropriate, discussion will also include local and regional issues as well as current events regarding these topics.

**L-676 THE TORT LAW SYSTEM** - David Engel  
SEMINAR – 3 credits

This seminar (formerly known as “Injuries”) will address selected issues in the development of modern tort doctrine and it will consider how the tort system actually operates in the lives of injurers, victims, and legal professionals. Beginning with a broad overview of the flow of injury cases from initial harms to lawyers' offices and into the courts, the seminar will explore such topics as: medical malpractice, tangible and intangible harms, internet injuries, wrongful life and wrongful birth claims, damage awards and settlement practices, punitive damages, race and gender in the tort law system, juries, tort reform, and the impact of popular culture and the media. The readings are interdisciplinary, with occasional comparisons to tort law in other societies.

Each student will carry out a research project addressing any aspect of the tort law system that is of particular interest. Research must be based on student interviews, so the seminar will also provide instruction on how to conduct an interview to establish rapport and obtain needed information. Grades will be based on presentations and a seminar paper. There is no exam.

**L-684 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS & REPORTING** - Jeanette Toth  
3 credits- CROSSLISTED WITH ECO504 – Begins 1/26

This course provides an introduction to the fundamental concepts and issues of financial accounting with emphasis on the interpretation of financial statements. The course addresses the economic consequences of transactions and their presentation on corporate financial statements. A primary objective is to introduce corporate financial statements as a tool for company valuation and decision-making. Emphasis is on the analysis of effects of decisions on financial performance and use of financial statements to evaluate organizations.  
**This course fulfills the professional skills requirement.**

**L-688 INTRO TO SECURITIES REGULATIONS** – Phil Halpern  
3 credits

This course is a basic introduction to the federal regulation of capital formation in the United States under the Securities Act of 1933 and related disclosure issues arising under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

**L-693 LABOR LAW** – Robert Steinfeld  
3 credits



This course will be devoted primarily to studying the law of union-management relations under the National Labor Relations Act. Accordingly, we will examine the legal problems involved in organizational campaigns, focusing upon legislative and case materials relating to unfair labor practices. We will also deal with regulation of labor under the common law and anti-trust acts.

**PREREQUISITE** for Collective Bargaining which deals with the regulation of actual bargaining and the enforcement of the collective agreement.

**L-696 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY** – Rebecca French

3 credits

One of the most interesting and growing fields of law is Intellectual Property, the study of legal protection for ideas, phrases, processes, discoveries, inventions, symbols, designs, music, art and literary works. Just as first-year Property Law covers basic ideas about real and personal property, Intellectual Property Law deals with relationship between persons and the state concerning intangible property. This course will walk students through the legal areas of copyright, trademarks, patents, industrial design, trade dress and trade secrets. We will probably be reading one of the most current casebooks on the topic, *Intellectual Property in the New Technological Age*, 2012, which seeks to set these issues in the context of the Internet and Digital Era of the last few decades. An area of rapidly changing statutes and technology, this course will be an essential introduction to this field.

**L-697 INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS** - Tara Melish

3 credits

This course critically examines the norms, actors and institutions that play a role in the protection of human rights. The course includes discussion of the conceptual and historical foundations of human rights; controversial topics in comparative human rights law, such as the death penalty, hate speech, the rights to health and education, and responses to terrorism; international, regional, and national mechanisms for the interpretation, implementation, and enforcement of human rights (particularly within the United Nations and regional systems of rights protection, including international complaints procedures, periodic reporting processes, monitoring and inquiry procedures, naming and shaming tactics, indicator and benchmarking methodologies, and other incentive-based tools designed to modify state and non-state actor behavior); and specialized doctrines of human rights interpretation and balancing where rights conflict. The course includes a moot court argument before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

**L-705 FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION: PART II** – Heidi Forman

3 credits

This course builds on and moves beyond the issues addressed in the basic course in federal income taxation with a particular focus on property transactions and issues relating to the timing and character (capital versus ordinary) of income and deductions. Among other topics, we will cover the cash and accrual methods of accounting, depreciation, like-kind exchanges, original issue discount, installment sales, property transactions involving debt financing, and sales and leasebacks. Grades will be based on a final examination.

