

## **MASTER IN LAW COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 2017-2018**

### **Introduction to American Constitutional Law (Gerhardt) LAWM 505-301: Fall and Spring**

This course will introduce non-lawyers to American constitutional law. It covers basic concepts in constitutional law; the challenges in interpreting the Constitution; the most popular theories for interpreting the Constitution; landmark cases in constitutional law; and current controversies in constitutional law. Some of the topics covered include foundations for judicial review, separation of powers, equal protection and a six-week review of fundamental rights including, due process, right to choose, first amendment, and religion. The course requires significant class participation, along with a final examination. The final class will involve a role play exercise, such as a mock confirmation for a Supreme Court Justice.

### **Introduction to Technology Law and Ethics (Pepper) LAWM 506-301: Fall**

This course is designed to introduce the key legal principles that technology professionals need to know, presenting them from the bottom up - the way a practicing technologist would experience them. Major topics will include the impact of potential liability on product design, differing considerations when life-critical systems are involved, proper and improper uses of intellectual property, privacy regulation, permissible constraints imposed by nondisclosure agreements and employment relationships, and entrepreneurship-related aspects of technology law. Each class will feature a case study, where the legal and ethical issues surrounding the current subjects will be explored through discussion questions and Socratic dialogue. The course requires four writing assignments and a final examination.

### **Introduction to U.S. Law and Legal Methods (Soven, Rosengard, Grogan) LAWM 511-011: Fall, Spring and Summer**

This course is designed to be an introduction to the US legal system and the practice of law in the U.S. through an examination of some of the most significant areas of law including constitutional principles, civil procedure, contracts, torts, property, criminal law and professional ethics. The course begins with an introduction to the U.S. judicial system and provides instruction in the effective reading of cases and the use of precedent. The focus will be on law, legal institutions and legal process as elements of the rule of law in a democratic, market-oriented society. In each section of the course, the goal is to understand the role of the law as a social, economic and political force in the life of the United States through case analysis and the Socratic Method.

### **Corporate Compliance: Policy and Practice (Kandel) LAWM 522-301: Spring**

This course will introduce the student to the importance of corporate compliance in America provide instruction as to the creation and maintenance of effective corporate compliance programs. Emphasis will be placed on the legal and ethical issues compliance officers face often arise in the context of everyday matters. This course will discuss issues facing many types of business organizations and how effective governance, culture and compliance programs can impact a corporation's success – or failure. Students will learn the fundamentals of creating and implementing a solid compliance program and why this is vital. Students will also be introduced to the major compliance issues that arise in different industries. Those who wish to work in compliance, those who work or are looking to work in heavily regulated industries, such as finance and healthcare, as well as others will benefit from this class which blends the fundamentals of compliance with the practical aspects of compliance in today's corporate America. Learning how to address these challenges and finding practical solutions are indispensable skills for anyone working in this field. Class sessions will be supplemented by guest speakers, compliance 'issues of day,' and current compliance topics of interest including anti-corruption, cyber security and conflicts of interest.

### **Introduction to General Business Law (Peterson, Sangha) LAWM 528-301: Fall and Spring**

This survey course introduces non-lawyers to the fundamentals of U.S. business and corporate law. The course begins by examining the law of contracts, which are the building blocks of any business transaction. The course will cover contract formation, key clauses, enforceability, and dispute resolution, along with a discussion of the various aspects of business organizations. Course topics will be introduced through a combination of case analysis, the Socratic Method and real world insight from guest lecturers. By the end of this course, students should be in a position both to recognize relevant legal issues and better evaluate any offered advice. This course requires class participation along with a final examination.

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### **Navigating the Regulatory State (Wiener, Howland) LAWM 529-301: Fall and Spring**

This course will introduce students to the regulatory activities of federal administrative agencies and the legal system in which they operate. Topics will include the economic justifications for regulation; the allocation of regulatory authority between the federal and state governments; the design of modern regulatory statutes and the congressional delegation of authority to agencies; the structure and staffing of agencies; the forms of agency policymaking; agency agenda-setting; agency rulemaking processes; the roles of law, policy, science, and politics (including cost-benefit analysis) in rulemaking; congressional, presidential, and judicial control of agencies; and the enforcement of regulatory mandates. This course has a final examination.

### **Introduction to Health Law & Policy (Scielzo) LAWM 530-301: Fall (tentative) - Spring**

This is a survey course intended to provide students with an overview of the structure, financing and regulation of the U.S. health care system. This course will examine the federal programs for financing the delivery of health care - namely Medicare and Medicaid - and will consider the tension between controlling costs and promoting quality, while also assuring access. Students will learn how health care laws and regulations impact various stakeholders, such as health care facilities, individual health care providers, and patients. Topics for selective study will include health care reimbursement, the Affordable Care Act, fraud and abuse, privacy, technology, licensing, liability, and compliance.

### **Fundamentals of U.S. Legal Research (Greenlee) LAWM 536-301: Fall - Online**

This online class teaches students the key documents of the American Legal System, and how to locate and use these documents both in traditional legal research databases such as Lexis and Westlaw as well as on the many free websites available on the internet. The class will also discuss the availability and use of secondary sources such as periodical literature and legal treatises that assist in understanding and interpreting laws, court opinions, and administrative regulations. Students will learn how to use all of these sources both in academic projects and in their everyday professional lives. Students will also learn strategies to enable them to carry out their research in an efficient and effective manner. The course is designed for students in the Master in Laws program as well as other non-JD students who want a thorough understanding of U.S. legal research methods.

### **Introduction to Patent Law (Wagner) LAWM 576-301: Spring - Online**

This online course takes a broad look at U.S. patent law, from the enforcement of patents to the interpretation of patent claims, providing knowledge and insight that will be useful to engineers, doctors, entrepreneurs, and other professionals who regularly interact with the U.S. patent system. Students will gain a better understanding of the policy principles and structure underlying the US patent system; learn how to read and interpret patent documents, better preparing them to interact with patent lawyers and representatives; become familiar with the text and legal interpretation of modern patent statutes; analyze legal decisions similar to ones they will encounter in their professional careers; learn what it takes to get a valid patent for an invention or technology; learn how entrepreneurs can enforce patents — or avoid infringing them; and determine damages in cases where patents are violated. The first half of the course will consist of an overview of the patent system and its underlying theories and the legal standards applied to patents. The second half will delve into the enforcement of patent rights, including interpretation of patent claims, the defenses against patents, and the calculation of damages.