

Revised: Fall 2016

LGL 215 Torts

COURSE OUTLINE

Prerequisites:

Prerequisites: Successful completion of all 100 level LGL courses or divisional approval.

Course Description:

Studies fundamental principles of the law of torts and may include preparation and use of pleadings and other documents involved in the trial of a civil action. Emphasizes intentional torts, negligence, personal injury, products liability, and malpractice cases.

Semester Credits: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Lab/Recitation Hours: 0

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Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Understand the public policy objectives for tort law in terms of compensating injured parties, holding wrongdoers liable, and allocating loss
- Construct an analytical formula to solve hypothetical problems by applying law to the facts of a case
- Recite the elements of negligence and explain each element
- Explain the theory of respondeat superior and liability
- Discuss negligence defenses and how they are used in a civil suit
- Identify the elements of intentional torts, both generally and for specific types of torts such as assault, battery, false imprisonment, fraud, invasion of privacy, and defamation
- Understand torts involving injury to the rights of property owners or possessors, such as trespass to land, trespass to chattel, and conversion
- Explain legal defenses that apply to intentional torts
- Differentiate strict liability from intentional torts and negligence actions and discuss the role that fault plays in strict liability cases
- Describe the elements and defenses in a products liability case and compare products liability with contract law warranties cases.
- Understand the different types of nuisance cases and the remedies available
- Discuss the types of tort immunity, including sovereign, public officials, children and family immunity
- Explain the procedures that paralegals use to investigate tort cases



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Required Materials:

Students will need a computer capable of accessing Blackboard through the VWCC system. Students are required to use Blackboard for this course.

Textbook:

TORTS AND PERSONAL INJURY LAW, CATHY J. OKRENT, 4TH Edition (2010).

ISBN: 978-1-428-32076-5

The following supplementary materials are available:

1. None
- 2.
- 3.



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Topical Description: (Outline chapters and sections to be covered in the book – may include timeline)

Chapter 1: Introduction to Torts and Legal Analysis

Chapter 2: Negligence

Chapter 3: Special Negligence Actions

Chapter 4: Defenses to Negligence

Chapter 5: Intentional Torts: Injuries to Persons

Chapter 6: Intentional Torts: More Injuries to Persons

Chapter 7: Intentional Torts: Injuries to Property

Chapter 8: Defenses to Intentional Torts

Chapter 9: Strict, or Absolute, Liability

Chapter 10: Products Liability

Chapter 11: Special Tort Actions

Chapter 12: Tort Immunities

Chapter 13: Tort Investigation

Notes to Instructors

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(List information about optional topics, departmental exams, etc)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

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