

ERISA Law Course Syllabus

University of Houston Law Center FALL 2013

August 29

Topics: Introduction/ background / structure of ERISA
Readings: *Pension and Employee Benefit Law* (5th ed.) by Langbein et al. (“Text”) pages 1-17, 95-104
Topic: Pension plan types: defined benefit vs. defined contribution
Readings: Text, pp.44-64

September 5

Topic: Pension plan regulation: vesting, accrual, forfeiture, anti-cutback
Readings: Text, pp. 146-175, 181-193

September 12

Topic: Welfare benefit plans/ health care plan regulation/ACA summary
Readings: Text, pp. 127-145
Topic: Plan amendments
Readings: Text, pp.194-218

September 19

Topic: Spousal and third party interests/ anti-alienation rule
Readings: Text, pp. 281-312, 320-343

September 26

Topic: Fiduciary status and duties
Readings: Text, pp. 541-622

October 3

Topic: Plan administration and benefit denials
Readings: Text, pp. 692-747

October 10

Topic: ERISA enforcement and remedies
Readings: Text, 749-817

October 17

Topic: Preemption
Readings: Text, pp. 830-64,878-900 (focus on Travelers, Egelhof, Davila, & Taylor)
Topic: Review for final exam

***** REMAINDER OF COURSE SYLLABUS IS TO BE CONTINUED!!**