

University of Illinois
College of Engineering

GE 400 – Engineering Law
Spring 2012

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Class Schedule	<p>Thursdays, 4:00 pm-6:20 pm 112 Transportation Building 14 Class meetings Office Hours immediately following class or by phone/appointment.</p>										
Class Materials	<p><u>Required Reading</u> <i>Legal Aspects of Engineering</i>, by Cynthia M. Gayton (Kendall-Hunt Publishing, 8th Ed.)</p> <p>Class Handouts/Links available at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx</p>										
Grading	<p>All grades are based on the following:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>Percent of Final Grade</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>First Exam</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Second Exam</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Exam</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In-Class Pop Quizzes (top 4 of 5)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Percent of Final Grade</u>	First Exam	25%	Second Exam	25%	Final Exam	25%	In-Class Pop Quizzes (top 4 of 5)	25%
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More Detail With Regard To Grading

In-Class Exams

Three Exams will take place during the semester. Each Exam will primarily focus on material from the weeks immediately preceding the exam, but material from any prior point in the semester is fair game.

Exams will be composed primarily of multiple choice and true/false answers, but may include a short answer or essay portion at the instructor's discretion. The Exams are closed book, closed notes. You will be required to arrive in class on the day of the exam with nothing but pencils - #2 or mechanical at your choice.

In-Class Pop Quizzes

Five (5) Pop Quizzes will take place during the semester. The dates for the Pop Quizzes will NOT be announced in advance. The Pop Quizzes will each take about 30 minutes and may take place at any point during the class – at the start of class, in the middle of class, or at the end of class.

The Pop Quizzes serve several purposes: 1) Only those who are actually attending class will be able to take the quiz - consequently, students will be incentivized to attend class; 2) a Pop Quiz may take place immediately at the start of class and no extra time will be given to students who arrive late - consequently, students will be incentivized to get to class on time; and 3) a Pop Quiz may involve material from the Required Reading for that day's class - consequently, students will be incentivized to do the Required Reading before class.

It will typically NOT be possible to take a Pop Quiz at a later date. Consequently, it is highly recommended that you do the reading, attend class, and get to class on time. Obviously, if you are incapacitated (jail or coma, for example) or otherwise involuntarily unable to attend class, then we can make other arrangements. However, having a big assignment due in another class, wanting to attend a fraternity event, sports competition, or leave early for a big weekend in Vegas are personal scheduling matters and not sufficient excuse for missing class or to clear an absence.

The top 4 of the 5 Pop Quizzes will be averaged to form your Quiz grade. However, if you do in fact take the 5th Quiz, then the points from that Quiz will count as extra credit, but you can't get more than 100% of the total Quiz points.

Example 1 - Took 4/5 Quizzes, got 85% on each one - You get 85% for your quiz score.

Example 2 - Took 5/5 Quizzes, got 85% on each one. 4 Quiz points = 340/400. Add in 85 points from 5th quiz, so total quiz points become 425/400, but cap at 400/400 for total quiz score of 100%

Example 3 - Took 5/5 Quizzes, got 60% on each one. 4 Quiz points = 240/400. Add in 60 points from 5th quiz, so total quiz points become 300/400 for a total quiz score of 75%.

Final Grades

Average the scores from each of the three Exams and the Quiz score and compare it to the chart below. The chart indicates the minimum grade that you will receive.

100-95 = A

95-90 = A-

90-85 = B+

85-80 = B

80-75 = B-

75-70 = C+

70-65 = C

65-60 = C-

Less than 60 = D

Less than 50 = F

The Goal Of This Class

The purpose of this class is to provide soon-to-be engineers with an introductory understanding of the legal framework under which they will work. That is, all engineering is performed under the constraints imposed by our society's laws and must take those laws into account.

More specifically, I have designed the course with the following goals in mind:

1) Give you a greater understanding of your and your company's position relative to the law so that you can act and talk more intelligently on the subject and be a better asset for your company.

2) Highlight a few areas that often trip up people in industry so that you can avoid the pitfalls or raise a concern if your company seems like it might have some exposure.

3) Help you know when your company has a potential or actual legal problem and should call a lawyer.

Please note that this is merely an introductory class. This class will not make you a lawyer. You are advised to seek legal representation if and when you or your company encounters a legal issue.

Additionally, this is an educational class, not legal representation. Consequently, nothing in the class materials, lectures, office hours, or any other materials or communication is to be taken as providing any legal advice whatsoever with regard to any real-life situation. Further, although I am a practicing attorney, nothing in the materials, lectures, office hours, or any other materials or communications should be construed to create an attorney-client relationship of any sort.

Substance of the Class

Substantively, the class is divided into three sections, 1) Basics of the legal system including sources of law and enforcing laws and agreements in court, 2) Contracts and Torts, and 3) Intellectual Property. Each of the three sections will be the primary focus of one of the In-Class Exams described above.

An overall outline of the course appears on the subsequent pages.

