**Syllabus**

**Property 1, Section 1**

**Fall 2017**

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**Class sessions:** room 204  
1:30-2:45pm, Mondays and Wednesdays

**Teacher:** Sheila Simon  
Office: room 250  
Email: ssimon@siu.edu  
Office phone 618 453-8148  
Secretary: Carol Manis  
Teaching Assistant: Youssef Boudjarane


**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. But plan to do more than just attend class. Plan to be a part of it. The more you are actively engaged in class the more you will be able to retain and use the law that we study.

One way that all students will be able to participate in class is by being one of the three daily note-takers for class. Your notes and outline of the day will be shared with the rest of the class, and you will get to provide a quick recap of the class in the following class session. You’ll like this, I promise.

**Workload expectations:** You might not have thought about how much work you will put into each class, but the American bar Association has! The American Bar Association standards for accrediting law schools contain a formula for calculating the amount of work that constitutes one credit hour. According to ABA Standard 310(b)(1), “a “credit hour” is an amount of work that
reasonably approximates: (1) not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and
two hours of out-of-class student work per week for fifteen weeks, or the equivalent amount of
work over a different amount of time.” This is a three credit hour class, meaning that we will
spend two 65 minute blocks of time together each week. The amount of assigned reading and out
class preparation should take you about three hours for each class session and six hours for the
week. All told, applying the ABA standard to the number of credits offered for this class, you
should plan on spending a total of nine hours per week (three in class and six preparing for class)
on course-related work.

**Grades:** Your grade will be based on the following factors:
- A short paper based on a client interview 10 points
- An advice letter to a client 15 points
- A mid-term 25 points
- A final exam 50 points.

I will use your total points for the semester and apply the required median and required
curve for a first year class to calculate your grade for the course.

**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, so after class is a great time to
ask questions. Beyond that, I am a total nerd and spend a lot of time in the office, so stop by any
time you see me there. I teach Laywering Skills on Tuesdays at 9 and 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 12, 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](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 618-453-8135.
Disabilities and accommodations: 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/](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: 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](http://www.bert.siu.edu), Department of Safety’s website [www.dps.siu.edu](http://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. For each class day I have noted a summary of the topic, the reading assignment from our text, and a musical reference that has almost no education purpose.

August 21  No class today -- go outside right now! The eclipse is happening and you are in the best spot in the world to see it! And while you are out there, think about who owns the sun. We’ll talk about it on Wednesday.

August 23  Welcome. What is property? pages 1-30
Love Shack, The B-52s

August 28  Who's the boss?  pages 30- 55
Youngstown, Bruce Springsteen

August 30  Is that property too? pages 56-70
Spleen, from Ariettes Oubliees, Debussy
September 4  Labor Day, no class. Use your time off to prepare for a client interview.

September 6  A bird in the hand? pages 71-106, client interview in class
What does the Fox Say?, Ylvis

September 11  But it was my idea pages 106 - 130
The Fish Song, The Three Stooges

September 13  Yeah, but I was here first pages 130-145
Finders Keeps, Mabel
Hand in client interview paper

September 18  Look what I bought! pages 146-162
Stolen Property, Bunny Wailer

September 20  Really. You think that's yours? pages 162- 200
The Fish Song, The Three Stooges

September 25  No really. Get out of here. pages 200- 204.
Mi Casa, Notorious B.I.G.

September 27  Thank you for the gift. pages 205-236
Simple Gifts, Allison Kraus and Yo Yo Ma

October 2  While I live and breathe! pages 237- 265
Waste, Foster the People

October 4  Chasing tail? pages 265-290
Fee, Phish

Mid-term week – different class schedule

October 10  4:00-4:50 pre-exam review
Chak De India, Shahruh Khan

October 11  8:30 mid-term exam
10:00 mid-term exam review
Property, Jessica Lesaka

October 16  Looking into the future pages 290-310
Future Starts Slow, the Kills

October 18  Forever – not. pages 310-333
Unforgettable, French Montana
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 23</td>
<td>RAP up review</td>
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<td>October 25</td>
<td>So happy together pages 334-367, advice letter assignment to be introduced</td>
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<td>Happy together, The Turtles</td>
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<td>October 30</td>
<td>My side of the refrigerator pages 367-383, Pre-Halloween costume contest</td>
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<td>Partition, Beyonce</td>
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<td>November 1</td>
<td>Till death do us part pages 383-392</td>
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<td>D-I-V-O-R-C-E, Tammy Wynette</td>
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<td>Hand in client advice letter</td>
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<td>November 6</td>
<td>Turn that music down! pages 393-417</td>
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<td>The Sounds of Silence, Simon &amp; Garfunkel</td>
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<td>November 8</td>
<td>I don't want to live here anymore. pages 417-440</td>
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<td>Sublet Song, The Cheap Moves</td>
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<td>November 13</td>
<td>Fix the toilet please! pages 440-462</td>
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<td>Tear It Down, Old Crow Medicine Show</td>
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<td>November 15</td>
<td>Sharknado pages 463-484</td>
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<td>Twist and Shout, The Beatles</td>
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<td>November 20 &amp; 22</td>
<td>Thanksgiving break – oh yeah!</td>
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<td>November 27</td>
<td>You're outta here! pages 484-506</td>
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<td>Eviction Song, Travis James and the Acrimonious Assembly of Arsonists</td>
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<td>November 29</td>
<td>Let's be fair about this. pages 506-519</td>
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<td>Not Fair, Lily Allen</td>
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<td>December 12</td>
<td>8:15am Final exam</td>
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