**Prerequisite: Federal Income Tax I (Law 608).**

**L-707 POLITICAL CORRUPTION** - Michael Halberstam

SEMINAR - 3 credits

Almost 50 percent of likely voters (including both Democrats and Republicans) believe that the federal government is corrupt. Polls show that government corruption is at the top of the list of most important political issues in 2013 – second only to job growth. More private money is flooding into politics than ever before. And over 70 percent of Democrats and Republicans believe that new rules that let corporations, unions and individuals give unlimited money to Super PACs will lead to greater corruption. At the same time, legislative ethics rules and administrative oversight have arguably been stricter than ever before; government anti-corruption efforts and legislative ethics reforms are underway in many states; and the U.S. Supreme Court has struck down campaign finance restrictions as unconstitutional and unnecessary.

This course asks what political corruption is, whether public perceptions are well-founded, how perceptions matter as such, and what policy makers should do about them. It examines the concepts and legal definitions of political corruption operative in different regulatory contexts, such as lobbying, legislative ethics, and campaign finance. Together we will consider the validity of these concepts and laws, and their consistency with theories of democratic legitimacy, economic efficiency, and the rule of law. Students will be required to produce work that is grounded in theory and engages interpretations and applications of the law within a particular regulatory regime.

**L-709 FIGHTING POVERTY IN BUFFALO** - Sam Magavern

3 credits

Roughly 14% of the Buffalo region's residents live in poverty; that rate rises to about 30% in the city of Buffalo itself. What are the causes of this poverty, and what are successful ways to address it? In this class, we'll examine local poverty through many lenses. We'll meet with non-profit groups that are fighting poverty and study policy changes at the local and state level to strengthen their efforts. Students will learn public policy research and advocacy skills such as working with media, elected officials, and community groups and writing policy briefs. We will invite the public to our final class, in which we will present findings and recommendations. The class will meet in downtown Buffalo at 617 Main St., Suite 300. Enrollment is limited to fifteen.  
**This course fulfills the professional skills requirement.**

**L-715 HEALTH POLICY IN THE UNITED STATES** – Jerome Yates  
3 credits (cross listed mgh634/eeh542)

Examines the potential role and recent use of epidemiological findings in formulating public health policy related to treatment and prevention of diseases, and health manpower issues. Focuses on epidemiological evidence for and against specific policy positions and implementations of public health measures.

**L-731 INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW** – Errol Meidinger  
3 credits

This course examines the primary legal concepts, institutions, and processes used to address environmental problems across international boundaries. Because international environmental law is a highly diverse and rapidly developing field, the course will focus on certain selected areas with the goal of enabling students to understand the main ways in which transnational environmental problems are addressed. Among the areas likely to be discussed are climate change, human rights and the environment, international trade and the environment; ocean fisheries and pollution, and wildlife and biodiversity.

Students will prepare research papers on topics of their choice with instructor consultation and approval. Understanding of the class readings will be recognized through a simple multiple choice and short answer exam at the conclusion of the reading portion of the course. Final grades will be based primarily (70 percent) on research papers. Students who complete the course will be eligible for seminar credit.

**L-734 AM CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY II** - Robert Steinfeld  
SEMINAR - 3 credits

This seminar (paper required) focuses on the development of constitutional doctrine and interpretation from the post-Civil War period of Reconstruction until the New Deal. Particular attention is placed on the constitutional law of race relations and civil rights in the aftermath of the passage of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> amendments, the constitutional examination of the regulation of property and liberty of contract under the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment and the commerce clause, and the development of free speech principles under the 1<sup>st</sup> amendment. In the process, the application of constitutional doctrine to issues of race, gender, labor, and capital will be explored against the backdrop of American social and economic history during the era.

**L-737 TOPICS IN JURISPRUDENCE** – James Wooten  
3 credits

This course will provide an opportunity for students to step back from the cases, statutes, and regulations studied in “black letter” courses and focus on broader issues and topics that apply to law “in general.” One thing we will do is take a closer look at some building blocks of legal institutions and legal analysis – concepts such as “rule,” “standard,” “precedent,” and “authority.” We will consider such questions as: Why do drafters of statutes and regulations sometimes use narrowly drawn rules (such as speed limits) to regulate conduct and at other times use open-ended standards (such as duties to act “reasonably” under the circumstances)? When two rules seem to apply to the same situation and the rules require contrary courses of action, how should a person decide which rule to follow? What force should a rule have in situations in which it is not clear whether the rule applies? (In other words, if it is not clear whether a particular rule applies to the situation I am in, and I choose not to follow the rule, how much trouble could I get into if a court later decides that the rule does apply?)

