### 22707- INTRODUCTION TO THE LAW OF MEXICO

#### PROFESSOR IGNACIO PINTO-LEON

#### SYLLABUS AND RULES

#### **SPRING 2018**

#### **WEDNESDAYS 4-6 PM**

Contact info: Ignacio Pinto-Leon ignacio@jurismex.com Office hours: By appointment 713-338-2879

#### (1) JAN. 17 – INTRODUCTION TO MEXICAN LEGAL HISTORY

- Read chapters 1 and 2 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)
- Supplementary readings:
  - Content, Structure, and Growth of Mexican Legal Education, by Luis Fernando Perez-Hurtado
  - What Do Mexican Private Scholars Do, by Juan Carlos Marin Gonzalez

### (2) JAN. 24 – MEXICAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: FEDERALISM AND SEPARATION OF POWERS

Read chapters 4 and 5 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)

#### (3) JAN. 31 – INTRODUCTION TO THE MEXICAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM

• Read chapters 3 and 6 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)

#### (4) FEB. 7 – JUDICIAL ENFORCEMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

• Read chapters 7 and 8 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)

### (5) FEB. 14 – MEXICAN CIVIL PROCEDURE AND CONFLICTS OF LAWS

Read chapters 10 and 22 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)

#### (6) FEB. 21 – INTRODUCTION TO THE MEXICAN CIVIL CODES

Read chapters 14 and 15 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)

#### (7) FEB. 28 – OBLIGATIONS (CONTRACTUAL AND EXTRA-CONTRACTUAL)

Read chapter 17 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)

#### (8) MAR. 7 – MEXICAN CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

- Read Mexican Law chapter 11 (photocopied materials)
- Supplementary readings: (1) Justice Reform in Mexico, Change and Challenges in the Judicial Sector, by David A Shirk

#### (9) MAR. 21 – SESSION ON HOW TO RESEARCH MEXICAN LAW

- I will distribute hypothetical problems to be solved by teams
- Guest speaker TBA

#### (10) MAR. 28 – MEXICAN COMMERCIAL LAW

Read Mexican Law chapter 18 (photocopied materials)

# (11) APR. 4 – PRACTICAL ASPECTS AND INTERACTIONS OF MEXICAN LAW WITH THE U.S. PRACTITIONER

- Supplementary reading: Working with Foreign Counsel. Ignacio Pinto-Leon.
- Guest speaker TBA
- Presentations and discussions of solutions to hypothetical problems

#### (12) APR. 11 – REGULATION OF THE ECONOMY; ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

- Read Mexican Law chapters 9 and 12 (photocopied materials)
- Supplementary reading: TBA

## (13) APR. 18 - RENEGOTIATING THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Supplementary reading: TBA

#### (14) APR. 25 – FINAL CLASS/FIESTA/TERTULIA

Reading to be assigned

#### FINAL EXAM: Class Exam

Required texts in the course: photocopied course materials will be distributed before the beginning of the course. Supplementary reading materials will be distributed throughout the semester.

Attendance policy: Students are required to attend at least to 80% of the classes. There will be 14 sessions. If you missed 3 classes, you would be under the 80%

Student participation is expected. Students should be ready for class, with their assignments. Repeated unpreparation will be noted and could be used to mark down somebody's grade.

Grading info: the final grade will be based on a 2-hour open book final exam. The final exam will consist of a combination of essay, multiple choice and true/false questions.

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 (<a href="www.uh.edu/caps">www.uh.edu/caps</a>) 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. <a href="http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets\_talk.html">http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets\_talk.html</a>