



I. Course Information

Course: LAW 0648 - Torts
Semester and Year: Fall 2017
Course Start and End Dates: 08/21/2017 - 12/10/2017
Course CRN and Section: 21950 L02
Building and Room: Shepard Broad Law Center - LECTR5

II. Instructor Information

Name: Mintz, Joel
Email: mintzj@nova.edu

III. Class Schedule and Location

Day	Date	Time	Location	Building/Room	Type
TR	08/21/2017 - 12/10/2017	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Ft Lauderdale/Davie Campus	Shepard Broad Law Center- LECTR5	CLAS
T	12/05/2017 - 12/05/2017		Ft Lauderdale/Davie Campus	Exam-EXAM	EXAM

IV. Course Description

This course surveys the traditional and emerging concepts of rights and responsibilities arising from conduct that results in harm to others. This is a required course.

V. Learning Outcomes

Students completing this instructional offering are expected to:

1. Demonstrate a knowledge of substantive legal doctrine fundamental to this course (e.g., case law, legal concepts, legal principals, regulations and statutes).
2. Identify legal issues and apply legal reasoning and analysis to solve problems in a logical and structured manner to issues covered in this course.
3. Communicate orally or in writing, or both, the legal reasoning and analysis regarding issues covered in this course.
4. Demonstrate a proficiency in reading critically the materials assigned for this course.

VI. Materials and Resources

Section Required Texts and Material: Richard A. Epstein and Katherine M. Sharkey, *Cases and*

Materials on Torts (Wolters Kluwer, 2016)

Section Recommended Texts and Materials: Joseph W. Glannon, *The Law of Torts: Examples and Illustrations* (Wolters Kluwer)

Shubha Ghosh, *Acing Tort Law* (West Publishing Company)

Book Url: [NSU Book Store](#)

VII. Course Requirements

1) All students are expected to attend class regularly and to be well prepared to answer questions regarding the assigned materials.

2) Attendance will be taken in each class meeting by circulation of an attendance list. It is the obligation of each student to sign that list in every class session you attend. Failure to do so may result in your being considered absent from that class.

3) If you wish to speak in class in response to a question that I pose, please raise your hand. Though other professors may have different policies, in this course blurted out answers will be considered rude and not acceptable.

VIII. Course Schedule and Topic Outline

Course Schedule: Class 1-- Introductory Class Pages 132 to 134

Class 2-- Intentional Torts Pages 4 to 11

Class 3-- Intentional Torts Pages 12 to 28 (Note: We will cover *Canterbury v. Spence*, mentioned on page 22, in a subsequent class meeting. That case is not part of the reading assignment for Class 3.)

Class 4-- Intentional Torts Pages 32 to 50; 52 to 56

Class 5-- Intentional Torts Pages 56 to 70

Class 6-- Negligence Pages 137 to 144; 146 to 160

Class 7-- Negligence Pages 182 to 200

Class 8-- Negligence Pages 206 to 227

Class 9-- Negligence Pages 227 to 231; 248 to 273

Class 10-- Negligence Pages 275 to 289; 292 to 296

Class 11-- Negligence Pages 303 to 321; 324 to 336

Class 12-- Prepare for In-Class Midterm Exam

Class 13-- Causation Pages 341 to 353; 367 to 376

Class 14-- Causation Pages 403 to 424

Class 15-- Causation Pages 423 to 444; 448 to 465

Class 16-- Negligence Duty to Rescue Pages 467 to 486

Class 17-- Negligence Duties of Landowners and Occupiers/Gratuitous Undertakings Pages 486 to 511

Class 18-- Negligence Duties Arising from Special Relationships Pages 518 to 537

Class 19-- Strict Liability Pages 539; 97 to 108; 563 to 582

Class 20-- Strict Liability Trespass to Chattels and Conversion Pages 540 to 562

Class 21-- Products Liability Pages 655 to 678 in materials distributed in Class 20

Class 22-- Products Liability Pages 678 to 703 in materials distributed in Class 20

Class 23-- Vicarious Liability and Damages Pages 624 to 632; 759 to 760; 776 to 789; 796 to 814

Class 24-- Materials distributed in Class 23 for In-Class Negotiation Exercise Regarding Damages

Class 25-- Prepare for Final Exam Review Class (no new readings assigned)

NOTE: 1) Unless otherwise indicated, all pages referred to above are from the assigned course casebook.
2) This reading list is tentative only. We will typically follow it. However, actual reading assignments may be changed during class sessions.

IX. Grading Criteria

Final Grade: Students' final grades will be based primarily on two exams: a midterm exam and an end-of-term final exam. The midterm examination will be held in class, approximately half way through the term, and it will consist entirely of short answer objective questions. The final exam, to be held on December 5th, will be entirely an essay examination. Both exams will be "closed book." The midterm will be worth 10% of students' final grades. The final examination will determine 90% of each student's final grade.

In addition, students who are consistently well prepared to answer questions regarding assigned reading materials, and who voluntarily respond to questions posed to the entire class on a frequent and effective basis, may have your midterm/final letter grade raised by 1/2 letter grade.

X. Course Policies

General Policy: 1) If you are late to a class session for any reason, you may still attend class and sign the attendance sheet. I would much prefer that you do that, and get whatever you can out of the class session, rather than have you stay away from class simply because you are tardy. In those circumstances, however, please enter the room quietly and find a seat close to the door, even if it is not your accustomed seat, so as not to disturb others.

2) When you leave the room following a class, please make sure to take all your possessions with you.

3) Although laptops are not prohibited in class meetings, I strongly recommend that they only be used for note taking or else turned off completely. Reliable studies have shown that using laptops in class for surfing the web, or participating in social media during class sessions, significantly interferes with students'

performance.

Attendance Policy: Under the College of Law Academic Code, in four credit courses absence from more than six (6) class meetings for any reason will disqualify a student from taking the final exam. Professors have no authority to grant excused absences under any circumstances. Given this, if you must miss one or more classes, please keep track of your absences so as not to run afoul of this law school-wide rule.

XI. College Policies

Students should visit <http://www.nova.edu/academic-affairs/nsu-syllabus-policy.html> to access additional required college-wide policies and https://www.law.nova.edu/about/documents/Code_of_Academic_Regulations.pdf for policies specific to the College of Law. It is your responsibility to access and carefully read these policies to ensure you are fully informed. As a student in this class, you are obligated to follow these policies in addition to the policies established by your instructor.

The following policies are described on these websites:

- Academic misconduct
- Last day to withdraw
- Email policy
- Student course evaluations
- Student responsibility to register
- Student responsibility for course prerequisites
- Class Preparation
- Graduation Requirements, etc.

Additional Academic Resources: Nova Southeastern University offers a variety of resources that may aid in student success. Among these resources is:

Accommodations for students with documented disabilities. For more information about ADA policy, services, and procedures, students may call the Office of Student Disability Services at 954-262-7185 or visit <http://www.nova.edu/disabilityservices>.