By reflecting upon these and similar issues relating to legal institutions, I hope students will improve their skills in analysis and argument.

Grades will be based on an exercise in analyzing a judicial decision (20%), a short (6-8 pages) essay that responds to the readings (30%), class participation (10%), and a final exam (40%).

**L-740 INTERNATIONAL LAW** – Tara J. Melish

3 credits

This core international law course explores the normative and institutional foundations of contemporary international law, a dynamic field that increasingly permeates all other fields of law. Critically examining the processes underlying the creation, evolution, and enforcement of international law, the course will provide an introductory survey of a broad range of doctrinal subfields, including the use of force and law of armed conflict, human rights, international criminal law, maritime law, trade law, and foreign investment regulation. It will also cover such key topics as international dispute resolution, the law of treaties and treaty interpretation, the status of treaties and customary international law in the domestic legal system, foreign sovereign immunity, the act of state doctrine, state succession and dissolution, constitutional foreign affairs preemption, the allocation of legal authority among states in international institutions, and the role of non-state and sub-state actors in the creation and enforcement of international law. This is a required course for the international law concentration.

**L-745 INTRO TO US LEGAL RESEARCH & WRITING** - Katrin Rowan

2 credits--Blocks 5 and 6 – LLM Students only

This course is required for all LL.M. students with non-US law degrees. It focuses on building legal research, analysis and writing skills. Students will become familiar with the US approach (common-law) to legal research and writing, with particular emphasis on NY State law, through exercises that include conducting legal research online and in the library, writing memoranda, and constructing oral arguments. Registration is by permission of the instructor.

**L-761 JEWISH LAW** - Sergey Dolgopolsky

3 credits (cross listed jds402/col716)

Focusing on the question of moral judgment vis-a-vis legal, and political decision in Talmudic and philosophical traditions of thought after Kant, this course will explore and renegotiate the competing constructions of the literary and of its role in understanding of the political, the moral, and of the legal. We will begin from Kant and his interpreters who took his aesthetics as a foundation of political philosophy (critique of political reason) and will continue to where Jewish and Christian responses to Kant went, but did not fully reach -- to taking moral judgement, legal, and political decision beyond the relationship with either the philosophical or the literary. We will address Gilles Deleuze as a thinker breaching into this new area of the political beyond either philosophical or literary-aesthetical and see how the reengagement of the tradition of the Talmud and of its interpretation, legal and otherwise, enriches and complicates that discussion of the political. On the way from Kant to Deleuze we will read such thinkers of the literary as Auerbach, Sartre, Barthes, and Derrida, and such thinkers of the political as Schmitt, Arendt, Rancière, Nancy, as well as the new theorists of the Talmudic thinking. Crosslisted course that begins on 1/25. **Cannot receive law seminar credit for this course.**

**L-762 ADVANCED SOCIO-LEGAL RESEARCH** - Errol Meidinger

SEMINAR – 3 credits

This course is a colloquium for advanced graduate and law students who wish to learn about and carry out cutting edge research on law, legal institutions, and social policy. It will build upon ongoing distinguished speaker and workshop series sponsored by the Baldy Center, Law School, and affiliated UB departments. Substantive topics will vary with speakers and student interests, but are likely to range across administrative regulation, criminal law, environmental governance, human rights, international trade, legal profession, race, and a variety of other subjects. Students will read the papers, attend and participate in the presentations, and meet with the speakers in a small group setting following the public presentations. They will be able to discuss both the speakers' and their own research in a multi-disciplinary environment and build important new relationships with visiting speakers, UB faculty members, and fellow students. The seminar will meet each Friday from 12:15 to 3:15, usually with lunch available at 12:00. Students enrolling in the seminar will have the option of writing one substantial research paper or three short critical analyses of papers presented by speakers. Enrollment is with permission of the instructor.