- I. Basics of the Legal System
 - A. Sources of Law
 - 1. Constitutional Law
 - 2. Federal Statutes
 - 3. Treaties
 - 4. State Constitution
 - 5. State Laws
 - 6. Agencies – Federal and State
 - 7. Professional Licensing
 - 8. Standards Setting Bodies
 - 9. Company Policy
 - B. The Court System – Enforcing Laws and Agreements
 - 1. Structure of the Court System
 - a. Federal
 - b. State
 - 2. Anatomy of a Lawsuit
 - 3. Complaint
 - 4. Jurisdiction and Venue
 - 5. Answer
 - 6. Discovery
 - 7. Settlement
 - 8. Trial
 - 9. Appeal
 - 10. Injunctions
- II. Contracts
 - A. Introduction to Contracts
 - B. Parties
 - C. Offer and Acceptance
 - D. Mistake, Misrepresentation, and Fraud
 - E. Duress and Undue Influence
 - F. Consideration
 - G. Enforceability
 - 1. Statute of Frauds
 - 2. Lawful Subject Matter
 - H. Performance, Breach, and Remedies
 - I. Warranties
- III. Torts
 - A. Intentional Torts
 - B. Negligence
 - C. Fraud
 - D. False Advertising
 - E. Products Liability

- IV. Intellectual Property
 - A. Overview and Theory of Intellectual Property
 - 1. US Rights
 - 2. Foreign Rights
 - 3. Function vs. Expression
 - B. Patents
 - 1. The Patenting Process
 - 2. Review of Sample Patents
 - 3. Patentable Subject Matter
 - 4. Novelty
 - 5. Non-Obviousness
 - 6. 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112
 - 7. Claim Types
 - 8. Novelty vs. Infringement Analysis
 - 9. Design Patents
 - C. Copyrights
 - D. Trademarks
- V. Engineering Work In A Legal Context

Syllabus

Class #	Date	Read Before Class	Class Topic
1	Jan 19	Gayton, Chapter 3 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	I. Basics of the Legal System A. Sources of Law 1. Constitutional Law 2. Federal Statutes 3. Treaties 4. State Constitution 5. State Laws
2	Jan 26	Gayton, Chapters 3, 23 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	I. Basics of the Legal System A. Sources of Law 6. Agencies – Federal and State 7. Professional Licensing 8. Standards Setting Bodies 9. Company Policy
3	Feb 2	Gayton, Chapter 4 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	I. Basics of the Legal System B. The Court System – Enforcing Laws and Agreements 1. Structure of the Court System a. Federal b. State 2. Anatomy of a Lawsuit 3. Complaint 4. Jurisdiction and Venue
4	Feb 9	Gayton, Chapter 4 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	I. Basics of the Legal System B. The Court System – Enforcing Laws and Agreements 5. Answer 6. Discovery 7. Settlement 8. Trial 9. Appeal 10. Injunctions Questions Before Exam

5	Feb 16	Gayton, Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	II. Contracts A. Introduction to Contracts B. Parties C. Offer and Acceptance
		EXAM #1 – Second Half of Class	EXAM #1 – On Class 1-4 materials
6	Feb 23	Review Exam #1 Gayton, Chapters 10, 11, 13, 14 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	II. Contracts D. Mistake, Misrepresentation, and Fraud E. Duress and Undue Influence F. Consideration G. Enforceability 1. Statute of Frauds 2. Lawful Subject Matter H. Performance, Breach, and Remedies
7	Mar 1	Gayton, Chapters 15, 21 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	II. Contracts I. Warranties III. Torts A. Intentional Torts
8	Mar 8	Gayton, Chapter 21 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	III. Torts B. Negligence C. Fraud D. False Advertising
9	Mar 15	Gayton, Chapter 22 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	III. Torts E. Products Liability Questions Before Exam
10	Mar 29	Gayton, Chapter 20 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	IV. Intellectual Property A. Overview and Theory of Intellectual Property 1. US Rights 2. Foreign Rights 3. Function vs. Expression
		EXAM #2 – Second Half of Class	EXAM #2 – On Class 5-9 materials

11	April 5	Review Exam #2 Gayton, Chapter 20 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	IV. Intellectual Property B. Patents 1. The Patenting Process 2. Review of Sample Patents 3. Patentable Subject Matter 4. Novelty 5. Non-Obviousness 6. 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112
12	April 12	Gayton, Chapter 20 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	IV. Intellectual Property 7. Claim Types 8. Novelty vs. Infringement Analysis 9. Design Patents C. Copyrights
13	April 19	Gayton, Chapter 20 Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	IV. Intellectual Property D. Trademarks Questions Before Exam
14	April 26	Materials at: http://joebarich.com/EngineeringLaw.aspx	V. Engineering Work In A Legal Context Questions Before Exam
		EXAM #3 – Second Half of Class	EXAM #3 – On Class 10-13 materials