Class sessions: room 102
1:30-2:45pm, Mondays and Wednesdays

Teacher: Sheila Simon
Email: ssimon@siu.edu
Office phone 618 453-8148
Secretary: Carol Manis


What you can expect to learn: This class is the first semester of a year-long course, a course that is taught to just about every first year law student in the United States. In this semester you will learn what kinds of property there are, how people can get that property, how they can get rid of the property, and how they can have the property taken away. That sounds pretty vague, right? To be more specific, you will learn to identify the kind of interest someone has in property, how that interest can be transferred to someone else, and what kind of challenges are posed when the package of property rights are split between different people.

And you will learn more than just the law of property. You will learn to identify sources of law, analyze statutes and cases, apply law to new facts, and explain what you have learned to others. Along with your other first year classes, this class will help form the foundation of your professional service to your clients and your community.

Attendance: Be here, it’s what you paid for. I work hard to make sure class time is valuable to you. And if you miss more than six classes, you will not be allowed to take the final.

Grading: Your grade will be based on the following factors: A series of short papers, worth a total of 30%, a mid-term worth 20% and a final worth 50%.

D2L: Keep posted on news, (yes news in the world of property!) assignments, any changes in the syllabus and other good stuff through D2L.

Office hours: Our class is the last class of your day on Mondays and Wednesdays, so after class is a great time to ask questions. Beyond that, I am a total nerd and spend a lot of time on the office, so stop by any time you see me there. I teach Laywering Skills on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11, and Intro to American Government across campus on Mondays and Wednesdays at 11, so those are times I won’t be available. Also feel free to schedule an appointment.
Recording class sessions: As a general rule, I will not allow audio or video recording in class. My sense is that you will be more likely to participate in and learn from the class if you are not worried that someone else is recording you. If there are special circumstances that you believe require recording, please talk with me.

Final exam: The final exam in this class will be held on Tuesday, December 15, at 8:15am.

Yikes! Stress! The University and the School of Law recognize that there are lots of potential stressors in your life. Here is some information on a campus-wide effort to be there to support you: The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a university-wide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students and their families, SIU will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For Information on Saluki Cares: (618) 453-5714, or siucares@siu.edu, http://salukicares.siu.edu/index.html. At the School of Law, Assistant Dean Judi Ray is also available to help students access university resources. Her email is judiray@siu.edu, and her phone number is 618-453-3135.

Disabilities: I want everyone in this class to succeed. If a disability is challenging you, here is some information about how to seek accommodations: Disability Support Services provides the required academic and programmatic support services to students with permanent and temporary disabilities. DSS provides centralized coordination and referral services. To utilize DSS services, students must come to the DSS to open cases. The process involves interviews, reviews of student-supplied documentation, and completion of Disability Accommodation Agreements. http://disabilityservices.siu.edu/. Upon completion of a Disability Accommodation Agreement with DSS, students should bring the agreement to the School of Law Registrar’s Office to ensure the School of Law provides the proper classroom and examination accommodations.

Emergency Procedures: Emergency Procedures. Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT’s website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.
Tentative schedule:
This is the target schedule for the semester. I expect it will change some over the course of the semester. As those changes are made I will post the revised syllabus on D2L.

August 24  Welcome. No reading assignment
August 26  What is property? pages 1-30
August 31  Who's the boss?  pages 30- 55

September 2  Is that property too?  pages 56-70  Client interview in class
September 7  Labor Day. No class, but use time on or around this day on first written assignment.
September 9  A bird in the hand?  pages 71-106
September 14  But it was my idea  pages 106 - 130
September 16  Yeah, but I was here first   pages 130-145 In-class exercise
September 21  Look what I bought!  pages146-162
September 23  Really. You think that's yours?  pages 162- 200
September 28  No really. Get out of here. pages 200- 204. Client interview in class
September 30  Thank you for the gift.  pages 205-236

October 5  Mid-term performance exam
October 7  While I live and breathe!  pages 237- 265
October 12  Chasing tail?  pages 265-290
October 14  Looking into the future   pages 290-310
October 19  Forever – not.  pages 310-333
October 21  RAP up review
October 26  So happy together   pages 334-367
October 28  My side of the refrigerator  pages 367-383  mediation exercise in class

November 2  Till death do us part  pages 383-392
November 4  Turn that music down!  pages 393-417

November 9  I don't want to live here anymore.  pages 417-440

November 11  Veterans Day. No class, but use time on or around this day to work on final written assignment.

November 16  Fix the toilet please!  pages 440-462

November 18  Sharknado  pages 463-484

November 23 & 25  Thanksgiving break

November 30  You're outta here!  pages 484-506

December 2  Let's be fair about this.  pages 506-519

December 15  8:15am Final exam