**L-780 TAXATION OF BUSINESS ENTITIES** – Stuart Lazar

3 credits

This survey course will cover the basics of taxation of business entities and their owners. It will include an introduction to Federal taxation of C Corporations, Partnership, LLCs, and S Corporations. This course is designed primarily for students interested in business and will focus on identification and resolution of tax issues in common business transactions. Prerequisite: Federal Income Taxation I. This course may not be taken if the student previously has taken Corporate Taxation or Partnership Taxation.

**L-788 CORPORATE FINANCE-** Phil Halpern  
SEMINAR- 3 credits

This seminar will examine the foundational principles and transactional application of corporate finance. Topics include basic accounting, financial statements, valuation methodologies, capital structure, loan agreements, debt securities, derivatives, asset securitization, and responding to financial distress.

**L-790 TAX POLICY, RESEARCH, AND LEGISLATION** – Stuart Lazar  
3 credits

This course focuses on the United States federal income tax, specifically the practical and policy considerations that inform the design of our tax system. It is commonly understood that our tax law is an important tool that the government uses to influence many aspects of modern American life. This course attempts to accomplish many goals. First, we will explore how federal tax law is created both formally and informally. The formal legislation process takes place with the Congress (and the President) enacting laws that the courts then interpret. There is also, however, an informal legislation process. Citizens, acting individually or collectively, can attempt to influence the formal process by contacting members of Congress and elected officials, attending town or county meetings, participating in lobbying efforts, circulating and signing petitions, making contributions to political and advocacy groups, and by voting for particular candidates. We will explore these processes both in-class and through a “study away” trip to Washington DC (between March 13-18, 2016) during which time we will meet with some of the interested players in the two processes. Second, we will discuss how the federal government uses tax law to influence the behavior of taxpayers – whether wealthy (e.g., the capital gains preference), middle-income (the education credits) or lower-income (the earned income credit). Students should come away from this course with a greater understanding of the political, economic and social constraints on our tax system. Finally, this course will provide an introduction to the fundamentals of tax research. It is designed both to provide students with the ability to research basic tax problems using appropriate tax authorities and research services and enhance students' written and oral communication skills. The course will end with students writing a paper on a tax policy-related topic of his or her choosing. This course will satisfy the upper-level writing requirement.

**This course will have in-class sessions on a weekly basis prior to the Washington DC trip. We will meet only one time following the DC excursion and students will have the remainder of the semester free to work on their policy papers.**

**L-799 INDEPENDENT STUDY** - Various Faculty  
3 credits

An upper-class student who wishes to pursue a special research interest under the guidance of a law school faculty member may earn up to three credit hours for an independent research and writing project. Students undertaking independent research will meet periodically with the faculty member supervising the research for discussion, review, and evaluation of the research project. An adjunct faculty member cannot serve as the exclusive supervisor of an independent study. The finished written product must be comparable in scope and quality to a student note or comment in a law review or social science journal. In order to register for an independent study project the student must prepare a written research proposal approved by the supervising faculty member and obtain this faculty member's signature on the Independent Study form. **This form can be found on the Records website or in the Records Office.** The proposed study must be one that requires substantial investment of time and effort and results in a significant work that makes an original contribution to the understanding of law or reflects pursuit of a specialized interest of a student not covered in standard offerings in the curriculum. With faculty approval an independent study may count for seminar credit.

The independent study program may not be used to earn credit for work performed as a research assistant or in an internship, an externship, or a clinic.

Students are allowed to register for one independent study while in the law school. In very limited circumstances, a student may continue work on an independent research project in a later semester for up to three additional credit hours, such as where continuation of work on the paper will facilitate publication of an independent research paper or allow completion of an ambitious social science research project. Expansion of an independent study project requires a request by the supervising faculty member and approval of the Vice Dean for Student Services.

**L-804 CURRENT TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW** – Jessica Owley  
1 credit- Block 5

This short course is a combination of examining current issues in environmental law and practicing oral argument and public speaking. We will use either currently pending Supreme Court cases or other hot topics in environmental law to gain a deeper understanding of an environmental issue currently in the news--looking at the law at issue, popular and academic commentary, and court briefs. This course goes beyond a seminar format to incorporate elements of public speaking and mock oral arguments. Students will have the opportunity to argue different sides and issues and will serve as counsel and court in classroom proceedings. The class will meet for four three-hour

sessions. Grading will be based on in-class activities as well as one short paper due before Spring break. The topics have not yet been selected for Spring 2016, but last year we discussed the Keystone Pipeline, Public Trust Doctrine, Arctic Drilling, and Factory Farming. **This course may be repeated for credit. This class qualifies as an elective for the environmental concentration.**

