
COURSE SYLLABUS

CONTRACTS I

Course Number LAW 7222-501
Spring 2021

COURSE PROFESSOR

Name: Matt Crockett
Office hours: Monday and Tuesday: 4 - 6 PM
and otherwise by appointment. *All offices hours are by phone
call or Zoom appointment until further notice*
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ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

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CREDIT HOURS

Two (2) credit hours.

CLASS WEBSITE AND OTHER SOFTWARE AND TECHNOLOGY

Core course information will be posted on Canvas. To get to the UNT Dallas College of Law Canvas site, go to: <https://untdallaslaw.instructure.com>. You will need your EIUD and password.

COMMUNICATIONS

You should feel free to email me about questions, whether about substance, timing, etc. You can expect an answer within 24 hours (though often it will be sooner). If you do not hear from me in 24 hours, please re-send the message.

I view email as a really useful tool, but one that need not take the place of face-to-face answering of questions or discussion. If you have a question, you should feel free either to bring it to me face-to-face (in office or after class) or via email.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Fundamentals of contract law.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course aims to prepare you to:

- Read legal sources for full understanding
- Analyze legal sources for connections and conflicts
- Apply understanding of legal sources to real-life scenarios
- Write and speak clearly about legal issues within conventional frameworks for objective legal analysis
- Write and speak within the attorney-client relationship to serve the needs, perspectives, and goals of diverse clients
- Write and speak persuasively on behalf of clients in a manner consistent with the interests of the profession and the wider community
- Solve complex problems in a methodical way to produce lasting solutions

Further, you will:

- Learn the basic rules governing contract formation, defenses, damages, and performance
- Identify the central values associated with contract law
- Critically assess different arguments in legally or factually unclear scenario
- Evaluate the quality of different claims under contract law

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Title: Contracts (3rd Edition)

Author: Matt Crockett

The textbook is posted to Canvas and available for purchase here: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/1079368833>. Do not feel compelled to purchase the book from Amazon (I make no money from the sale of the book). I find that many students like to print and spiral bind their own book.

RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTS

There are a number of supplementary materials for contracts, and I do not recommend any particular one over another. I would caution you to stay off of the Internet for supplementary reading. It contains as much incorrect information as it does correct information.

STUDY SUGGESTIONS

If you read the assigned material and attend class, you will be equipped with the tools to do well in this course. Quizzes and exams will cover material covered in class.

METHOD OF TEACHING

Socratic Method. I expect volunteers and will call on students randomly. Please be prepared for each class. Your participation influences your grade.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following (subject to change):

- | | |
|----------|---------------|
| (a) 5%: | Quizzes |
| (b) 35%: | Midterm |
| (c) 10%: | Participation |
| (d) 50%: | Final Exam |

QUIZZES

There will be four (4) quizzes (two (2) before the midterm and two (2) after the midterm). Each quiz is worth 1.25% of your final grade. Quiz dates will be announced. Quizzes are open book and open note.

MIDTERM/FINAL

The administrative of the midterm and the final will be determined based on University policy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. I will provide further information as we get closer to the dates of those examinations.

PARTICIPATION

Your participation grade is a combination of three factors: (1) volunteering in class, (2) the quality of your in-class participation (whether volunteer or called-upon), and (3) unexcused absences (you lose participation points for each unexcused absence). Participation points are not “gimme” points. *The quality of this class depends heavily on the quality of your participation, so I take this quite seriously.*

REMOTE LEARNING

In order to be considered “present” for class and therefore be considered to be attending a class, you must either attend class personally or virtually with your video on (i.e. you must be “live”—no black screens or “glamour shots”). If you do not have access to a webcam or you are unable to participate via video for another reason, please contact me. Otherwise, I will not count you as present if I see a black screen or static photo. If you are attending a

synchronous lecture via Zoom, please also ensure that your full name (first name and last name) appears on Zoom, rather than your email address, student ID, a nickname or some other moniker.

HONOR CODE

By enrolling at the UNT Dallas College of Law, students accept and agree to abide by the College of Law Honor Code. The Honor Code requires that students behave with academic integrity. This requirement of academic integrity means that a student shall not cheat, plagiarize, or falsify in any academic matter. The full Honor Code is available in the COL Student Handbook and on the COL website.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA Compliance)

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disabilities Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delays in implementation. Note that a student must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letter during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. To obtain information about accommodations and to begin the process for seeking accommodations, students are encouraged to visit Dean of Students Kevin Robinowich in Suite 430. Dean Robinowich has the necessary forms to seek accommodations. For additional information, see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDDisability@untDallas.edu; or in person on the first floor of the Student Center.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR IN AN INSTRUCTIONAL SETTING

Students are expected to engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner at all times to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office (Assistant Dean of Students for the COL students). It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Assistant Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absence for that class period and any other

classes the student misses as a result of not meeting with the Assistant Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (UNTD Policy 7.001 found at <https://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

COURSE POLICIES

Please refer to the separate COURSE POLICIES document. That document is incorporated within this document by reference. In addition to the requirements posted in this syllabus, you are bound by the policies in the COURSE POLICIES document.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

Class Date	Assignment
Jan. 21	“Brief Introduction” and Chapter 1, Part 1, Subpart A (through Problem 1.2) Chapter 1, Part 1, Subpart B through Problem 1.4
Jan. 28	“Price Quotations” through Problem 1.7 Problem 1.8 through Problem 1.10
Feb. 4	“Timing of Revocation” through Problem 1.12 “Rejection; Counter-offers” through Problem 1.14
Feb. 11	The STOP sign through Problem 1.17 Chapter 1, Part 5 through Problem 1.19
Feb. 18	Outlining lesson; preparation of practice question. Materials to be provided. “Adequacy of Consideration” through Problem 1.21
Feb. 25	Remainder of Chapter 1 Begin Chapter 2 through Problem 2.2 <i>Vokes</i> through the Part 3 (Non-Disclosure)
Mar. 4	Continue prior lesson; midterm review
Mar. 11	Midterm week. No class
Class Date	Assignment
Mar. 18	Part 4A Parts 4B and C
Mar. 25	Parts 5 and 6 Part 7
Apr. 1	Part 8 and 9 Outlining lesson; preparation of practice questions. Materials to be provided; catch-up.
Apr. 8	Part 10 Chapter 3, Part 1
Apr. 15	Chapter 3, Part 2
Apr. 22	Continue prior lesson, Chapter 3, Part 3
Apr. 29	Catch up and review