

University of Houston Law Center
PROPERTY LAW
- Spring 2018 -

Contact Information

Instructor:	Gina S. Warren
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Class Schedule and Location: Class is scheduled for Monday and Wednesday mornings from 10:30am – noon; and Thursday afternoons from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. The classroom is TUII-144.

Office Hours: I am available to meet with students regularly and my office hours are Tuesdays from 3:00pm – 4:30pm. If this time does not work for your schedule, email me to schedule an appointment. You should feel free to call or e-mail me with any questions, concerns, or comments, or to schedule an appointment.

Required Reading Material: SINGER ET. AL, PROPERTY LAW: RULES, POLICIES & PRACTICES (Aspen, 7th ed. 2017) (multiple formats are available to purchase or rent).

Learning Outcomes: I have three goals for this course. First, the course will teach you fundamental property law, its rules and doctrines. Second, the class will seek to help you understand the role of property law as an institution that has been instrumental in shaping the legal history, culture, citizenship and notions of justice and rights in the United States. You will do this by studying various laws, theories and policies that have existed historically as well as in their current state. These activities will aid you in understanding and allow you to critique the jurisprudence of property law. Third, the course will assist you in developing your basic lawyering skills. This includes the ability to spot the issue, state a rule, and draw conclusions and examine its application in other cases and contexts.

Course Attendance and Participation: Consistent with university policy, 80 percent attendance in class is required. An attendance list will be circulated at each class session. Those individuals not satisfying the attendance requirement will be reported to UH Law Center administrative officials to be dropped from the course. During class, students will be called on at random (Socratic method) to answer questions about the reading. Students will be expected to have read the assigned readings prior to class and to be prepared to discuss the material in class.

Assessment Methods: Your final grade will be based upon a closed book examination given at the end of the semester, consisting of a combination of essay and short answer questions. Grades may be adjusted upwards by one-third for exceptionally strong in-class participation.

Use of Laptops: You may use a laptop for taking notes and other purposes directly related to the class. Use of your laptop for any other purpose is prohibited during class meetings (e.g., you may NOT surf the internet, play games or give/receive answers or other aid via any method). Nonparticipation and nonresponsiveness in the classroom discussion attributable to diversionary uses of your personal computer constitutes an absence from the class. In the event this occurs, you are not eligible to sign the attendance sheet and are subject to appropriate action as the professor may determine in her sole discretion.

Counseling and psychological services: Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to the demands of a professional program, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (www.uh.edu/caps) by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. No appointment is necessary for the “Let's Talk” program, a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus. http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html

Reading Assignments: What follows is an anticipated reading schedule. As the semester progresses, however, we may fall behind or speed ahead of the schedule requiring that the reading assignments be adjusted. **The professor therefore reserves the right to change and adjust the assignments based on the pace and progress of the class, the topics of particular interest to the class, and otherwise, as deemed necessary.**

First Week Reading

Date	Topic	Readings
01.17	Introduction: A Guide to the Book	xxxiii - xlvi
01.18	Trespass: The Right to Exclude	3-33