**L-804 CURRENT TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW** – Jessica Owley

SEMINAR - 3 credits

This course combines the current topics short course (Law 804) and a writing seminar. Students will attend and participate in the short course that tackles four environmental law issues “ripped from the headlines.” The first month (block 5) goes beyond a traditional lecture or seminar course format to incorporate elements of public speaking and mock oral arguments. Students will have the opportunity to argue different sides and issues and will serve as counsel and court in classroom proceedings. The topics have not yet been selected for Spring 2016, but last year we discussed the Keystone Pipeline, Public Trust Doctrine, Arctic Drilling, and Factory Farming. Students in the full seminar will spend the remainder of the seminar developing their research papers with class sessions devoted to their chosen topics. Students must complete a seminar paper and final presentation. **This course may be repeated for credit. This class qualifies as an elective for the environmental concentration and it satisfies the seminar requirement.**

**L-807 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN LEGAL HISTORY** - Samantha Barbas

SEMINAR- 3 credits

This seminar offers a broad survey of major themes in US legal history in the twentieth century, focusing on the relationship between the legal system and American society. Particular areas of focus include legal and social debates surrounding freedom of speech, religious freedom, race relations, family law, reproductive rights, immigration and citizenship, workers' rights, privacy, and the regulation of new technologies.

**L-816 ADVANCED APPELLATE ADVOCACY** – Lucinda Finley

SEMINAR - 3 credits

Appellate Advocacy II: National Moot Court Team. This course involves participating in the ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition. The teams for this competition, and thus the students that may register for this course, will be selected by the professor. Participation in this competition will involve researching and writing a brief, preparing for oral arguments, and going to the competition and presenting oral arguments both on brief and off brief. Each team will be coached and supervised by the professor. All travel and competition registration expenses will be paid by the law school. The competition dates will be between late February and late March, depending on which regional competition we are assigned to attend, and briefs will be due in early January during the bridge period. **This course fulfills the professional skills requirement.**

**Enrollment is by permission of the instructor.**

**L-817 CRIMINAL LAW PRACTICUM** - Robert Convissar

4 Credits

Students enrolled in this course will actively participate in the defense of criminal cases handled by local attorneys under the Erie County Assigned Counsel Program, which provides legal assistance to indigent defendants. Students will be required to perform approximately 10 hours per week of fieldwork in this course. Depending upon case needs, students will assist assigned counsel in investigating and preparing cases for trial (including researching relevant legal and evidentiary issues, writing trial memoranda, evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the case, preparing witnesses and attending the trial) as well as evaluating plea offers and sentence commitments. Students will also produce a brief applied research paper on a topic of choice related to their fieldwork. These papers may be published online. In addition to working directly with assigned counsel, students will attend evening classroom sessions to review the law and policy, prepare for their fieldwork and discuss related issues. **This course fulfills the professional skills requirement. Apply online at [www.law.buffalo.edu/registrar](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/registrar).**

**Prerequisite: Criminal Procedure, New York Criminal Law or equivalent**

**L-819 PRIVACY, INFORMATION, AND TECHNOLOGY** - James Milles

3 credits

This course covers privacy issues related to information technology, databases, surveillance, and cyberspace. Topics include basic privacy concepts, government surveillance, privacy and access to public records, government access to personal information, data mining, identity theft, consumer privacy, financial privacy, privacy at home and the workplace, and more.

**L-822 GENDER, SEXUALITY, & LAW** – Michael Boucai

SEMINAR – 3 credits

Focusing on the contemporary United States, this seminar examines law's role in the construction and regulation of gender and sexuality. It covers a broad range of topics: the decline and resilience of marriage as a privileged site of sex and childbearing; feminist law reforms relating to sexual violence and harassment; legal and political conflicts over sex work and pornography; sexuality's centrality to debates about the relationship between law and morality; the constitutionality of discrimination based on sexual orientation, especially with regard to marriage; the norm of monogamy (and alternatives like adultery, open marriage, polygamy, and polyamory); clashes between religious exercise and sexual and/or reproductive liberty; and certain racial dimensions of sexual identity, romantic preference, and the regulation of intimate relationships. *This seminar qualifies as a writing-intensive experience.*

**L- 828 INNOCENCE AND JUSTICE PROJECT** – John Nuchereneno  
3 credits

Project students will investigate and litigate cases on behalf of prisoners who may be actually innocent of the crimes for which they have been convicted or unjustly convicted. The Project will focus on cases where there is no biological evidence to be tested. Students will work on all aspects of the cases, including investigating new evidence, preparing State post-conviction Motions, conducting hearings and arguing Motions in court in connection therewith.

Participation in the Project is by permission of the instructor.

**Pre-requisite: State and Federal Post Conviction Remedies.**

**L-833 WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS** – Isabel Marcus  
SEMINAR - 3 credits

Women's rights jurisprudence and practice are important exciting and challenging new legal developments. In this seminar we will explore the complexities of relationships among cultures and stereotypes, national laws and their implementation, international women's rights norms and instruments, and the work of non-governmental organizations. In addition to the substantive women's rights issues in family law, criminal law, education law, employment law, and health and reproduction law, we also will address the disparate impact on women and girls of war and migration, structural adjustment, informal labor markets and "free enterprise" zones, and trafficking. We will consider various reporting mechanisms in international fora and evaluate international and regional efforts to develop state accountability for violations of women's human rights.

Students also will receive training in the use of computer resources for women's rights research and will have opportunities to practice and enhance those skills.

Writing requirements: Seminar paper and assigned research summaries on NGO activities in selected in women's rights issues.

Class is offered in Law School Blocks 5 & 6 (February – early April) four and a half hours per week.

**L-838 FINANCE COLLOQUIUM: FINANCE AND BANKING** – Lauren Breen  
SEMINAR- 3 credits

This seminar will explore banking structure and operation, with an initial focus upon banking history and the changing nature of how banks finance themselves. The course will feature a series of practicing bank lawyers as guest speakers, who will address a range of emerging bank compliance issues resulting from the Dodd-Frank Act. Students will examine timely issues such as the effect of the Volcker Rule on capital markets and bank collateralized loan obligations; capital markets and derivatives trading; and bank data protection and privacy.

The seminar is designed to educate students about the range of careers in banking for law school graduates through interaction with practicing professionals in this field. Students will produce a substantial research paper relating to the subject area; there is no final exam.

**L-844 MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS** – John Dunbar  
3 credits (cross listed mgf658)

Examines the development of the private equity and venture capital industries over the past 20 years. Students will learn the various aspects of identifying, analyzing, structuring and financing acquisitions. Crosslisted. **This course fulfills the professional skills requirement.**

**L-849 INTERNATIONAL LAW COLLOQUIUM (con't)** – David Westbrook  
SEMINAR – 1.5 credits

The International Law Colloquium is a year-long, three credit course (1.5 hours each semester), open exclusively to third year students in the international law concentration, for whom it is a required course. Students will read and discuss recent scholarship on the changing structure and function of the international legal system in the era of globalization and democratization. Each student will develop and present to the group a research project on an emerging issue in international law, culminating in a substantial research paper. **Students will be automatically registered for the spring section if enrolled in the previous fall.**

**L-851 NEGOTIATIONS** – Rebecca French  
3 credits

Negotiation, as part of the alternative dispute curriculum that includes mediation and arbitration, is the art and science of securing agreements between two or more parties. We all negotiate daily with parents, spouses, friends, siblings, roommates, professors, employees and employers, landlords and many others. This course delves into the process, strategy and psychology of negotiating effectively. Every lawyer needs the logical and analytical skills necessary to find the best solutions to problems and then to get those solutions accepted and effectuated. This course is both useful and fun because it involves a series of simulations in different factual settings and it teaches you skills you can use in your professional and personal life.

**L-862 CROSS BORDER LEGAL STUDIES** – Meredith Lewis  
4 credits

This course is a requirement for the Cross-Border Legal Studies Concentration. All students interested in taking this course must get permission from Professor Lewis in order to enroll. This class will have classroom and experiential components. It is designed to give students exposure to and substantive experience with the types of cross-border work they may encounter as practicing attorneys. Students will be partnered with lawyers engaged in cross-border legal practice to work on projects that implicate a range of subject areas and legal issues. Students will interact regularly with attorneys at their law firms as well as in the classroom. Assignments will include preparing written work products for both attorney and client audiences, as well as developing and delivering oral presentations relating to the semester-long legal projects. The specific practice areas covered will be determined based on the interests of the students participating and attorney availability, but may include business transactions, tax, immigration, trade, investment, environmental and real estate issues, among others. While the participating attorneys will provide feedback and liaise closely with Professor Lewis, all work will be supervised, review and graded by Professor Lewis.

**L-864 JD/MSW FIELD SERVICE COLLOQUIUM** - Melinda R. Saran and Jorien Brock (School of Social Work)  
1 credit

This colloquium will allow students enrolled in the JD/MSW program to meet and discuss the ethical issues involved in the practice of both law and social work, using examples from students' field/clinical work. Other topics pertinent to the dual degree program will also be discussed. This course is required each semester that the JD/MSW students enrolled in the Law School Clinical Program as a fulfillment of their MSW Field Service requirements. Other upper-class students matriculated in the JD/MSW program may enroll.

Students wishing to enroll in this course should see Camille Catalano in Room 507 O'Brian for a force registration slip as this is a **permission of instructor only course**.

**L-865 CRIMINAL LAW COLLOQUIUM II** – Luis Chiesa  
SEMINAR – 3 credits

This seminar allows students to learn from some of the nation's preeminent criminal law scholars by giving them the opportunity to actively participate in the Buffalo Criminal Law Center (BCLC) Colloquium Series. The BCLC Colloquium series provides a forum for scholars to present their work to the accomplished criminal law faculty of SUNY Buffalo Law School and via teleconference to some of America's leading criminal theorists. Contributors to the BCLC Colloquium Series include professors Larry Alexander (San Diego), Joshua Dressler (Ohio State), Gideon Yaffe (Yale), Vera Bergelson (Rutgers-Newark), Jonathan Simon (UC Berkeley), Stephen Garvey (Cornell) and Angela Harris (UC Davis).

Students enrolled in the seminar are required to meet weekly at regular class sessions and attend the BCLC Colloquium talk once a month. Given the busy schedule of invited speakers, we may have to schedule the talks on dates other than the regularly scheduled seminar meeting time and students are expected to make arrangements to attend the talks even if they are not held on the regularly scheduled seminar meeting time.

If demand exceeds available slots students in the criminal law concentration and Criminal Law LLM students receive priority. This course will fulfill the seminar requirement.

**No prerequisite is required for this course.**

**Students can take L-865 if they have already taken L-796 in the fall semester.**

**L-866 ADVANCED ADVOCACY IN MEDIATION** - Steve Sugarman

1 credit

This course allows students to sharpen their negotiation skills and effectiveness in representing clients engaged in mediation. In addition to client interviewing and mediation session planning skills, students will practice the delicate balance between a lawyer's duty of zealous advocacy and successfully settling cases in mediation. Advanced attorney ethical issues in such negotiations, such as a proposed duty to negotiate in good faith and the misuse of mediation as a discovery device, are also explored. As a vehicle for learning course concepts, the students are required to prepare for and participate in the ABA Dispute Resolution Section's Regional Law School Mediation Advocacy Competition. The course is limited to enrollment by the 4 students comprising the first and second place teams in the law school's intramural Mediation Advocacy Competition.

**L-867 LAW, GENETICS, SOCIETY: ENGINEERING THE FUTURE** - Irus Braverman

SEMINAR - 3 credits

Recent developments in biotechnology are calling into question existing regulatory regimes and policy approaches dealing with intellectual property, reproduction, human subjects research, disability, crime and punishment, health care, and privacy. Developed only in the last couple years, the CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing technology in particular is triggering rapid changes in the life sciences. CRISPR's gene editing shows many signs of being cheaper, faster, more accurate, and more widely applicable than older rDNA techniques. This new technology enables rank-and-file scientists to alter specific genes within plants and animals and to make those changes heritable. Gene editing techniques are already being used to improve bacterial strains used in dairy products, make new animals for research, and experiment with knocking out disease-inducing mutations. For example, scientists are currently using CRISPR to edit the genes of infected *Anopheles* mosquitoes, which may effect the eradication of malaria (as well as of entire species of mosquitoes).

But many researchers and administrators argue that it is too soon, and potentially too dangerous, to tinker with the human genome—and with genomes of other organisms—in a way that is passed down to future generations and that permanently alters ecosystems. The seminar will expose students to the history of, and differences between, genetic engineering, gene modification, and gene editing, discussing current dilemmas facing policy makers regarding the applications and continued development of these technologies. In addition to reading primary and secondary sources and watching relevant media excerpts, we will host a range of scientists and social scholars and visit bioengineering and bioart labs. This seminar provides a unique opportunity to identify, explore, and debate cutting-edge legal, ethical, and political issues associated with new genetic technologies.

**L-883 INTRODUCTION TO PATENT PRACTICE** – Robert P. Simpson

3 credits

This is a course on patent law and practice. Students will learn patent law by studying statutes, cases, patents and related materials; and will learn how practitioners apply and practice the law by studying pertinent sections of Title 35 of the United States Code (U.S.C.), Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), the Manual of Patenting Examination Procedures (M.P.E.P.), and by practical projects including: understanding and analyzing inventions, evaluating an invention for patentability, drafting a patentability opinion, claim drafting, and writing and prosecuting a patent application. Science or engineering background is not necessary. This course will be helpful to students who intend to practice patent law, and to those who eventually practice corporate law, IP litigation, or are privileged to serve clients with patent-related issues. **This course fulfills the professional skills qualification.**

**L-897 - Negotiating Technology Contracts** – Christopher Copeland

1 credits

This course will be taught from the practitioner's perspective and considers the legal aspects involved with outsourcing and licensing information technology and services, including intellectual property concerns. The course addresses issues relevant to outsourcing or licensing technology, as well as identifying and mitigating associated risks. Considerations will include creating the building blocks for an effective agreement, understanding potential offshore considerations, operating in a regulated environment, and addressing cybersecurity risks. This course will entail preparing, drafting, and negotiating information technology agreements. This course fulfills the professional skills requirement.

**L-900 RAISING MONEY, A RANDOM WALK THROUGH CORPORATE AND SECURITIES LAW** - Jonathan Gardner

2 credits



This course will start with a venture capital financing transaction as a way of introducing common issues from the perspective of a company seeking financing as well as from the point of view of investors. We will also look at the exit strategies of investors, including a public offering. Securities lawyers prepare the disclosure and transaction documents that are used in offerings, but we also help companies put together the pieces of their corporate picture that may be missing or inadequate as part of the process of getting them ready for investors and, in the case of public offerings, regulators. That process includes putting in place or sharpening fundamental agreements that are critical to the business, examining and implementing internal controls, corporate governance procedures, addressing open liabilities and a summary review of certain securities regulations that apply to management and the board of directors.

**L-900 PRO BONO SCHOLARS SEMINAR** – Kim Diana Connolly, Lisa Bauer  
SEMINAR - 3 credits

This seminar is designed to educate Pro Bono Scholars about legal skills and practice, as well as poverty and justice law. It includes required classes weekly that will meet for three hours on campus. It will also entail several reflective assignments, and one brief paper to be completed at the end of the course. Only students already admitted to the Pro Bono Scholars Program may enroll. This course meets the 50 hour pro bono requirement.

**This course qualifies for skills credit, but does not satisfy the required law school seminar requirement.**

**L-913 HISTORIC PRESERVATION LAW** – Richard Lippes  
1 credit - Block 5

This course will provide students with an understanding of the values that Historic Preservation attempts to achieve, with significant emphasis on the legal techniques available to save historic properties. The Course will provide a survey of the legislative and administrative requirements as they relate to preserving or altering a historic property. Finally, the Course will analyze current problems and issues in Historic Preservation law. **Block 5.**

**L-943 TRANSACTIONAL ENTERTAINMENT LAW/THE RECORDING INDUSTRY** – Donald L. Kaplan  
1 credit – Block 5

This course will examine the role of the transactional attorney in the entertainment industry, with particular emphasis on the recording industry. We will explore the legal, business and practical issues involved in transactions common to the recording industry primarily through the examination of a recording agreement, and, as time allows, other typical agreements such as music publishing and management agreements.

**Block 5 -Class is held on 2 Saturdays (2/6 AND 2/20) from 9:00-3:00 and 9:30-3:30 respectively.**